

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2017



Monday,	12/25 Nativity of The Lord	
7:00 AM	HARRY SEABERG	FAMILY
9:00 AM	LEO & MADALEINE SMITH	DAUGHTER
11:00 AM	JENNIE & JOHN MIRTO	DAUGHTER
Tuesday,	12/26	
8:00 AM	SILIO & CAMILLA VOLPE	FAMILY
Wednesday,	12/27	
8:00 AM	CARMELLA & JOSEPH PEDICONE	FAMILY
Thursday,	12/28	
8:00 AM	SPECIAL INTENTION FOR GABRIELLA	PILEGGI FAMILY
Friday,	12/29	
8:00 AM	ALBERT DEL PIZZO	SISTER, DORIS
Saturday,	12/30	
6:45 AM	SPECIAL INTENTION	MRS. DI RIENZO
5:30 PM	JOSEPH DI FEBO	FAMILY
Sunday,	12/31	
7:00 AM	PARISHIONERS	
9:00 AM		
11:00 AM	MARIE BARRY	NIECE



Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

2nd Reading:

Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel:

Luke 2:22-40



As this Fourth Sunday of Advent rolls into Christmas Eve, we give pause in the silent holiness of this most beautiful festival of our Faith. The Birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem has been depicted by countless artists throughout the centuries. All of these famous images evoke the deep affection

we have for the sentiment of that good Christmas feeling that comes upon us in the silence. And yet, how simple it all was in its reality: Joseph and Mary, alone and without lodging; a cave that probably served as a neighborhood carrel; shepherds with unknown names and dirty hands; a city crowded with folks summoned to a census by a foreign regime and unaware of the miracle transpiring around them; and then, a burst of skyward angels proclaiming Peace on Earth to people of Good Will! How simple and yes, how joyful a night – a Holy Night when the stars were brightly shining – a Night Divine, A Night that lives on and on and on for ages now and beyond.

May the simplicity of this night and the joy of this season fill your hearts with the Peace and Good Will that the angels announced from those brightly shining stars. Christmas is a sacred time for the renewal of our faith and the rekindling of gratitude for the gifts of life, family, and friendship. Along with Fathers Wrightson, Rinaldi, Mealey and Zumbum, I wish you all a very Blessed Christmas. We thank you for your constant prayers and support, and we pray that you will experience the miracle of Christmas once again in your hearts and in your homes.

Fr. Nick

“Consider all the past as nothing, and say, like David: Now I begin to love my God.”

St. Francis de Sales

We welcome the recently Baptized...

Amelia Isabella Matarese

Emma Jean Matarese



In your charity, please pray for all the deceased of St. Anthony's.

“God’s Plan for Giving”

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR 12/10/17

TOTAL OFFERTORY COLLECTION: \$10,434.00

Budget: \$11,361.51

Actual vs. Budget This Week: -\$ 927.51

Percent Difference This Week: - 8.2%

Total Difference Fiscal Year to Date: -\$13,276.68

Thank you for your sacrifice of tithing!

Your Prayers and Support Requested

Mateo Ahumada	Karen Berman	Marianne Calvarese
Roger Chao	Anita Dauphin	Mary T. DiBiao
Judi DiFrancesco	Thomas DiGuglielmo	Tommy DiVirgilio
Christopher Ganey	James Ganey	John Giorgi
Richard Jakotowicz	Bonita Della Rocca Jodz	Mark Johnson
Grace Marie Mataleno	Bill McNabb	William J. Nardo, Jr.
Patricia Ogonowski	Kelly Panella	Charles Rosenberg, Sr.
Nicky Rotundo	Lucretia Serio	Jimmy Silicato
Larry Silvestri	Albert Vietri	Robert Walton
Annamarie White		

...and all the sick of St. Anthony's Parish.

CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE OF SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND MASSES



CHRISTMAS MASSES

December 24, 2017: Vigil of Christmas

7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM (Sunday Masses)
4:00, 7:00, 10:00 PM, and Midnight
4:00 & 7:00 PM Masses – Children's
Christmas Pageant

December 25, 2017: The Nativity of the Lord
7:00, 9:00, & 11:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday, December 30, 2017

4:30 to 5:15 PM

January 1, 2018: Mary, Mother of God
Not a Holyday of Obligation This Year
8:00 AM (only Mass of the day)

January 7, 2018: The Epiphany of the Lord
5:30 PM - Vigil Mass – January 6, 2018
7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 AM

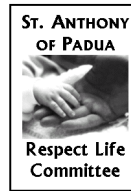
Epiphany Pageant at 11:00 AM Mass
followed by refreshments in the Ballad Room

**Note: The only Mass Tuesday, December 26th, through
Friday, December 29th will be held at 8:00 AM daily.**

Christmas Business Hours

In observance of Christmas, please note that our grade school is closed all this week. Our parish office will be open for business on Wednesday and Thursday (December 27th & 28th) only. The Oblates and parish lay employees wish everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Respect Life: Fact of Life



"If abortion isn't wrong, then nothing is."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Second Collection

For the remainder of December, there are no scheduled second collections.

Music News

Our wonderful Christmas CD, THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS, is once again for sale during the month of December. CD's can be purchased in the vestibule through our gift shop. We have lowered the cost to \$12.00 per CD and 2 for \$20.00. They make wonderful stocking stuffers, gifts for coworkers or those who cannot make it to church. All proceeds go directly to the parish. The CD features Louis L. Perazza performing on our state-of-the-art Peragallo Pipe Organ.

