

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 10

4:30pm Robert Wilson

Requested by wife, Concetta

Sunday, December 11

8:00am James & Sarah Folcarelli

Requested by family

10:00am

12:00nn Perpetual Mass Association Members

Monday, December 12

7:00am Tom McGair

Requested by Jean McGair

Tuesday, December 13

7:00am Mass for the People

Wednesday, December 14

7:00am Maria D'Annucci

Requested by family

Thursday, December 15

7:00am Tina Marie Luciano

Requested by family

Friday, December 16

7:00am Domenic & Matilda Coppolino

Requested by family

Saturday, December 17

4:30pm Fred Robinson

3rd Anniversary Remembrance

Sunday, December 18

8:00am Rose Gink

Requested by Dick & Julia Buckley

10:00am Nicholas Duckworth

Requested by family

12:00nn Lisa Brennan Matthews

Requested by the Boyle family



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 11

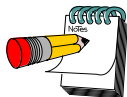
10:00am Robert Alarie

Requested by Margie & Jerry Swanson

Sunday, December 18

10:00am Mary Marchand

Requested by Gerri & Al Marsocci



For Your Information



2016 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

4:30pm CHRISTMAS EVE

Celebrant: Fr. Henry Bodah

Children's Choir

10:00pm CHRISTMAS EVE*

Celebrant: Fr. Henry Bodah

Adult Choir

*Preceded at 9:30pm by a

Prelude of Christmas Carols

8:00am CHRISTMAS DAY

Celebrant: Fr. Henry Bodah

Organ with Cantor

10:00am CHRISTMAS DAY

Celebrant: Fr. Henry Bodah

Organ with Cantor & Trumpet

12:00nn CHRISTMAS DAY

Celebrant: Fr. Gene McKenna

Organ with Cantor

ST. ROMUALD CHAPEL

5:30pm CHRISTMAS EVE

Celebrant: Fr. Gene McKenna

Young Musicians with flute and organ

10:00am CHRISTMAS DAY

Celebrant: Fr. Randy Chew

Adult Choir

PARISH SUPPORT

Weekly Support

Budget envelopes used (261)	-	<u>December 4</u> \$7,074.00
Loose Donations	-	\$1,391.00
Online Giving (# of donors-64)	-	\$1,659.50
Total Budget	-	\$10,124.50

Monthly Collection

Budget envelopes used (167)	-	\$2165.50
Other Donations	-	\$ 473.00
Total Monthly Collection	-	\$2,638.50

This week's second collection is the Retired Religious Fund. Next week's second collection is for Ongoing Maintenance.

As always, thank you for your continued generosity.

From the Pastor

Christmas is fast coming upon us. You should have received a printed schedule of Masses in the mail. If you didn't, it means that you're not registered in the parish and you might think of calling the office during business hours to take care of that. One thing I could add to the printed schedule: since New Year's Day comes on a Sunday this year, the usual weekend schedule of Masses will be celebrated on that Saturday and Sunday. Also, a visiting priest was asked to celebrate a New Year's Eve Mass for a group of Providence College alumni and since he would prefer to have Mass in a church, he asked if they could use the chapel. So, *by way of exception*, there will be a New Year's Eve Mass at 4pm at the chapel, open to the public, in addition to the 4:30 pm in the parish church.

Since on Christmas Eve the children's choir will be practicing and families will be arriving early for the vigil Mass, confessions will not be heard that Saturday. Please plan to get to confession this coming Saturday, or check the schedule of confessions in other parishes.

I'm happy to report that at least 25 children have joined the Christmas Eve children's choir for the 4:30 vigil Mass in the parish church, and a smaller group have come forward and offered to form a choir for the 5:30 vigil Mass in the chapel. Of course, the choirs of both venues have been practicing assiduously in preparation for the celebration of the Lord's birth. God bless everyone who's working so hard to prepare for this great feast!

Fr. Bodah

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“John in prison heard about the works Christ performed, and sent a message through his disciples to ask him, ‘Are you He who is to come’ or do we look for another?’ In reply Jesus said to them: ‘Go back and report to John what you hear and see: the blind... cripples... lepers... the deaf... the dead... and the poor have the good news preached to them. Blest is the man who finds no stumbling block in me.’”



So wrapped up in the commercialism and consumerism, the question posed by John certainly is appropriate for us. Who is it we are waiting for? Who is it we are looking for? It is not just a simple, but a profound question. Where is our search leading us?

