

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday December 1st**  
 8:30 AM Wojciech Sienko  
 5:00 PM Thomas Smith

**Sunday December 2nd**  
 8:30 AM Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Codd  
 10:00 AM Parish Mass  
 12:00 PM Antonia Turriciano  
 5:00 PM Ria Romano

**Monday December 3rd**  
 8:30 AM Margaret Connelly  
 12:00 PM Evelyn Sulibit Alcontin

**Tuesday December 4th**  
 8:30 AM Jean Hoffman  
 12:00 PM Jean Hoffman

**Wednesday December 5th**  
 8:30 AM Lindsay Carter  
 12:00 PM Anthony Bruno

**Thursday December 6th**  
 8:30 AM Andrew Ognibene  
 12:00 PM Vita DeRose

**Friday December 7th**  
 8:30 AM Eleanor & James Mara  
 12:00 PM Thomas Smith  
 7:30 PM

**Saturday December 8th**  
 8:30 AM Anne M. Codd  
 12:00 PM Nilda Dorsey  
 5:00 PM Serafina Sauro & Mary Russomanno

**Sunday December 9th**  
 8:30 AM Rajesh Israni, Jr.  
 10:00 AM Parish Mass  
 12:00 PM John McAree  
 5:00 PM Enzo & Maria DiGraci



**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Robert & Mary Tardona, Alice Coleman, Isabel Azzaro, Richard Eisenzopf, Bonnie Nisson, Rebecca Mintz, Lewis Stein, Peter Fulchiron, Diane McGinley, Graham McGinley, and for **all of our parishioners who are currently hospitalized or homebound.**



**PRAY FOR THE ARMED SERVICES**

Capt. Peter Sulewski, U.S. Army; Lt. Col. Patrick Davis, U.S. Army (JAG); Sgt. Beau Parham, U.S. Army; Major Paul Lentz, USAF; Sgt. Larry Saume, U.S. Army; Capt. Travis Swiatocha, USMC, Pvt. Tim Richardson, U.S. Army, SCSO Ajay James, (NSW) U.S. Navy, and **all parishioners currently in the Military**

**Pray for all of our police, fire, and corrections officers, who risk their lives daily to insure our safety.**

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Raymond Cleary  
 Msgr. James McDonald  
 Esther Iqbal  
 Rev. Thomas Sung

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**SUNDAY – December 2nd**

*First Sunday of Advent*  
 -Children’s Liturgy-10:00am Mass

**MONDAY – December 3rd**

*Saint Francis Xavier, Priest*  
 -Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

**TUESDAY - December 4th**

*Advent Weekday*  
 -Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY – December 5th**

*Advent Weekday*  
 -Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 8:30am  
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**  
 -CCD K thru 5th Gr.-Church at 3:00pm  
 -Divine Mercy-Rectory at 6:30pm

**THURSDAY – December 6th**

*Advent Weekday*  
 -Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm  
 -CCD 6th & 7th Gr.-School at 4:00pm  
 -Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

**FRIDAY – December 7th**

*Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*  
 -Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 4:00pm & 6:00pm

**SATURDAY – December 8th**

*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**If you are not yet registered in the Parish, please stop into the Rectory for a Census Form Mon. thru Sat. 9am-4pm.**

**BREAD AND WINE**

Many thanks for this week’s donation of Bread & Wine given in **loving memory of:**  
 Cecilia Koluch  
 by  
 The DiBartolo Family



**BAPTISMS**



We welcome into our faith community all those who were baptized in the month of November, 2018:

Samuel Blum  
 Nicholas Nunez  
 Julius Steven Nikiforov  
 Anson Lin

**MEMORIALIZE A LOVED ONE**

Consider the possibility of a donation of the **Bread & Wine, Flowers for the Altar, Tabernacle Light, or the Memorial Worship Fund** in memory of a special person. Names of all those memorialized will be published in the bulletin. Call or stop by the Rectory to arrange your memorial. **Please take advantage of the openings for Memorials that remain for 2018.**

Dear Parishioners:

The New Year in the Church begins with the season of Advent. A time to help us prepare for Christmas, when we celebrate the fulfillment of our longing for the Savior with the birth of Jesus. So, what is Advent? It's the season that lasts about four weeks, beginning four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. The Church's Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and lasts for twelve days. So, Advent is a season of anticipation that leads up to Christmas. During this time, we observe a season of prayer, and reflection followed by anticipation, hope and joy. Each Sunday during Advent we light a candle on the Advent wreath. Advent as a season has evolved throughout history. What began as a liturgical season focused mainly on repentance, now embodies joyful preparation for Christmas. Though the precise beginning of the celebration of Advent isn't known, there are writings from as early as the 5th century that mention the season of Advent. Pray during Advent take time for meditation and reflection each day of Advent by remembering to offer God your gifts of heartfelt gratitude and love.

