

First Sunday of Advent December 2 & 3, 2017

Mass Intentions

Saturday

5:00 PM For Stephen Spaziano by his Wife and Daughters

Sunday

8:00 AM For the Parishioners of Saint Brigid's

10:00 AM For Edward (Ted) DeGuilio by his wife, Merrie – Birthday Remembrance

Thursday

5:00 PM Vigil of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
For Angelo DeRobbio – by his family - 20th Anniversary

Friday

7:30 AM The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
For Andy Cerrito by Sandy Cerrito

Next Saturday

5:00 PM For Margaret Barone – Birthday Remembrance – by her family

Next Sunday For the Parishioners of Saint Brigid's
8:00 AM

10:00 AM For Marie and Joseph Hannigan by Michael Placella

Feast of Immaculate Conception

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary will be celebrated on Thursday at 5:00 PM and on Friday at 7:30 AM.

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of November 18 & 19, 2017

Budget Collection	\$2,416.00
November Monthly to Date	\$1,046.00
Annual Collection to Date	\$7,642.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	119

Weekend of November 25 & 26, 2017

Budget Collection	\$1,685.00
November Monthly to Date	\$1,204.00
Annual Collection to Date	\$7,847.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	97

Religious Education News

Religious Education classes every Tuesday. Grades 1 through 5 meet from 3:30-5:15 PM and Grades 6 through 9 meets from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Grade 9 Retreat will be held on Saturday, December 9th from 10:00 AM -3:00 PM at the Rejoice in Hope Center on Dyer Avenue, Cranston.

Annual Parish Bazaar

Thank you to all who gave of their time and talent to make our Annual Bazaar and Cake Sale so successful. Thanks especially to all who came by to support our efforts. The net profit from the Annual Bazaar was **\$6,028.00**. Great Job!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is looking for new members to help make shawls for the sick and sick at heart. Recently, we lost some very prolific members to death, illness and a nursing home. The last healing mass attracted 70 people needing shawls and thankfully we had enough. However, our inventory is greatly diminished. If you have any talent for knitting or crocheting, we pray you consider joining us in this very important ministry.

2018 20-Week Club

There will be a person collecting the 1st weekend of every month from December to April. All other weeks you can use the 20-Week Club payment envelope found on the ushers' tables.

2018 20-Week Club Winners

- November 12th – Daniel Stone # 306 and Stephanie Sigillo #065
- November 19th – Donald Gormley # 208
- November 26th – Joseph DePasquale # 274 and Peter LaTorre # 304

Game Dinner

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a game dinner prepared by Ralph's Catering on Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 1:00 PM @ Santa Maria Di Prata Club, 29 Walnut Grove Avenue, Cranston. Donation: \$35.00. For more info: Peter Lentini @ 401-944-2613.

Father Bob's Ramblings

One of the things that is essential to being human is numbering our days and marking time. We ritualize the changes in seasons and the beginning of the new year; we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries; we order our lives by the clock and the calendar. Keeping track of time provides us with a common structure for life's activities. And so, this weekend marks the beginning of the Church's new liturgical year; the Time of Advent. What we begin in Advent will continue throughout the entire year as we listen to the scriptures and learn to understand Jesus' life and teachings and what they mean for our lives.

Advent is a period of anticipation. The tendency to focus exclusively on Advent as preparation for Christmas Time can prevent us from also seeing these four weeks as an opportunity to begin a new year of grace, a year in which we deepen our participation in Christ's life and teachings and try to make them our own. Preparing for Jesus' birth is the beginning, a first step.

For those of us who live in the Northern Hemisphere, Advent corresponds with the coming of winter's increasingly long and dark days. We feel in our bones what it means to walk in the darkness and see light. We wait in eager anticipation of the growing light as the candles on the Advent Wreath are incrementally lit over four weeks.

This year our Gospel readings will focus on the Gospel of St. Mark. And this weekend's liturgy draws our attention first to the hope of Christ's return in glory. We look forward to the time when we are gathered at his right hand we may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. As we walk on our journey toward that Kingdom, we find assurance in God "the potter," who can remake us once more in the divine image. St. Paul also reminds us in the second reading that we are "not lacking in any spiritual gift" as we await "the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Care Notes

Care Notes, which are pamphlets to help people experiencing grief, illness or difficult times during the Christmas season, are available *free* in the foyer of the church. Pick one up for yourself or for someone you know who could use the support during these days.

The Word Among Us Prayer Book for Advent

This Prayer Book for Advent is available *free* in the foyer of the church. It is meant to encourage taking five minutes a day for prayer and reflection during the Advent Season. Please pick one up for your family and anyone you feel would like to have one and continue a past Advent tradition or start a new one.

Parish Calendars

A Catholic Inspirational Calendar for 2018 is available in the foyer of the church for each family. Please pick one up and hang it in your home. Also, feel free to take one for anyone you feel would like or need one.

Giving Tree Ministry

Our Annual Giving Tree Ministry begins this weekend and will continue through December 16/17. This year's donations will once again be given to the children at the William D'Abate School, 60 Kossuth Street, Providence, RI. They have 406 poor and disabled children in grades K through 5.

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

December 23rd & 24th

- Saturday - 5:00 PM
- Sunday - 9:00 AM

Christmas Eve

- Sunday - 4:00 PM

Christmas Day

- Monday - 9:00 AM

December 30th & 31st

- Saturday - 5:00 PM
- Sunday - 9:00 AM

New Year's Eve

- Sunday - 4:00 PM

New Year's Day

- Monday - 9:00 AM