

“Immaculate Conception is a Stewardship Parish”

1 ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT [‘B’]

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2014

“To you, my God, I lift up my soul, I trust in you, let me never come to shame.”

[Entrance antiphon – Psalm 24:1]

The **Community will gather for Eucharist** this week at the following times.
Come, join us! **[MASSES in ST. MARY’S HALL, 64 Hunns Lake Rd.]**

Saturday, 11/29	5:00 P.M.	{only at St. Anthony’s}
Sunday, 11/30	10:30 A.M.	Marcella DeBella by Sal DeBella
Monday, 12/1	9:00 A.M.	{
Tuesday, 12/2	9:00 A.M.	{
Wed’day, 12/3	9:00 A.M.	{
Thursday, 12/4	9:00 A.M.	{
Friday, 12/5	9:00 A.M.	{
Saturday, 12/6	5:00 P.M.	{only at St. Anthony’s}
Sunday, 12/7	10:30 A.M.	Fred Christiansen by his wife, Sue

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.
Mass at 8:30 A.M. at St. Anthony’s



Ministers of the Liturgy

November 30	<u>5:00 P.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>
Servers/		Matthew Leach
Acolytes		Melissa Leach
Readers	at St. Anthony’s	Matthew Vondras
Eucharistic		Sr. Jean Flannelly
Ministers		Lisa Shay
Ministers of		Michael Hardner
Hospitality	_____	Joseph Salvia

Prepare the way of the Lord. (Mark 1:3)

Prepare your heart to receive a greater awareness of the Lord’s presence to you by removing whatever might stand in the way by participating in **RECONCILIATION MONDAY** on December 15. A priest will be available from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. in St. Anthony’s Church for those who want to celebrate individually the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The hours will be the same in other parishes all over the Archdiocese of New York.

December 7	<u>5:00 P.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>
Servers/		Sarah Leach
Acolytes		Nicholas Ferreri
Readers	at St. Anthony’s	Lisa Shay
Eucharistic		Chris Ferreri
Ministers		Tracey Ferreri
Ministers of		Michael Hardner
Hospitality	_____	Joseph Salvia

Thank you for your contributions to the **Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development!** Your generous gifts will help CCHD end poverty in the United States through better education, improved housing, and economic development. Through CCHD and its beneficiaries, we help keep Catholic social teaching alive and carry out Jesus’ mission to ‘bring glad tidings to the poor...to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free’ (Lk 4:18).

STEWARDSHIP – Last week’s collection totaled **\$872.75**. Our weekly Sunday collection total for the new fiscal year has reached **\$11,935.63 - 65%**. In order to meet our budget we need each week **\$1,650.00**, which would bring us to a total **\$18,150.00**. The **Catholic Campaign for Human Development** raised **\$171.00**. The children’s collection - **0** envelopes. **Thank you for your generosity!**

Prepare for the Lord’s Day **NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday of Advent**

- 1] The Book of Isaiah: 40:1-5, 9-11
- 2] Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
- 3] 2nd Letter of Peter 3:8-14
- 4] The Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8



ADVENT

Parents: Please make certain that children do not leave the body of the church during Mass unless they are accompanied by an adult.
Our vigilance for the protection of children must be a priority.

MEN’S PRAYER GROUP
meets on Saturdays in St. Mary’s Hall at 7:30 A.M.
Join us!

Library at St. Mary’s Hall
If anyone would like to borrow a book from the Library, it is still in the Church Hall. Please sign books out with cards provided. Helen Berger would be able to answer any questions, 868-1961.

Immaculate Conception Parish
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845-868-1923 ~ 845-868-1594 (fax)
www.icbangall.parishesonline.com
[64 Hunns Lake Rd.]

CATECHETICAL PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

+ The Catechetical program will now be located in either of two venues –
at St. Joseph's in Millbrook or St. Anthony's in Pine Plains.
Call Jeanne Stroly at 845-868-1043 for information.

YEAR OF
MARK

December 7th, 2014 Second Sunday of Advent

Today we hear from the prophet known as Second Isaiah. Beginning in chapter 40 the tone of the book changes, as does the perspective. A book that formerly presented words of judgment and doom to the people of Judah and Jerusalem now turns to prophecies of "comfort" (v1), addressing the exiled people in Babylon. The Prophet announces that their "guilt is expiated" (v2) and calls them to "prepare the way of the Lord" (v3), who comes to deliver them and bring them home to Jerusalem. "Here is your God!" (v9), the prophet cries out.