One of the primary traditions of Advent is the lighting of the Advent wreath. Each candle lit represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The circle of branches of the wreath symbolize the eternal cycle of the seasons while the evergreens and lighted candles signify the persistence of life in the midst of winter. Another popular tradition of Advent is the Advent Calendar. Although these calendars frequently follow the entire month of December instead of strictly adhering to the Advent season. Advent calendars open up to mark each day and can contain anything from prayers to candy depending on the calendar. The Advent wreath contains 4 candles. All of the candles are purple except the third (which is rose). The symbolic meanings of the candles are:

1. Hope — expectation of what is to come and sometimes prophecy
2. Love — sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle
3. Joy — this rose candle is often called Mary's Candle
4. Peace — it can often be called the Angel's Candle

The color of Advent is purple. You'll see purple used quite often in banners around the church or in the vestments of the clergy. Purple is used during Advent, as it is during Lent to represent the penitential nature of the season. In fact, Advent used to be known as "little Lent." The color is a symbolic reminder for us to be preparing ourselves for the coming of our Lord. The third Sunday during Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. The word Gaudete means "rejoice." On that Sunday your priest may wear rose vestments. This color is meant to remind us that Christmas is drawing near.

Put simply, Advent is the season that leads up to Christmas. It's a time we use to pray and reflect in anticipation of the coming of our Lord and the start of the Christmas Season.

In Christ  
Deacon Dean

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION MONDAY

On Monday, December 17, 2018 our Diocese will join the Archdiocese of New York in celebrating Advent Reconciliation Monday. On this special day, all the parishes of our diocese will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the great Feast of the Lord's Nativity. Here at OLM we will be offering Reconciliation on that day from 4:00pm to 5:30pm and from 6:30 to 8:00pm.

### 'TIS THE SEASON



Our **Giving Tree** and ornaments are in place in the Church vestibule. This year, as in the past, we will be collecting gifts for Catholic Charities, and **our own homebound parishioners**. Please hang an ornament on the tree and drop off your gift for the charity noted on your ornament in the box provided in the vestibule or at the Rectory no later than

December 15th. Your thoughtfulness always makes Christmas bright for many less fortunate than ourselves, and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Please join us for our Annual Tree Lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 1st after the 5 P.M. Mass. Join in the Blessing and sing a few carols around the tree. Afterwards, come down to the Parish Hall for refreshments, purchasing of holiday greenery, "My Grandma's" cakes, our special coffees and teas, and some good old comradery.

We have also gotten word that Santa himself will be joining in the festivities. Bring those wish lists!

We are seeking **help in decorating** the wreaths that will be sold, as well as our Parish Hall, for the festivities. Decorating will be on Thursday, Nov.29th, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm in the Parish Hall.

### CHRISTMAS CHURCH DÉCOR



Many parishioners have remarked that it is so nice to see fresh flowers at weekend Masses as part of our memorial donation. We would like to add to our **Christmas décor** by offering **the opportunity for 15 Memorials in honor of a loved one**.



Each memorial will cover the expense of one fresh Christmas wreath and several poinsettias used to decorate the church. **These will remain in place for the three weeks of the Christmas season**. The cost remains \$150.00. Memorials will be published. If you would like to memorialize a loved one in this way please contact the Rectory Office at 718-268-6143 by December 15th. Once the Christmas Season ends, we will return to our weekly floral offerings.

### DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

December 05, 2018	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
December 12, 2018	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
December 19, 2018	No Activity	
December 26, 2017	No Activity	

### ADVENT BIBLE STUDY BIBLE SHARING & CENTERING PRAYER

On December 4th, 11th, & 18th at 7:30pm in the Rectory David Powell will conduct the Bible Study on the topic of *Paul, Advent, and the Second Coming*. Scripture Sharing & Centering Prayer will be conducted by Mrs. Carol Powell on the topic of *Praying with the Advent Sunday Readings & Doing Centering Prayer*.

Mrs. Powell will also address the same topic at Centering Prayer on December 6th, 13th, & 20th at 2:30pm in the Rectory.

Any Questions, call Mr. or Mrs. Powell at 718-261-6285

### LET'S HAVE ANOTHER CUP OF COFFEE!

Need a coffee break? Need another cup of tea? We have them for you.

We still have plenty of coffee and tea for your buying pleasure. Great for gifts for family and friends or just to treat yourself.

Call the Rectory. Tell us whether you want ground coffee or k-cup, flavored or regular and we will have your order ready for pick-up the same day.

The Church gets 40% back for every bag or box we sell (that's approximately \$5.00 per item sold). Monies raised help defray some of the cost of needed repairs and cost of the 90<sup>th</sup> Gala Celebration of the founding of our Parish.

