

MASS INTENTIONS are available. Call the office to have a Mass celebrated for your living intention or the repose of the soul of a deceased family member, or another specific intention of the Church. Mass intentions are published so the entire community may come together and pray at the Lord's table during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Since this is a public announcement, "special intentions" or "private intention" are not appropriate to be published here but should be brought to Mass on your own.

- Saturday, Dec. 4: Vigil, Second Sunday of Advent**
5:00pm Elaine Layton (1st Anniversary)
- Sunday, Dec. 5: Second Sunday of Advent**
8:00am For the people of the Parish
10:30am Gregorio Barandiaran (1st Anniversary)
5:00pm For the people of the Parish
- Monday, Dec. 6: St. Nicholas, Bishop**
9:00am Pam Morelli (Living)
- Tuesday, Dec. 7: St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor**
9:00am Nonito Gaton
- Wed., Dec. 8: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin**
9:00am Theresa Rogers
7:00pm Intention of our Youth and Young Adults
- Thursday, Dec. 9: St. Juan Diego**
9:00am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
- Friday, Dec. 10: Advent Weekday**
9:00am Available
- Saturday, Dec. 11: Vigil, 3rd Sunday of Advent**
5:00pm Manuel T. Mello
- Sunday, Dec. 12: 3rd Sunday of Advent**
8:00am Cesario Family
10:30am Martin and Claire Curtis
5:00pm Rocco and Elena DiNicola

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

(all meetings in the Parish Center unless noted)

- Tuesday, December 7
6:30-7:30am Men's Prayer Group (Church)
9:30am Bible Study
9:30am Helping Hearts Meeting
6:30pm St. Vincent de Paul Conference Meeting
- Wednesday, December 8,
9:00am and 7:00PM Holy Day Masses
- Friday, December 10 (Church)
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:50pm Benediction
- Monday, December 13
6:30pm Advent Evening Prayer (Church and PC)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

CHURCH SUPPORT
November 27/28, 2021

Weekly Collection \$3427.00
Electronic Giving \$1187.00

Thank you for your prayerful generosity!!
The second collection next weekend will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

WERE YOU AWAY RECENTLY? When away due to weather, illness, travel, or unforeseen events, we invite you to make up your missed offerings which greatly impact our budget and subsequently our ministries. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and donations.

ON LINE GIVING – fast, secure, convenient. Have you considered electronic, on-line, giving? It's a convenient way to make your offerings to your parish according to your own schedule: weekly, monthly, etc. You control all the information and only you have access to your personal data, banking or credit card information - the parish does not. All the parish receives is a report of your generosity. Now that we are traveling once again, on-line giving ensures your parish receives your generosity even if you can't make it here on Sundays. Visit our website and click on the "Parish-Giving" logo, our e-giving partner. stlucy.org

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS: Special envelopes for flower donations are located in the pews. If you would like to remember a loved one through your donation, please be sure to include those name(s) on your envelope. If you are enrolled in on-line giving and wish to remember a loved one, please list your names on the flower donation envelopes and indicate that you donated on-line.

OUTREACH NEWS

COMMUNITY ACTION GIVING TREE: Due to on-going COVID-19 restrictions, our committee **will not** be setting up a tree with tags again this year. We will, however, be working with the McKinney Shelter and Lucy's Hearth to aid our local area adults/families in need. We will be asking for gift cards to **WalMart and Stop & Shop only** which will be distributed to the 41 residents at the McKinney Shelter and the 15 families at Lucy's Hearth. When you attend Mass you may bring the gift card in an envelope marked "Giving Tree" and place it in the collection basket. If you are unable to attend Mass, you may mail it to the rectory or drop in the locked black box outside of the rectory. **PLEASE NOTE:** We are requesting that gift cards be purchased in increments of 5, 10, 15, 20 & 25 dollars only (a \$50 donation would be two \$25 cards instead of one \$50). If you prefer to write a check or make a cash donation, we will purchase the gift cards. Please mark "Giving Tree" on your donations which will be accepted through Sunday, December 19th.



NEW BULLETIN COMING IN JANUARY
CALLING ALL SPONSORS!

Beginning late January, we will have a new weekly parish bulletin. The new format will be a multi-page, full color edition. In order to do so, we have engaged the services of a third-party publication company, Liturgical Publications, Inc.



Mary Hoffman from Liturgical Publications will be reserving advertising sponsorships beginning the week of November 29th, a portion of the revenue is returned to the parish. We are asking local business owners to please consider taking a new ad. We appreciate your help since the revenue from these ads makes this bulletin possible. For more information or to advertise, please call Mary directly at 860-836-8486. We thank you in advance for your consideration and generous support of the weekly bulletin and its sponsors.

Remember, it is the advertising support which makes our bulletin possible. Please consider reciprocating our sponsors' generosity by supporting them with your business. Thank you again!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

The High School Placement Test will be administered for incoming 9th grade students on Saturday, December 11th. For more information about **Prout High School**, please call Admissions Director Sharon DeLuca at 789-9262, ext. 514 or go to www.theproutschool.org For information about **Bishop Connolly High School** go to BishopConnolly.com

Middletown/Newport Knights of Columbus 2021 Christmas Clothing Drive for the needy and homeless: Men's, women's and children's winter wear (new or used clothing in good condition) will be accepted. Suggested donations include coats, jackets, sweaters, hats scarves, gloves, pants, and shirts. Please drop off clothing donations at the Knights of Columbus Council Hall front entrance at 7 Valley Rd., Middletown on Wednesday, December 8 to Friday, December 10 from 5 to 8pm.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some are seven sessions on weekdays from 7 to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call or visit them at <https://wwmema.org>.

SALVATION ARMY is in need of "bell ringers" for the holiday season. The shifts are for two hours in the Newport/Middletown area. If you can help out, please contact Mary Howland at 860-817-0534 for more information.



ADVENT WEEK II:



FEAST OF MARY'S
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Patronal Feast of the United States
Wednesday, December 8

A holy day of obligation, we will be celebrating the 9am and a 7pm Mass

Mary, who was set aside to bring the Savior into our world, was prepared from the moment of her conception in the

womb of her mother, Anne. Conceived, immaculately without the stain of original sin, she was properly disposed to carry the Son of God. This feast day is celebrated 9 months prior to the celebration of Mary's birth on September 8

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER / FEAST OF ST LUCY: Monday, December 13th from 6:30-7:15pm. Adults and teens will gather in the church, younger parishioners and friends, (grade 6 and under) are welcome to gather in the Parish Center,

THE ADVENT WREATH: The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, the day of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their reparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

(www.usccb.org: "about Advent Wreaths")

ADULT BAPTISM/CONFIRMATION CLASS: Everyone knows someone who has not been Confirmed or baptized in the church – maybe it's you. The next RCIA classes (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) will be starting shortly. Please invite your co-workers, family and friends to explore the program or have them contact us. We will have an informational meeting with individuals interested and those who choose to participate in the program will be baptized or confirmed at a time to be determined. Please send an email at StLucyOffice@gmail.com to let us know if you or anyone you know might be interested.