

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### Mass Intentions

**Saturday, December 8**

4:30pm Clara Latowski  
*Requested by family*

**Sunday, December 9**

8:00am Joseph Vieira  
*Requested by family*

10:00am Rose Tella  
*Requested by family*

12:00nn Mass for the People

**Monday, December 10**

7:00am Rita & Tom O'Rourke and  
Warren Behie  
*Requested by family*

**Tuesday, December 11**

7:00am Thomas McGair  
*Requested by family*

**Wednesday, December 12**

7:00am Walter DiPrete  
*Requested by family*

**Thursday, December 13**

9:00am Donald K. Reilly  
*Requested by Reilly family friend*

**Friday, December 14**

7:00am Maria D'Annunci  
*Requested by daughter*

**Saturday, December 15**

4:30pm Robert C. Wilson  
*Requested by Concetta*

**Sunday, December 16**

8:00am Mass for the People  
10:00am Charles L. Farrell  
*Requested by family*  
12:00nn Agnes & Robert O'Donnell  
*Requested by family*



### St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

**Sunday, December 9**

10:00am Gagnon & Quirk families  
*Requested by family*

**Sunday, December 16**

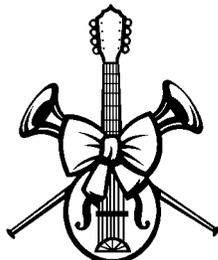
10:00am Donald Chace  
*Requested by a friend*



### For Your Information

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Betty Steward.



**WARWICK SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA  
TODAY AT 2:00PM  
AT FR. GREENAN CENTER  
ADMISSION: \$8 EACH**

**BIBLE STUDY**

Tuesday, Dec. 18 - 7-8:30 pm at Fr. Greenan Center  
We will resume at same time January 8th.  
Please register to join us for study of Letter to Hebrews by calling the parish office at 783-4411.

**RETREAT ON THE PRIESTHOOD**

Bishop Tobin invites high-school seniors, college, and post-college age men who are discerning a call to the priesthood to a "Retreat on the Priesthood" at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence on January 11-12, 2013 from 7:00PM on Friday to 6:00PM on Saturday. There will be discussions, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration & fellowship. Anyone interested in this quiet, prayerful time of discernment should contact Msgr. Theroux or Fr. Carl Fissette, Director of Vocations at 331-1316.

**ADOPT-A-PRIEST APOSTOLATE 2012**

Purpose: To honor priests and support them spiritually during the year from Priesthood Sunday through Priesthood Sunday 2013. The Apostolate of Mary, Mother of Priests and the Providence Serra Club invite parishioners to adopt a priest spiritually for a year. If you are interested in more information, or would like to be randomly assigned a Providence Diocesan priest to pray for on a daily basis, please: **Email:** RIadoptapriest@aol.com or by **phone:** 401-783-1092. Please leave name and phone number or by **Mail:** name, address, parish, phone #, and email address to: **RI Adopt-a-Priest**, P.O. Box 668, Narragansett, RI 02882

**PARISH SUPPORT— December 2**

<u>Weekly Support</u>	<u>December 2</u>
Budget envelopes (380 used) -	\$7,531.00
Loose Donations -	\$ 1,116.00
Online Giving (21 donors) -	\$ 395.00
<b>Total Budget</b> -	<b>\$9,042.00</b>
<u>Monthly Offering</u>	
Envelopes used (257) -	\$2,708.00
Other donations -	\$ 615.50
<b>Total Monthly</b> -	<b>\$3,323.50</b>

This weekend's second offering is the Religious Retirement Fund Offering. Next weekend's second offering is the Ongoing Maintenance Fund offering for December. As always, thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

DECEMBER 9, 2012

## From the Pastor...

As we begin the Season of Advent, I am reminded that just a year ago we began using the new translation of the **Roman Missal**. In spite of all the concerns that it would be difficult, awkward and confusing, our parish community has taken to it very well. I wish to commend and thank you for your spirit of cooperation and your attention to the importance of worship. While there are many different parish activities, the **Celebration of the Eucharist** is the focal point of our community's life of faith and I am particularly grateful that our musicians and choir, our readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and our altar servers take their responsibilities seriously to assist the parish priests in celebrating liturgies that are well-prepared, reverent and prayerful. I am also grateful that our entire worshiping community participates quite well in prayer and song. As we begin a new liturgical year, let us all be mindful of the importance of the Mass and continue to strengthen our attention and participation in prayer and worship.

Last Monday we celebrated **First Penance** for forty-five children of our parish. Although typically jittery about going to confession for the first time, the children were well prepared and did very well. I thank Mrs. Cullen, their teachers and parents for helping to prepare them for this important sacrament. Now they will focus on preparing to receive their **First Holy Communion** in the Spring.

Speaking of going to confession, receiving this sacrament of forgiveness and renewal is a great way to prepare for Christmas during the Advent Season. We will have an **Advent Penance Service** here in our parish on **Monday evening, December 17, at 7 PM**. You will also find in this bulletin the schedule of Penance Services to be held at other churches in the area. In each case there will be several priests available for confessions. Especially if it has been a long time since you received the sacrament, **now is the time** to take advantage of one of these opportunities. As we tell the children receiving first penance, the priests are very friendly and they will welcome you with compassion as you seek God's forgiveness and I am sure that you will find it both personally and spiritually uplifting.

