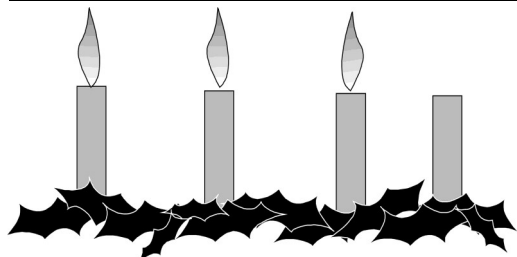


# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Mass Intentions



### Saturday, December 15

4:30pm †Dagmar Pucella Pignataro  
*Requested by Family*

### Sunday, December 16

8:00am †James & Sarah Folcarelli  
*Requested by Family*

10:00am †Hazel Cayer  
*Requested by Kim Taylor*

12:00nn †Nicholas Duckworth  
*Requested by Family*

### Monday, December 17

7:00am †Tina Marie Luciano  
*Requested by Family*

### Tuesday, December 18

7:00am Mass for the People

### Thursday, December 20

7:00am †Luke & Henrietta Pucella  
*Requested by Family*

### Friday, December 21

7:00am †James DeLuca, Sr.  
*Requested by Family*

### Saturday, December 22

4:30pm †Fred Robinson  
(5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Remembrance)  
*Requested by Family*

### Sunday, December 23

8:00am †Fredrick Galiani  
*Requested by Daughter, Rosemary*

10:00am †Bryan Maguire  
*Requested by Family*

12:00nn †Rachel Passero & Jeanne Henthorn  
*Requested by Family*



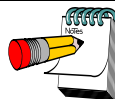
## St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

### Sunday, December 16

10:00am †Anna Marinelli  
*Requested by Jane Estes & Family*

### Sunday, December 23

10:00am †Mary Marchand  
*Requested by Gerri & Al Marsocci*



## For Your Information



### Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

Monday, December 24

At St. Francis Church  
4:30pm and 10:00pm

At St. Romuald Chapel  
5:30pm



### Christmas Day Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 25

At St. Francis Church  
9:00am & 11:00am

At St. Romuald Chapel  
10:00am

(The Parish Offices will be closed Mon., Dec. 24 Tues., Dec. 25 & Wed., Dec. 26)



GRATEFUL  
for God's Providence  
CELEBRATING 110 YEARS  
Diocese of Providence

St. Francis of Assisi Campaign Goal: \$626,135.00

Pledged through 12/10/18: \$786,905.00

Percentage of Goal: 126%

Registered Family Count: 1,709; Donor Count: 229

Average Gift: \$3,436.27

## PARISH SUPPORT

### Weekly Support

	December 9
Budget envelopes used (221)	\$5,951.50
Loose Donations	\$1,494.00
Online Giving (# of donors-60)	\$2,221.00
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$9,666.50</b>

### Second Collection (Retired Religious)

Budget envelopes used (146)	\$3,314.00
Loose Donations	\$ 592.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,906.00</b>

Collection for Immaculate Conception: \$887.00

The second collection this week is for Ongoing Maintenance. There is no second collection next week.

As always, thank you for your continued generosity.

**Father Richard Veras** is the director of pastoral formation at Saint Joseph's Seminary in New York. He is author of three books, his latest being *The Word Made Flesh: Foreshadowed, Fulfilled, Forever* (Magnificat)

## *As Christmas Completes Advent, Emmanuel Completes Scripture*

As Advent longs for Christmas, the Words of Scripture long for the Word Made Flesh. In Advent we read the prophecies that the Lord will come and be with us in our midst; and the inspired words and promises of these Scriptures lead to acknowledging and celebrating the coming of God in the flesh at Christmas.

Thus Advent resembles our sacramental liturgies. In each case we proclaim the Words of Scripture. And in each case, the celebration of the Word of God leads us to a sacrament: a moment in which Jesus comes among us visibly, tangibly. Mass leads us to the Eucharist. The baptismal liturgy leads to a new member of the Mystical Body of Christ. A wedding leads us to Christ coming in our midst through the sacramental unity of bride and groom.

The Words of Scripture, if taken seriously, awaken a longing for God to *rend the heavens and come down* (Is 63:19), and through the Word Made Flesh, God answers that longing.

My young niece once started crying because her aunts and uncles were reminiscing about events before she was born, and she felt left out because she was not there. Our Father does not want to leave us out. He completes Scripture with the sacraments. Through the sacraments, i.e., the mysterious but real presence of Emmanuel, God Made Flesh, our Father assures us, "You are there! You are with me! Because I am here, with you, always!"