When Jesus began His mission, He used the prophet Isaiah to explain His role. The Baptist asks the question for us, and we have the answer right in front of us. We too are to go back and report to others who Jesus is for us, what He does for us. So many today are spiritually blind, or deaf, hurting and even fallen from grace. But the Christ whose coming we commemorate and celebrate in two weeks asks us to go and tell others, as did the disciples of John. *May we all ‘prepare the way of the Lord.’*



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Sunday, December 11th

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

10:00 Children's Liturgy of the Word and St. Francis' Little Friends Child Care

10:50-11:50am GRADES 3-6 (FGC)
GRADE 7 (Upper Room FGC)

Wednesday, December 14th

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

7:00-8:15 Grades 7 and 8 (FGC)



Calling all shepherds, angels and wise men

St. Francis of Assisi's CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
will be on

Sunday, January 8th at 11:00am
at Fr. Greenan Parish Center

If you are in grades K-6 and would like to participate, have your parents call the Religious Education Office at 792-8684 or call Mrs. Cullen.



STEBENVILLE EAST YOUTH CONFERENCE

Registration for the 2017 Steubenville East Youth Conference to be held on July 14-16 at the UMass, Lowell Campus will open up in mid-January. Our teens get a lot out of this weekend. Here are some of their reflections: "It was nothing like I expected. I felt so close and connected to God." "I definitely feel like a stronger Catholic and I think as many people that have the option to come should." Each year we reserve spots for our teenagers who are current 8-12th grade students. We are trying to get a feel for how many spots to reserve so if you are interested in participating, contact the Religious Education Office before January 7th. At this point, you are not under any obligation to attend.

CALL BARBETTE CULLEN OR DIANE CASTRO AT 792-8684 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

This Week

Sunday, December 11

1-2:30pm Holiday Music Festival (FGC)

Monday, December 12

7:30am Adoration (SF)

Tuesday, December 13

10:00am-4:00pm Haircuts for Hope (FGC)

5:30-6:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (loft)

7pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

7:00pm Bible Study (↓FGC)

Thursday, December 15

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

Saturday & Sunday, December 17 & 18

Haitian Project Artisan Sale—after all masses (HBH)



HOLIDAY SALE of Artisan Creations from Haiti Sat. & Sun.: December 17th & 18th (After All Masses)

All the proceeds of these sales benefit 360 students in Port-au-Prince, Haiti...

UNIQUE GIFTS INCLUDE:

- ◆ Handmade Jewelry: (Earrings & Necklaces) Cows' Horns, Crystal
- ◆ Up-Cycled, Recycled Grocery Sacks, Book Bags, Beach Bags
- ◆ Used Petroleum Barrel Metal Art
- ◆ Greeting Cards

HOLIDAY MUSIC FESTIVAL This Sunday, December 11th from 1 to 2:30pm

Father Green Center

Come begin your Holiday Season with the A Capella sounds of THE ALLEY CATS and the creative talents of Mark Bode! Refreshments provided!



Joy to the World!

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS-DECEMBER 11

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.



At

our last youth night on Sunday December 4th, our high school teens with the help of very capable adult volunteers baked an assortment of Christmas cookies for the elderly members of our parish community as well as the families who are serviced by the Giving Tree. Fr. Greenan Center was filled with energy and excitement as they prepared these scrumptious treats! Many people this Christmas will be touched by their care and concern for others in our community.

A special thank you to the Hospitality Committee for the beautiful reception they hosted for our newly confirmed teenagers and their families on November 19th. We were also blessed to have many delicious baked goods donated by families of the Confirmation One class as well. We are grateful for your help!

THE GIVING TREE

Just a reminder that this Sunday, is the last day to leave gifts under the giving tree. *Also, (Gift cards should be placed in collection baskets or brought to the rectory—please do not place them under the tree)*. Gifts will be distributed the week of **December 12th**. Thank you for your generosity.



HAIRCUTS FOR HOPE

*Jordan New Style Barber Shop
344 Main St, Wakefield,
(401) 284-3233*

Presents...

Men's Spa Day

**Tuesday, December 13th
10am to 4pm**

at

*St. Francis of Assisi Church (FGC)
114 High Street, Wakefield*

Gratis for every man:

- * **HAIRCUTS**
- * **MANICURES**
- * **PEDICURES**
- * **A "NEW-to-YOU" OUTFIT**

FOR SALE: 128 PIECE LIMOGES CHINA

DONATED BY A PARISHIONER—PROCEEDS FOR ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

"Haviland and Company, Limoges for Tilden-Thurber Company" Porcelain with gold trim. Set includes 4 piece set for 12, serving platters, tea cups, casserole dish, bread, salad, and dessert plates, etc. Come by the office to view display set. All offers considered. For more information contact Christina Moynihan at 783-4411.