*Msgr. Theroux*

## Religious Education

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>

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 10<sup>TH</sup>

7-8:30PM Confirmation I (FGC)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>

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

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



## This Week

### **Sunday, December 9**

SEE CLASS SCHEDULE ABOVE

2:00pm **Warwick Symphony**

**Orchestra Performance (FGC)**

5:30-7:00pm PRAISE! Rehearsal

7:00pm AA (HBH)

### **Monday, December 10**

7:30am-12nn Adoration of the  
Blessed Sacrament (SF)

7:00pm Confirmation I Class (FGC)

### **Tuesday, December 11**

6:30pm RCIA Class (MCCR)

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

7-8:30pm Bible Study (FGC)

### **Wednesday, December 12**

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

5-6:15pm Children's Choir (loft)

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

7pm Regional Penance Service at  
Christ the King Parish

### **Thursday, December 13**

7:00pm Divine Mercy Cenacle (SR)

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

### **Saturday, December 15**

5:30pm Youth Ministry Lock-In (FGC)

## PARISH BIBLE STUDY

*"Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen."* – Hebrews 11:1

During this Year of Faith, our Parish Bible Study Group will be studying the Letter to the Hebrews. Using the Ignatius Study Guide, there will be ten sessions over the coming months. The group will meet for orientation and introduction to the study guide on Thursday, December 6 at 7 PM in Father Greenan Hall. Study sessions will continue during Advent on Tuesday, December 11 and Tuesday, December 18 at 7 PM. If you plan to join the group, please call the Rectory (783-4411) to register.



## Advent 2012:

### *Come, O Christ Our Life!*

Throughout the remaining weeks of the Advent Season, our parish family will reflect on the theme ***“Come, O Christ our Life!”*** We will recite those words during the Prayer of the Faithful and sing them during the reception of Holy Communion. Our parish theme keeps before our hearts and minds the Lord Jesus, who is the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Without Christ, there is no joy, no peace, no fulfillment. In short, without Christ, there is no *life*. During this Advent Season, the Church reminds us that our faith consists in this: the enfolding of our lives more and more deeply into the life of Christ himself. It should be the goal of every believer to say with Saint Paul: *“For me, to live is Christ!”* (Philippians 1:21). Through our worthy participation in the sacramental life of the Church—particularly the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist—we are drawn into the life of grace, which is the life of Christ. Don’t allow these few precious weeks of Advent to slip away without some time spent in stillness, watching and waiting for the Lord who desires to come to us. Make our parish theme your own prayer this season and every single day: ***“Come, O Christ our life and dwell within!”***

**ADVENT TWILIGHT RETREAT WRAP-UP:** Many thanks to those who attended our Advent Twilight Retreat this past Tuesday. Participants were invited to enter into the stillness of Advent and simply “be” with God. Using Mary as our guide and model, we sought to hear the voice of Christ who speaks to us in Word and Sacrament. Any opportunity to be with fellow parishioners—to pray with them, to break bread with them, to converse with them—is a blessing. Thanks are due to our outstanding retreat team: **Jane Brockman, Jane Estes, Bob Gass, Greg Hartnett, Dana Hawkins and Noreen Linskey**. As always, they were generous in their service and witness. And many thanks to **Cathy Dowd**, who helped shape and focus our reflections for the evening. Be on the lookout for future retreat opportunities!

### THE GIVING TREE

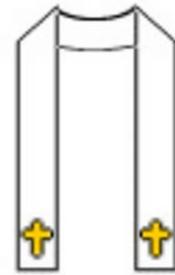
Thank you to all that have taken a tag from the tree. Gifts **MUST** be returned no later than December 16th, that’s **NEXT SUNDAY**. We ask that all gifts be returned “unwrapped” with the tag from the tree attached. The gifts will be distributed to families December 17-19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity.



### FOOD OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER:

### PASTA & TOMATO SAUCE.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



### Regional Advent

### Penance Services are:

- Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00PM at Christ the King
- Monday, December 17 at 1:00PM at St. Veronica Chapel
- Monday, December 17 at 7:00PM at St. Francis of Assisi Parish
- Thursday, December 20 at 7:00PM at St. Mary, Star of the Sea

### We now offer a secure and convenient way for you to contribute to St. Francis Parish!

Online donations may be made at any time from the privacy and comfort of your own home or any place with internet access. Online donations are credited to your tax statement for the end of the year (except when made anonymously), and each user can change his or her preferences or desired donation amounts at any time! Visit our website for more information on how to get started: [www.stfranciswakefield.com](http://www.stfranciswakefield.com).

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 11-12:00 at Fr. Greenan Parish Center. Children in Grades 1-6 are invited to participate. Call Religious Education Office at 792-8684 by



December 16<sup>th</sup> if you are interested.

*You must be available to attend rehearsals on Thursday and Friday, January 3rd*