### THE YOUTH MINISTRY PRESENTS:

What better way to spend the Christmas season than to bring joy to those in need and take a trip to see the amazing LaSalette Christmas lights!

Don't miss your chance to join us on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> for an entire day of Christmas activities:

**11:00am-12:00pm** Mass at Veronicas Chapel  
**12:00pm-2:00pm** Lunch, Christmas cards, and music run through  
**2:00pm-3:00pm** Caroling at Elderwood Nursing Home  
**3:00pm-10:00pm** LaSalette Trip

More info and details to come! Please email Youth Minister Emily Cuellar to reserve a spot at [youthministrysfsa@gmail.com](mailto:youthministrysfsa@gmail.com)



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

#### Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

**8:55-9:50am** GRADES K-6(FGC)

**8:50-9:50am** GRADE 7 & 8 Parish Offices

**10:00am** Children's Liturgy of the Word during Mass

**6-8pm** FGC December Youth Night (ages 13+)

#### Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

**6:00-7:00pm** Children's Choir rehearsal (choir loft)

#### Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

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

**7:00-8:15pm** Grades 7 & 8 Christmas Family Event

*Classes and Children's liturgy of the Word resume on Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Religious Ed. Office will be closed December 21<sup>st</sup> until January 1<sup>st</sup>.*



*Calling all shepherds, angels, and wise men...If your child in grade K-6 would*

*like to participate in our annual Christmas pageant on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 please call Mrs. Cullen at the Religious Ed Office at 792-8684. Rehearsal will be Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:15 and Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-11:00 in Fr. Greenan Center.*

**Secret Jesus Activity:** This Advent the children in our Religious Ed. classes have been busy making "Jesus rocks". The idea came from a website called Catholic

*Inspired and they credit an anonymous artist who originally hand painted the image of baby Jesus on rocks/ pebbles and spread them around for people to find ... he "simply wanted to bring joy and the real message of Christmas to people." So if you find one of these Jesus rocks, keep it or pass it on but remember that "Jesus is the Reason for the Season." Merry Christmas!*



### This Week

**Monday, December 17**

7:30am Adoration (SF)

**Tuesday, December 18**

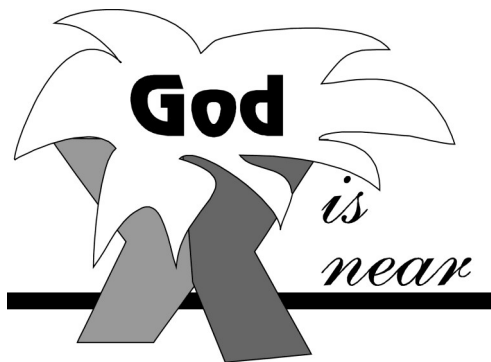
6:00pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (Church)

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Church)

7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

**Thursday, December 20**

7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (↓FGC)



*Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.—A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians*



Come enjoy a night of prayer and Christmas festivities. Make sure to wear an ugly Christmas sweater and bring a wrapped gift (\$5 value max) if you'd like to join in our Yankee swap. This event is open to anyone ages 13-19. Event will take place in Father Greenan Center. Hope to see you there!

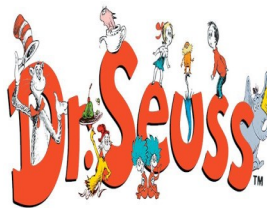
### **THE GIVING TREE**

Our Giving Trees have been placed in St. Francis and St. Romuald. If you feel that you can share the gift of giving this Advent/Christmas season, take a tag from the tree (tag should be attached to the gift) and bring back your gift **unwrapped** and place it under the tree, **by this Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**. **Gift cards or cash donations should be placed in the offertory basket or dropped off at the rectory and not left under the tree.**



Gifts will be distributed on **Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you.

Just a reminder that there are inspirational **Catholic media CDs** available at the side entrance (parking lot side) in the main church and at the chapel. You will also find new CDs for the Season of Advent. Please be sure to take a moment to look them over.



Luke Meyer, a Confirmation candidate who is living in Mexico for this year, would like to collect Dr. Seuss books for children in his Mexican town. These books would be used in the Yucatan school system where many of the students are Mayan and very poor. The books can be new or gently used. The simpler Dr. Seuss books work best, as the level of English of the students is low. Boxes will be placed at the entrances to the church/chapel. **Donations need to be in by next Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Thank you very much for your donations!

### **NAMES OF LOVED ONES/ CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING**

Beginning this year the names of the loved ones written on the Christmas Offering Flower envelopes will be placed in a box on the altar at St. Francis Church. Those members will be remembered at the 10pm Mass on Christmas Eve. They will remain on the altar until the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6.