### ALERT! CHRISTMAS IS COMING

We know that it is early, but we like to be prepared to help Santa out! As usual, he will be making some "special deliveries" during the season to those who are homebound. So, we are asking for your help with gathering information. If you know of a neighbor or friend who is homebound and could use a little cheering up, please inform the Rectory office of their name and address. Thank you for your help!

### A TIME FOR GIVING!

Each year, we have some local families who come to us requesting our help in providing Christmas gifts for their children. We try to support these families by providing new gifts of toys and clothing for the parents to place under the tree for their children. If you know of a family that needs help or would like to "adopt" and assist one of these needy families through our "Be An Angel" program, please contact **the Rectory at 718-268-6143**



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

**The Gospel According to Puppets!** The puppets are teaching the Gospel at the Children's Liturgy in the Parish Hall during the 10 AM Mass. This age-appropriate version of the readings and Gospel is geared toward children up to fourth grade and parents are welcome. Noisy and wiggly kids particularly welcome **Children's Liturgy is scheduled for the following dates: 12/2, 12/9, 1/6.**

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

We always need food to re-stock the shelves. Some suggestions are: tuna fish, canned stews, hash, or Spam, Chef Boyardee, powdered or Parmalat milk, jelly, rice, canned or packaged soups, packets of pasta & rice "Sides", canned fruits, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cookies, toothpaste, bathroom tissue, soaps, shampoos, and any other personal hygiene and non-perishable food items.

**Remember! The Holidays are approaching very fast!! Think "Holiday Fixins"!**... Boxed stuffing, and mashed potatoes, or pasta, Jiffy muffin mix, coffee, tea, hot chocolate canned veggies, cranberry sauce, yams, soup, gravy, pineapple, apple sauce and juice, or monetary donations.



- **Helpers of God's Precious Infants** at the All Women's Pavilion, 120-34 Queens Blvd., on Saturdays between 7:00 AM and 11:30 AM in a peaceful, prayerful witness to life. Lives are saved and the way to conversion is opened. Join us for any amount of time.

**THE DEANERY CORNER**

- Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers will present a 2-hour Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience™ at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Glendale, on **Saturday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am after the 8:30 am Mass**. Come and encounter the healing grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ through His Immaculate Mother. For more information, call Tom Stalzer at 347 432 6242 or the Parish Office at 718-821-6434.
- **The Bereavement Support Group at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs** offers understanding, compassion, and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one. Meetings are held in the rectory, and facilitated by Commissioned Lay Pastoral Leader, Yorke Mizelle. Call the OLQM rectory at 718-268-6251 if interested in attending or more info, email [ymizelle@nyc.rr.com](mailto:ymizelle@nyc.rr.com). Remaining meetings for this year are scheduled for Dec. 3 & 17.

**OLMCA NEWS**

Please help support our Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy by bringing in your Box Tops! Box Tops are easy to find—you may already have them around your house! Each Box Top is worth 10 cents—Bonus Box Tops can be worth even more! Please see the attached list of participating brands and products. Just clip the little Box Tops, and have your child submit them to his or her teacher. This year, you may use the collection sheets to submit Box Tops, for easier counting by the Coordinators

**FEEL GREAT & LOOK GREAT**

Feel and look great at our exercise class every Wednesday from **8:30 to 9:30 AM** in the Parish Hall. The class focuses on gentle movements for your muscles and joints. There is a nominal fee of \$2 per session. Please come and enjoy the fitness fun. **All ages are welcome.**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL**

**Celebrate New Year's Eve at Our Lady of Mercy.** Begin the evening with the Latin-English Mass at 7:30pm. After that, the festivities will begin in the Parish Hall, at 8:30pm with dinner, and dancing (wine and champagne are included but you may BYOB if you choose).

Admission is \$100.00 and tickets are available at the rectory.

**RCIA INVITATION**

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or desires to become a Catholic, the RCIA is a program of welcome, prayer, and reflection that can help you take the next step. This program is also for baptized Catholics who are need of the sacraments First Communion or Confirmation. It is our privilege to help you be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please contact David or Carol Powell at 718-261-6285.

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS**

Please **do not bring clothing** to, or **leave it on the steps of**, the Rectory. We no longer have the space to store it or the ability to distribute it. Thank you for your understanding.

**As you are leaving Mass**, please remember to take all of your personal belongings, to return all hymnals, bulletins and newspapers to their proper place, and to dispose of all refuse in the receptacles provided at the Church doors. Please take pride in our Church, and leave the pews clean. Thank You!

**POOR BOX**

We continue to receive requests for assistance so we ask you to please remember the poor and make a donation to the Poor Boxes at the entries of the Church. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated

THE FIRST SUNDAY  
IN ADVENT:

HOPE