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Once again on the Feast of the Epiphany, our music department with professional soloists and dancers will present our annual "Amahl and the Night Visitors" a charming one act operetta by Gian Carlo Menotti. Amahl is the story of a 12 year old cripple boy who is visited by the Three Kings who are on their way to visit the Christ Child. It's full of fun and frolic and let's just say Amahl has a wee bit of a problem always telling the truth. The role of the mother is sung by our own Andrea Arean and Amahl is sung by David Goodall. The shepherds are sung by our own choir and soloists and we perform in full costume. At the conclusion King Khasper will hand out candy canes to all the children in attendance. We ask a simple 10.00 donation from adults to help us pay for the production. This a FAMILY event and we encourage you to bring your children and grandchildren. The date is Sunday, Jan. 7 and the performance is 4 PM and lasts under an hour. We invite you to join us.

Souper Bowl Food Collection Drive

The Knights of Columbus will conduct their annual food drive at the beginning of the new year up through Super Bowl Sunday on February 4th, 2018. Any non-perishable food items are acceptable and all donations will be delivered to the St. Patrick's Center Food Bank. May God bless our parishioners for their continued generosity.

Catholic Forum

Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at 10:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, December 31st, tune in to hear an interview with Mr. Joseph Ryan, recently retired Editor of The Dialog. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, podcasts and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/catholicforum. Listen to past episodes of Catholic Forum online at cdow.org/communications, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple Podcasts or iHeartRadio podcasts.

Parish Calendar

Monday, Tuesday, Friday

Parish Office Closed

Sunday

No PREP



Monday, Dec. 25

through

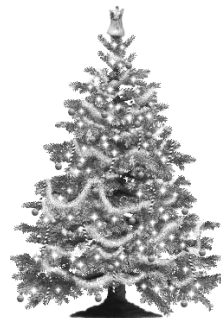
Sunday, Dec. 31

(All events listed in the Parish Calendar are in church unless otherwise noted.)

Grade School Calendar

Classes resume Tuesday, January 2nd.

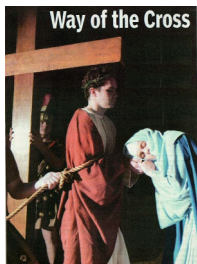
*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!*



Mass of Remembrance Photos

Those who provided the church with photos of their deceased loved ones for display in November may reclaim their photos by visiting the rectory between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Additionally, there are evening hours from 5:30 to 8:00, Monday through Thursday.

Via Crucis Sign-Up



To be a part of the 2018 presentation of the Via Crucis, come to the sign-up in the Church at 1:30 PM on January 7th, 2018. Join students from over 30 schools in the cast and choir. Bring your friends, all are welcome. There will also be a short rehearsal from 2:00 PM to 3:00PM. **REMEMBER ALL ARE WELCOME**

ESPECIALLY SINGERS FOR THE CHOIR.

March for Life

St. Thomas the Apostle Knights of Columbus has chartered a bus for people of all ages, weather permitting, for the **March for Life** held on Friday, January 19th. There will be a stop at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for those unable to make the March. Seats will be available on a first come basis. The only cost to the individual passenger is a tip for the bus driver. Please contact Theresa Collurafici at 12374Columbiettes@gmail.com or 302-322-2929 to sign up.



Parish Monthly Social-Epiphany Sunday

Our next parish social will be held on Epiphany Sunday, 1/7/2018, in the Ballad Room of the Grade School, following the 9AM & 11AM Masses. Stop by for food, fun, and socializing with fellow parishioners and friends. The social, as always, will feature a variety of great treats from Serpe's Bakery, delicious breakfast pizzas from Degnar's Greenhill Deli, and a variety of foods. **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:** We will feature our traditional Epiphany Pageant at the 11AM Mass on Epiphany Sunday, & later in the day, at 4PM, the parish Music Ministry will present *Amahl*, a captivating mini-opera celebrating the travels of the Magi & the story of Epiphany. Hope you can make it for a day of great events.

Academic Achievement – St. Anthony of Padua Grade School

Fourth Grade, Second Honors

Jhaki Carty, Faye Kelleher, Ellie Koontz, Sean McGuigan, Patrick McLaughlin, Evelina Padovani, Michael Vadden

Fifth Grade, First Honors

Andres Lorenzo

Fifth Grade, Second Honors

Natalia Alfieri, Zachary Brelick, Giada Brown, Christian Butler, Alyssa Ceresini, Sirriya Cruz, Elliana Godlewski, Ayden Hoggard, Richard Jakotowicz, Hannah McGuigan, Angel Rizzo

Sixth Grade, Second Honors

John Aloj, Mikaela Brown, Chastity Lam, Diana Lorenzo, Michael Loyola, Arianna Marchione, Sarah Mazalewski, Reagan Meredith, Addison Pfeil, Connor Quinlan, Brianna Ramos, Jessica Rieger, Collin Trzepacz

Seventh Grade, First Honors

Mateo Ahumada, Amanda DeFrehn, Neha George, Olivia Segeda

Seventh Grade, Second Honors

Chloe Bowers, Michael Brelick, Chelsea Lam, Joshua Nebrao, Sebastian Ramos-Alverio, Matthew Reilly

Eighth Grade, First Honors

Luke Burdett, Edward Loyola, Donovan Sarver

Eighth Grade, Second Honors

Blake Bowers, Isabella Ceresini, John DiOssi, Hannah Fagioli, Gracie Hillis, Henry Kelleher, Lauren McLaughlin, Cara Quinlan, Stephen Reynolds, Madison Rieger, Leah Rizzo, Hayden Scully, Jayden Slattery