



"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matt 1:21



LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)

Happy Fourth Week of Advent! We're into the home-stretch of our preparations for Christmas (spiritual, social and familial) – keep up the good work! During the second week of Advent I read and prayed with a reflection called "Saying Yes to God: Mary's Yes" by Catherine Wiecher Brunell, and was so moved by her insights, meanderings, and challenging questions and prayer prompt. When I read the Gospel for our fourth Sunday of Advent, I began to wonder if that author had also written a reflection on Joseph's yes... She indeed has, and here it is (thank you)! Please enjoy the gift that Ms. Brunell offers to us in her reflection "Saying Yes to God: Joseph's Yes." (loyolapress.com) *Let us focus on Joseph's "yes." His is unique in its place—it required Mary's "yes," but it also supported hers. This path, between the two, reminds me of what our best relationships require and can create. When we are brave enough to comingle, our response to the movements in our life intimately affect the people that we love. This means that we need to back each other up, but also that we help each other see what is possible. When Joseph said "yes," he accepted the promise that Mary saw and affirmed that he would pursue it with her. He took part in God's hope for his life but also relied on the faith of Mary's hope. On whom do you rely to see what is possible? Whose "yes" impacts your own?*

Advent Reflection: *The people we love the most are often the ones we push away with the same intensity. Of course, we don't do this on purpose. We feel comfortable in these relationships and therefore when life demands more of us, we sometimes give less to those who are close. Name three or four of these close people in your life. Like how Joseph affirmed Mary, where could these people use more of your support? Who in your life needs to know that you are with them 100%? Also, what does the need that they have create for you in your life?*

Action Prompt: *Joseph's "yes" reminds us to partner with one another. When he agrees to continue with their marriage, Joseph acts not only with trust in God, but also in Mary. Today, look for ways that you can partner with your loved ones. Look for ways you can trust them and act upon that trust. How does working in tandem affect your relationship with that person? How does it affect your understanding of God?*

Prayer Prompt: *Prayer is the practice of attending to that which is true. When we pray, whatever method we use, we notice our needs, our desires, and our relationships. Only by noticing what is within are we able to connect with what is beyond ourselves. As such, prayer is our participation in the deepening of the sacred. Joseph taught us this when he said, "yes." I invite you to finish this prayer:*

*Partner God,
Trusting Responder,
Always Supporter,
Help me to be this to my loved ones.
They inspire me.
They need my support.
They lead me to you.*

I am grateful for these people... (write or say their names as you hold them in prayer.) Amen.

Written by: Colette M. Savaria, LIFE Coordinator

THANK YOU to all of our parishioners and friends who were able to participate in our **Advent Evening of Taize Prayer!** What a wonderful Advent Journey filled with prayer, quiet, song, and reflection amidst a setting of candles and icon imagery. Heartfelt gratitude to all those who made the evening flow so smoothly including our set-up and take-down crew, hospitality, readers, candle-bearers, musician, participants, and our prayer leader: Michelle Saslow.

Christmas Flowers: Christmas plants will be accepted in the Parish Connector until Thursday, Dec. 22. Special envelopes for flower donations are located in the pews. If you would like to have a loved one remembered during the Christmas season through your donation, please be sure to include those name(s) on your envelope or plant. If you donate through EFT, please list your names on the flower donation envelopes and indicate that you donated through EFT. **Decorating** will take place after the 9am Mass on Friday, Dec. 23. **All are invited and welcome to help out. Thank you.**

CHURCH SUPPORT – December 10/11, 2016

Weekly Collection	\$5653.00
Immaculate Conception	\$1350.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$2721.00

The second collection this weekend is for the Parish Debt.
Thank you for your continuing generosity.

Community Action Committee (CAC)
Many, many thanks for your generosity past and present. All gifts should be returned to the Church Giving Tree no later than this weekend (Dec. 17-18).

Soup Kitchen Needs
Tuesday, December 20, 2016

4 bags oranges	2 cans powdered juice (lemonade)
4 large loaves bread	4 btls salad dressing (Ranch or Ital.)

Assorted finger desserts (cupcakes, cookies, brownies)
If you would like to help with any of the above items please call Sylvia Bunker at 683-0320. You may drop off your donations at the Rectory anytime before 3pm on Tuesday, Dec. 20. We served 87 meals in November. Thank you all for your generosity.

Please **pray** for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. **Pray** for our homebound Parishioners and the sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes). **Pray** for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.



Manger Blessing

God of Mary and Joseph, of shepherds and animals, bless us whenever we gaze on this manger scene. Through all the days of Christmas may these figures tell the story of how humans, angels, and animals found the Christ in this poor place. Fill our hearts with hospitality, joy, gentleness, and thanksgiving and guide our steps in the way of peace. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Christmas Schedule 2016
Saturday, December 24, **Christmas Eve**
Carols will be sung 20 minutes before Masses at:
4pm, 6pm and 10pm
Sunday, December 25, **Christmas Day**
8am and 10:30am
No evening Mass on Christmas Day

The Parish recently purchased more **CDs from Lighthouse Catholic Media** which are available at the kiosk at the Church entrance. There are some selections particularly appropriate for Advent and Christmas. Please leave your donation in the Kiosk box.

Eucharistic Ministers are needed to bring communion to patients at local Nursing Homes. Please call Sr. Sheila at 847-6153 (x 205) for details. **Eucharistic Ministers are also needed to bring communion to patients at Newport Hospital.** Please contact Jesus Saviour Rectory at 847-1267.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Tuesday:	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45
Thursday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Friday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
Saturday:	Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17 /Mt 1:1-25
Sunday:	Is 52: 7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 17
5:00pm (O'N) Donald Winters
Sunday, December 18, **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8:00am (B) Cesario Family
Amelia Edward-Corbett
10:30am (O) Lisa Silvia
St. Columba Cemetery
12:00noon Baptism
5:00pm (O) John and Mary Lou Rogers
Monday, December 19
9:00am Sylvester S. Croy
Tuesday, December 20
9:00am Jan Artman
Wednesday December 21
9:00am Charles T. Croy
Thursday, December 22
9:00am Communion Service
Friday, December 23
9:00am Marge Heller
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Devotions
8:00pm Benediction
Saturday, December 24, **Christmas Eve**
4:00pm (O) Ferderico Gaton, Veneranda Gaton
Angelina Garcia
Ernio and Amelita Gaton
6:00pm (O'N) Jamie and Maria DeFreitas
10:00pm (O) Arthur Leonard
Sunday, December 25, **Christmas Day**
8:00am (O) Morris and Mace Families
10:30am (O) George and Helen Leeber

****No evening Mass**
In the above celebrations:
O = Rev. John O'Brien
O'N = Rev. Tom O'Neill
B = Rev. Gerald Beirne

Children's Liturgy of the Word continues at 10:30am Mass on this Sunday, Dec. 18. **Rehearsal for the Children's Christmas Pageant** will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 6pm in the Church.** Children are invited to be readers, angels, shepherds, and travelers. Adult volunteers are needed to help with the children at the Rehearsal and the Pageant on Christmas Eve at 6pm Mass. For more information, call 683-3231.