

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 28

4:30pm Ronald W. Anderson
Requested by family

Sunday, November 29

8:00am Charles Grant Huxley
Requested by Julia Hall
10:00am Kathleen Mary Wheeler
Requested by family
12:00pm Joseph Donnelly
Req. by Jean and Roger Fenaughty

Monday, November 30

7:00am Rev. William J. McCombe
1st Pastor—117th Anniversary

Tuesday, December 1

7:00am Rev. Robert A. Allaire
13th pastor—11th Anniversary

Wednesday, December 2

7:00am Dr. Leonard Staudinger
Requested by family

Thursday, December 3

7:00am Mass for the People

Friday, December 4

7:00am Gloria Carney
Requested by Jeff and Kathleen

Saturday, December 5

4:30pm John and Angelina Vieira
Requested by family

Sunday, December 6

8:00am William J. Shea III
Requested by Lori DiBiasio
10:00am Thomas S. Hogan
Requested by family
12:00pm Dagmar Pucella Pignataro
Requested by family



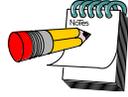
St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 29

10:00am Owen and Maureen Rielly
Requested by family

Sunday, December 6

10:00am Mass for the people



For Your Information

SANCTUARY LAMP

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

FOODS OF THE MONTH

Peanut butter and jelly, macaroni & cheese, soup, cereal, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, canned vegetables, quick bread mixes, fruit pie filling, pie crust mixes and canned pineapple. Please put items in basket at front entrance of church or chapel. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception commemorates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann. In view of the saving merits of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God the Father preserved Mary from the stain of original sin so that she could perfectly carry out in his will in bearing the Messiah. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a *Holy Day of Obligation*. **Masses on Tuesday, December 8th will be held at the following times: 7:00am, 12:00NN and 6:30pm at St. Francis Church.**

ADVENT IS HERE

Advent is here. What a marvellous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come — for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist. The Church encourages us: *Ecce veniet!* — He is about to arrive! ~ *Josemaria Escriva*



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You'll note that we've inserted Christmas flower envelopes in your budget packets this year. There are also envelopes at the entrances of the church and chapel for those who'd like to donate toward Christmas flowers for our altars in memory of loved ones. If you'd like to help decorate this year, please call the parish office at 783-4411. Thank you.

PARISH SUPPORT— November 22 & 29

Due to early holiday deadlines, the collections had not taken place last weekend prior to transmitting the bulletin to our publishing company. Therefore, the amounts for November 22 and 29 will be in next weekend's bulletin. **Thank you as always for your continued generosity.**

NOVEMBER 29, 2015

From the Pastor

Over the last year or so, Bishop Tobin has written twice in the Rhode Island Catholic about his objection to eulogies at funerals. Late last year he had his secretary E-mail all the priests to ask us to discourage them, and earlier this year he met with us by deaneries and again voiced his opposition to this not-very-old custom. He also reminded us that they may never be given during the funeral Mass.

Late last winter I got a call from one of the local funeral directors begging me please to put an end to eulogies. I suggested to him that people could do them during the wake but he was totally opposed to that. So I guess the bishop, the funerals directors, and more and more of the priests have the same take on this.

I must admit that I have heard eulogies at Catholic funerals which are downright objectionable. I have heard people deny the reality of life after death, attack the Catholic faith, and even, in one case, deny the existence of God. The Christian faith of the departed is almost never mentioned and I have never, ever, heard the eulogizer say anything about his or her own faith in Christ. Most of them, though, although not sacrilegious, are not objectionable, just humanistic in a bland way. They're usually rather predictable encomia of the deceased as loving his or her family, loyal to a favorite sports team, making the best tollhouse cookies, tomato sauce, or pierogi, etc. Also, as one bishop of the Episcopal Church said, "We all know that the eulogy is at least as much about the eulogizer as it is about the deceased."

Recently, I've been recommending that the eulogy be done at the reception after the funeral or burial. Time is no longer a consideration as it is when you've got to get to the cemetery, so as many people can speak as the family would like. Also, things can be said which would be humorous at a luncheon but not appropriate in church. I went to one reception recently at which at least 8 people spoke and joshing things were said about the deceased and about his siblings that were hilarious in that setting but would have been cringe-making at a Mass.

So, to sum up: 1) I encourage eulogies as an act of human tribute to a loved one. 2) Plan to do them at the reception, not in the church.

