LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)  "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near!” is our entrance antiphon, and I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul.“ comes from our Old Testament reading. In our responsorial psalm we sing “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.” Today is Gaudete Sunday, or some children call it “Pink Candle” Sunday. Today is a day for rejoicing, to rejoice without ceasing because Jesus is near! The very beginning of Pope Francis’ The Joy of the Gospel reads: “The joy of the Gospel becomes joy for all peoples and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness, and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. Whenever our interior life gets caught up in its own interest and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God’s voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is not God’s will for us. I invite you to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since “no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord.” The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk: whenever we take a step toward Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms.”

**Bible Study** will resume after Christmas.

**St. Lucy’s LIVING NATIVITY will be NOT be held on Sat., December 19 due to the pandemic.

### December 6, 2020

**Weekly Collection** $6118.00

Electronic Giving

The second collection this weekend is the Annual National Collection for Retired Religious. Senior religious women have been instrumental in establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, parishes, and charitable agencies. Your gift will help provide medications, nursing care, and much more.

Thank you for your prayerful and financial generosity!!

### The Community Action Committee (CAC) Updates

*Christmas Program* will be NOT be performed this year due to the pandemic, the CAC will be working with the McKinney Shelter. They and many organizations are not accepting wrapped gifts this year, but are requesting gift cards from Walmart, Dunkin’ Donuts, and Stop & Shop only, in increments of $5 up to $25. As of today there are 30 residents at the McKinney Shelter. A staff member at McKinney will distribute the gift cards to their residents on Christmas Day. If you are interested, place the gift card in an envelope marked “Giving Tree” and place it in the collection basket. If you are not able to attend Mass, you may mail your donation to the Rectory, or drop it in the locked Drop Box outside of the Rectory. If you prefer to write a check or make a cash donation, we will gladly accept this and purchase the gift cards. All amounts of donations are welcome and accepted through Sunday, Dec. 20th.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this challenging time. Stay-safe and God Bless!

### Rejoice

**MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE**

Saturday, December 12
5:00pm (O) Richard DiMeo (living)
Sunday, December 13: The Third Sunday of Advent and Feast Day of St. Lucy
8:00am (O) Masse and DiLullo Families
10:30am (O) George and Helen Lheeber
5:00pm (O’N) St. Lucy’s Parishioners

Monday, December 14
9:00am (O) Robert Mahan
Tuesday, December 15
9:00am (O) Louis James Upham
Wednesday, December 16
9:00am (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
Thursday, December 17
9:00am Communion Service
Friday, December 18
9:00am (O’N) Sylvester S. Croy
11:00am Anthony Marzolla
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany to Mary
7:50pm Benediction
Saturday, December 19
3:45pm Confessions
5:00pm (O) Lisa A. Silvia (Birthday Remembrance) Sunday, December 20:
8:00am (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
10:30am (O) Betty and Spooner Families
5:00pm (O’N) St. Lucy’s Parishioners

In the above celebrations:
O = Rev. John O’Brien
O’N = Rev. Tom O’Neill

**St. Vincent de Paul Conference: What better way to end this difficult year than by helping those who face even more troubles in the next year? Please consider a donation to St. Lucy’s SVDP Conference before the end of the year. Your generous gift will help our most need neighbors with rent, utilities, and other essentials plus you will be able to deduct your contribution on your 2022 taxes. Checks can be made out to SVDP St. Lucy’s Conference and placed in the SVDP collection box in the Narthex or brought to the Rectory. For more information on giving or membership contact stlucysvdp@gmail.com.**

*“I beg Our Lord that He may be the subject of your thoughts and the rule of your actions.” (St. Vincent dePaul)*

### Support for the Parish…

- **Attend Mass** and place your donation in the collection basket.
- **Mail your envelopes** to St. Lucy’s: 909 West Main Rd., Middletown, RI 02842.
- **Drop off** your envelopes and donations by placing in the black lockbox at the front door of the Rectory.
- **On-line** at stlucy.org, click the Giving link, click on Parish Giving, and follow the prompts.

Watch our weekly recorded Mass on YouTube, our Website at www.stlucy.org or St. Lucy’s Facebook Page (St. Lucy’s Catholic Faith Community, Middletown RI).

**Christmas Programs** will be performed in the Parish Connector until Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 2:30pm. Special envelopes for flower donations are located in the Narthex. If you would like to remember a loved 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.

### Electronic Giving

December 3rd, 2020

- **Donate** a one-time gift or allow your donation to be automatically deducted from your bank account or credit card.
- **Electronic Giving** will be available during this challenging time.

### Christmas Schedule 2020

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve
4pm and 8pm

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day
10:00am

*No evening Mass on Christmas Day*

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

**Scripture Readings for the Week**

- **Monday**: Gen 24:27-34, 17a/bMt 21:18-27
- **Tuesday**: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
- **Wednesday**: Is 44:1b-8, 18 21c-25/Lk 7:18-23
- **Thursday**: Gn 49:2-6, Mt 1:1-17
- **Friday**: Jer 23:4-6/ Mt 1:18-25
- **Saturday**: Jgs 13:17-24/ Lk 1:5-25
- **Sunday**: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 8b-12, 14a-16/ Lk 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE**

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