In Second Peter we are encouraged to live in anticipation of the Lord's return, conducting ourselves "in holiness and devotion" (v11). God desires "that all should come to repentance" (v9), and so what seems like a delay is an opportunity for us to reform our lives, a message echoed by the prophets of the Old Testament and John the Baptist.

For Mark, the ministry of John the Baptist is a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy of "a voice of one crying out in the desert" (v3). Today's Gospel is unusual in that while it anticipates Jesus' presence, he is not yet present. We hear from the precursor, John, who is presented in imagery echoing the prophets of biblical Israel: "clothed in camel's hair...[feeding] on locusts and wild honey" 9v6). John calls to us to "prepare the way of the Lord" (v3). Joan Chittister, in her book *The Liturgical Year*, reminds us that "it is while waiting for the coming of the reign of God...that we come to realize that its coming depends on us" (62). As we wait, let us prepare by transforming our lives with the power of God's love, that we may welcome him when he comes.

For reflection: What can I do to help prepare the way of the Lord? Has there been a time in my life when I experienced God's patience with me before I repented? How can this insight help me in my relationship with others?

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Come join us for days of
BIBLE STUDY

and gain understanding of the Bible and the book of
ISAIAH

When: December 13, 20 - Saturdays 10:00-11:30 A.M.

Where: St. Mary's Hall, 64 Hunns Lake Rd., Bangall, N.Y.

For more information contact Sr. Jean Flannelly, SC
845-868-1902 or 718-405-3230 or flannellysc@aol.com

Advent is the Season of Joyful Expectation

Spend time during the Season reflecting on the Apostolic
Exhortation of Pope Francis

~ 'The Joy of the Gospel' ~

You can locate it at the Vatican website

'Vatican.va' or 'La Santa Sede'

And click to translate the page into English.

Click 'Apostolic Exhortations' and
'Evangelii gaudium' is all that appears.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"No ear has ever heard. No eye ever seen..."

Learn to hear and see your spouse in a new way on
the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend.

For more information on dates and locations go to:
www.wwme.org or call toll free: 877-NYS-WWME ext. 3.

Immaculate Conception Parish celebrates Commitment

on the occasion of the patronal Feast of the Parish

Sunday, December 7th at 10:30 A.M.

during the Celebration of the Eucharist.

**Our Sisters of Charity will Renew their Vows
as Consecrated Religious
and**

Jeff & Lisa (Shay) Leach

**will renew their Marriage Vows marking
their 25th Anniversary.**

A Festive Luncheon will follow. Please join us with a dish to share
that's finger food or brunch-like. Beverages, etc. will be provided.

**ADDRESS OF POPE FRANCIS
TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
STRASBOURG
25 NOVEMBER 2014**

How, then, can hope in the future be restored, so that, beginning with the younger generation, there can be a rediscovery of that confidence needed to pursue the great ideal of a united and peaceful Europe, a Europe which is creative and resourceful, respectful of rights and conscious of its duties?

To answer this question, allow me to use an image. One of the most celebrated frescoes of Raphael is found in the Vatican and depicts the so-called "School of Athens". Plato and Aristotle are in the centre. Plato's finger is pointed upward, to the world of ideas, to the sky, to heaven as we might say. Aristotle holds his hand out before him, towards the viewer, towards the world, concrete reality. This strikes me as a very apt image of Europe and her history, made up of the constant interplay between heaven and earth, where the sky suggests that openness to the transcendent – to God – which has always distinguished the peoples of Europe, while the earth represents Europe's practical and concrete ability to confront situations and problems.

The future of Europe depends on the recovery of the vital connection between these two elements. A Europe which is no longer open to the transcendent dimension of life is a Europe which risks slowly losing its own soul and that "humanistic spirit" which it still loves and defends. [excerpted]

ANTIQUÉ APPRAISAL ROAD SHOW

being held at St. Joseph's School, 25 St. Joseph Drive, Millbrook, NY on Saturday, December 6, 2014, 10:00am - 5:00pm. Astor Galleries will be bringing a team of nationally and internationally recognized appraisers to this exciting event. So gather your treasures and come to have them appraised. Donation \$5.00 per item or \$20.00 for 5 items. For more information please call 800-784-7876 [see details on bulletin board]