As we begin a new liturgical year, let's pray for a blessed Advent and a holy Christmas season!

Fr. Bodah



*For You, O Lord,
my soul in stillness waits...*

ADVENT TAIZE EVENING OF PRAYER

**Sunday, December 6th
at 6-7:00pm
in St. Romuald Chapel**

Set aside some time during this overly hectic season exclusively for the Lord. Are our hearts prepared for His coming? Our souls yearn for the Prince of Peace. Come! ... Pray, sing, prepare the way!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, November 29th

No Sunday Classes

No Children's Liturgy of the Word today

Wednesday, December 2nd

4:15-5:15 Grades 3-6 (FGC)

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

First Reconciliation Retreat is this Saturday, December 5th from 9-12 noon. All students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.



This Week

Sunday, November 29

NO Religious Ed Classes

NO Children's Liturgy of the Word

11:00am Chapel choir rehearsal (SR)

Monday, November 30

7:30-12nn Adoration following Mass

Tuesday, December 1

7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

5:45-6:45pm Children's Choir rehearsal
in the church choir loft

6:00pm Social Outreach Mtg. (FGC)

7:00pm Praise practice (HBH)

NO Choir rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, December 2

4:15-5:15pm Classes Gr. 3-6 (FGC)

7-8:15pm Gr. 7 & 8 Classes (FGC)

Thursday, December 3

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

7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Mtg. (CR)

First Friday, December 4

9:45am-12nn Pastoral Visits—Fr. Bodah

Saturday, December 5

9am-12nn—First Reconciliation Retreat

in Helen Bouchard Hall & Fr. Greenan Hall

PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

Advent ... a time of preparation for not only our homes as we await the coming of the Lord ... but it's also a time to prepare our souls to receive Him. ... If you haven't already received the sacrament of reconciliation this Advent, here are your **opportunities for confession:**

**Saturdays, December 5, 12, 19,
from 3:30—4:00PM**



JOIN US TODAY!

Our annual Advent wreath workshop is TODAY, Sunday, November 29th from 1-3pm in Fr. Greenan Parish Center. It's a great family event to prepare ourselves for the season of Advent. Bring garden gloves, hand clippers, and a dessert to share. It's a lot of fun! Hope to see you!

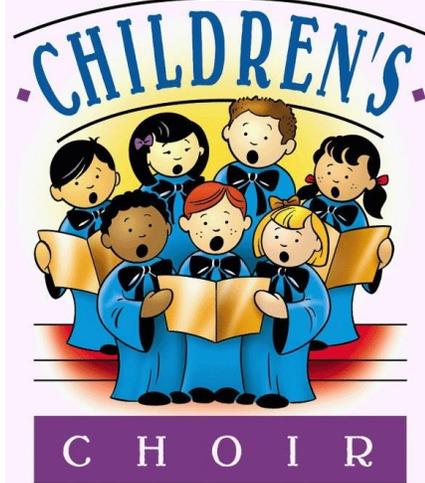
GIVING TREE



If you feel that you can share the gift of giving this Advent/Christmas season, take a tag from the Giving tree and bring back your gift, unwrapped with the tag and place under the tree, no later than Sunday, December 13th. Gifts will be distributed on Monday, Dec. 14th and Tuesday Dec. 15th. Thank you for your generosity.

Monsignor Clarke School Holiday Shopping Christmas Festival December 6th, 9am-3pm

OVER 70 VENDORS AND ARTISTS! One stop shopping with many different gifts to buy!
OVER \$2,000 IN RAFFLE PRIZES Get all your holiday shopping done at Msgr. Clarke



We're looking to put together a Children's Choir to sing at the 4:30pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

All boys and girls ages 6-12 are invited!

We have a new schedule this year with rehearsals being on Tuesday evenings from 5:45-6:45pm on the following Tuesdays:

December 1, 15, and 22, and again on Christmas Eve, December 24 at 3:45.

We're also hoping to get some parents involved this year. If you're interested, please call

Stephen Higgins
at 792.8301 or email him at:
StFrancisWakefieldMusic@gmail.com

We're looking forward to seeing you and to preparing to sing for the **new born king** on his special day!



ORGAN RECITAL

featuring

Michael Thomas Gilman
December 9, 2015 at 7:00pm
at **St. Francis Church**

For more information:

Phone: 401.792.8301

Email: StFrancisWakefieldMusic@gmail.com