

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 7

8:00am First Saturday Mass

4:30pm James DeLuca, Sr.

Requested by family

Sunday, December 8

8:00am Clara Latowski

Requested by family

10:00am The Calvitto Family

Requested by Theresa Ramieri

12:00NN Mass for the People

Monday, December 9

7:00am Walter DiPrete

Requested by Dolores DiPrete

Tuesday, December 10

7:00am Dr. Leonard Staudinger

Requested by family

Wednesday, December 11

7:00am Thomas McGair

Requested by Jean McGair

Thursday, December 12

7:00am Tina Marie Luciano

Requested by family

Friday, December 13

7:00am Maria D'Annunci

Requested by daughter

Saturday, December 14

4:30pm Anna & Andrew Sebastian

Requested by family

Sunday, December 15

8:00am Joseph Costanza

Requested by family

10:00am Ronald W. Anderson

Requested by family

12:00NN Mass for the People



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 8

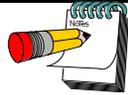
10:00am Louis Alarie

Requested by Jude and Bob

Sunday, December 15

10:00am Florence Gadzik

Requested by John Gadzik



For Your Information

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Gloria Carney.

ST. FRANCIS BIBLE STUDY resumes for 2014 on Tuesday, January 7 at 7-8:30 pm in FGC with the **Gospel of John** commentary by Ignatius Press. **Please register your name at the rectory (783-4411)** if interested and a study book will be ordered, the cost is \$10. If questions, please contact Mary Vitiello at maryalri@yahoo.com.

THE GIVING TREE

Thank you to all that have taken a tag from the tree. Please return the gifts no later than December 15th, that's NEXT SUNDAY. We ask that all gifts be returned "unwrapped" with the tag from the tree attached. The gifts will be distributed to families December 16th & 17th. Thank you for your generosity.

MONTHLY PARENT GROUP MEETING

A reminder that all parents are invited to join us for our monthly parenting group meeting on **Friday, December 13, at 7PM** in the Upper Room of Fr. Greenan Hall. The monthly discussions include fellowship and parent-led discussion. Please call Bryan or Sue Williams at 783-7831 or Joe or Sharon Clossick at 782-2504 for info.

PARISH SUPPORT— November 24

Weekly Support		November 24
Budget envelopes used (348)	-	\$ 7,130.00
Loose Donations	-	\$ 1,203.00
Online Giving (# of donors 32)	-	\$ 795.00
Total Budget	-	\$ 9,128.00

Campaign for Human Development

Budget envelopes	-	\$ 1,936.00
Other Donations	-	\$ 437.50
Total Camp. for Human Dev.	-	\$ 2,373.50

"KEEP THE HEAT ON" — THANKSGIVING OFFERING
\$667.00

PARISH SUPPORT— December 1

Weekly Support		December 1
Budget envelopes used (341)	-	\$ 7,045.00
Loose Donations	-	\$ 1,402.50
Online Giving (# of donors 33)	-	\$ 904.00
Total Budget	-	\$ 9,351.50

Monthly

Budget envelopes used (210)	-	\$ 2,563.00
Other Donations	-	\$ 853.50
Total Monthly	-	\$ 3,416.50

This weekend's second offering is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious offering. Next weekend's second offering will be the Ongoing Maintenance Fund offering for December.

As always, thank you for your continued generosity.

DECEMBER 8, 2013

From the Pastor...

Christmas was in the air last weekend as our parish **Women's Club** hosted another outstanding **Christmas Bazaar** on Saturday morning. It was a great success featuring arts and crafts, holiday decorations, baked treats and terrific raffles. Special thanks to Anne Cooney and to all the ladies who helped to make it such a great event!

You may have noticed that we have a couple of projects underway around the church. We are finally getting **new and improved lighting for the parking lot**. It has been two years in the works with several setbacks, but the project is now underway and I hope that it will be completed soon. We are installing energy-efficient LED lights to illuminate the parking lot behind the church and the pathway leading up to Father Greenan Center.

Also, as you enter the church from the back parking lot, we are **creating a prayer garden with a new statue of St. Francis of Assisi**. This project is being fully funded by a generous parishioner who prefers to remain anonymous. It is dedicated to the clergy and religious sisters who have served St. Francis Parish over the years. The statue is on a ship from Italy and should be arriving any day. We hope to have the statue in place soon and the landscaping will be completed in the Spring.

