

Second Sunday of Advent December 9 & 10, 2017

Mass Intentions

Saturday

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

Sunday

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

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

Next Saturday

5:00 PM For Carmine Maiorisi – Anniversary Remembrance – by daughter-in-law, Ann Marie

Next Sunday

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

10:00 AM For Helen Lolio and Richard Marotto by family

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of December 2 & 3, 2017

Budget Collection	\$2,505.00
December Monthly to Date	\$490.00
Annual Collection to Date	\$7,647.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	101

Collection for Retired Religious

A *special second collection* is being taken up this weekend for the Retirement Fund for Religious Sisters and Brothers. This national collection helps defray the costs of their retirement benefits, most of whom do not receive Social Security.

Giving Tree Ministry

Our Annual Giving Tree Ministry donations are once again being given to the children at the William D'Abate School, 60 Kossuth Street, Providence, RI. Please bring in your gifts by next weekend so the children will receive them before school lets out for Christmas vacation.

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.

There will be **NO** Religious Education the weeks of December 17th & 24th. Classes will resume on January 2nd.

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 Winners

- December 3rd – Daniel J. Stone, Jr. # 306

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.

Father Bob's Ramblings

As we celebrate this Second Sunday in Advent today, the second reading speaks to us about God's time lines.

How often I write in this column how quickly time seems to pass by. Just realizing that we have again celebrated Thanksgiving and are heading into Christmas season, we wonder where do the days go.

But for the people of the Old Testament, as they awaited the coming of the savior, time stretched before them almost endlessly. They wondered why it was taking God so long to fulfill his promise of sending a messiah. They grew tired along the way and forgot. They wandered away and worshipped other gods. They lost faith in the God of the covenant and looked elsewhere. Time and again God calls them back and renews that promise. And still they waited.

Jesus was sent when the time was right. God's time is not measured in years but in the readiness of the moment. As with every birth, the baby arrives when it is ready to be born. We can approximate a delivery date but how often is that date wrong!

So too, it is that when God chooses the right time, God enters into our lives and brings us the gifts of His love and salvation. No one of us can determine or force God into action. God arrives in His own time!

As we approach Christmas, many children (and adults too!) grow excited and impatient for the day to arrive. And that anticipation is at the heart of the Advent Season.

And so, we wait and watch and are alert for when he comes into our lives. We light our Advent candles, one week at a time as we prepare our hearts for THE arrival. And we pray: Come Lord, Come Lord Jesus!

Christmas Cookie Sale

There will be **NO** Christmas Cookie Sale this year. Many of our bakers are either sick, caring for someone who is sick or unable to bake for one reason or another.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Anyone who may want to learn how to crochet and become a member of this special ministry, please let Fr. Bob know. One of the members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is willing to teach you how to crochet.

Adult Confirmation Classes

Any adult 18 years or older who wishes to take Confirmation Classes in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is asked to let Fr. Bob know before February 11, 2018. Classes will take place on Tuesdays February 27th, March 6th, 13th & 20th. Confirmation will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 31st.

Vocations Retreat

The annual priesthood retreat for high school seniors, college and post college age men who may be considering a priesthood vocation will take place @ the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence on Friday and Saturday, January 12-13, 2018. Please see Father Bob if you are interested.

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