You may also have noticed that we have relocated the dumpsters to improve the appearance of the parking lot and to open up three additional parking spaces. As you well know, our parking is limited and it helps to use the double depth spaces along the side of the parking lot. I know some are hesitant to park there for fear they won't be able to make a quick escape after Mass. I just caution those who like to linger talking or who are going on to religious education and will be delayed not to park in the spaces that block others in. It's a little complicated, but it can work well if everyone cooperates.

On another note, several people have asked about our having a collection for the victims of the typhoon in the Philippines. I was waiting for a Sunday that we didn't have a scheduled second collection. We will have the collection on the weekend of December 22. There is no envelope for this collection so you can either give a loose donation or, if you wish to have it recorded with your annual giving, you can place it in a plain envelope with the notation "Typhoon Collection" and your budget envelope number.

Finally, everyone should soon be receiving a mailing with the overall results of our recent **Increased Offertory Appeal**. As you will see, the response was remarkably good. I am very grateful to all who responded and to the many that increased their level of giving. Your ongoing commitment and generosity will make this effort a great success and ensure the financial stability of our parish for years to come.

Msgr. Theroux



Religious Education

CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 8th

8:50-9:50am GRADES 1 & 2 (FGC)

GRADE 7 (FGC)

9:50-10:50am GRADE K (HBH)

10:50-11:50am GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

GRADE 8 (HBH)

Monday, December 9th

6:00 First Reconciliation in church

7-8:30PM Confirmation I (FGC)

Wednesday, December 11th

4:00-5:00PM GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

7-8:15PM Grades 7 & 8 (FGC)



On Monday, December 9th forty eight second graders will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first

time. Please keep them in your prayers.



This Week

Sunday, December 8

Religious Ed. Classes see above

5:30pm PRAISE! Rehearsal

7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, December 9

6:00pm First Reconciliation

7:00pm Confirmation I Class (FGC)

Tuesday, December 10

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, December 11

4-5pm Grades 3-6 Religious Ed
Classes (FGC)

5-6:15pm Child's Choir Rehearsal

7-8:15pm Class Grades 7 & 8 (FGC)

7-8:30pm Bereavement Support
Group (HBH)

Thursday, December 12

1:30pm Mass at So. Bay Manor

7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (FGC)

Friday, December 13

7:00pm Parenting Group (FGC)

Stressed out by Thanksgiving baking?
 Don't let that happen at Christmas!
 Order Christmas desserts from GREGG's
 Restaurant for PRAISE! fundraiser...



Orders for GREGG's cakes, pies & dessert trays will be taken after all Masses this weekend and next.

Payment is due with order.

We must place our final order with GREGG's by December 15th. Pick-up will be Sunday, December 22nd from 9:00am to 1:30pm at Father Greenan Parish Center.

If you missed us at Mass, you can place your order through any PRAISE! member or by calling the Music Ministry Office during the week at 792-8301 (leave your name and number and we'll get back to you ... however, please remember that your order cannot be placed without payment in advance.)

Don't miss out on this opportunity to have GREGG's bake your Christmas dessert! A portion of your purchase benefits PRAISE!

Thank you for your support!



Advent Evening of Prayer and Song in the style of the Taize Community in France

Take a break from all the Christmas preparations and enjoy a night of peace in the presence of the Lord. Meditative song, readings from scripture, sacred images and candlelight will help form an atmosphere of Advent anticipation for the coming of Christ. We hope you can join us!

Monday, December 16 at 6:30PM
St. Francis Church

If you haven't experienced one of our popular Taize nights of prayer, please consider joining us for this special Advent event!



**St. Francis of Assisi's
 Christmas Pageant**
 will be

Sunday, January 5th
 from 11:00-12:00
 at Fr. Greenan Parish Center.

Children in Grades 1-6 are invited to participate. If your child is interested please call the Rel Ed Office at 792-8684.

Children must be available to attend rehearsals on Thursday, January 2nd and Friday, January 3rd from 4:00-5:30PM in Fr. Greenan Parish Center.

Family Liturgy: The Season of Advent

Please join us next Sunday, December 15, at the 10AM Mass in Saint Francis for our monthly Family Liturgy. In a special homily geared toward the children, we will explore the principal symbol of this season, the Advent Wreath. Since Advent is the season that prepares us for Christmas, we will also talk about the important guest we will be welcoming in just a few weeks (hint: the only guest on his way isn't Santa!)...

