

Sunday, December 5, 2021

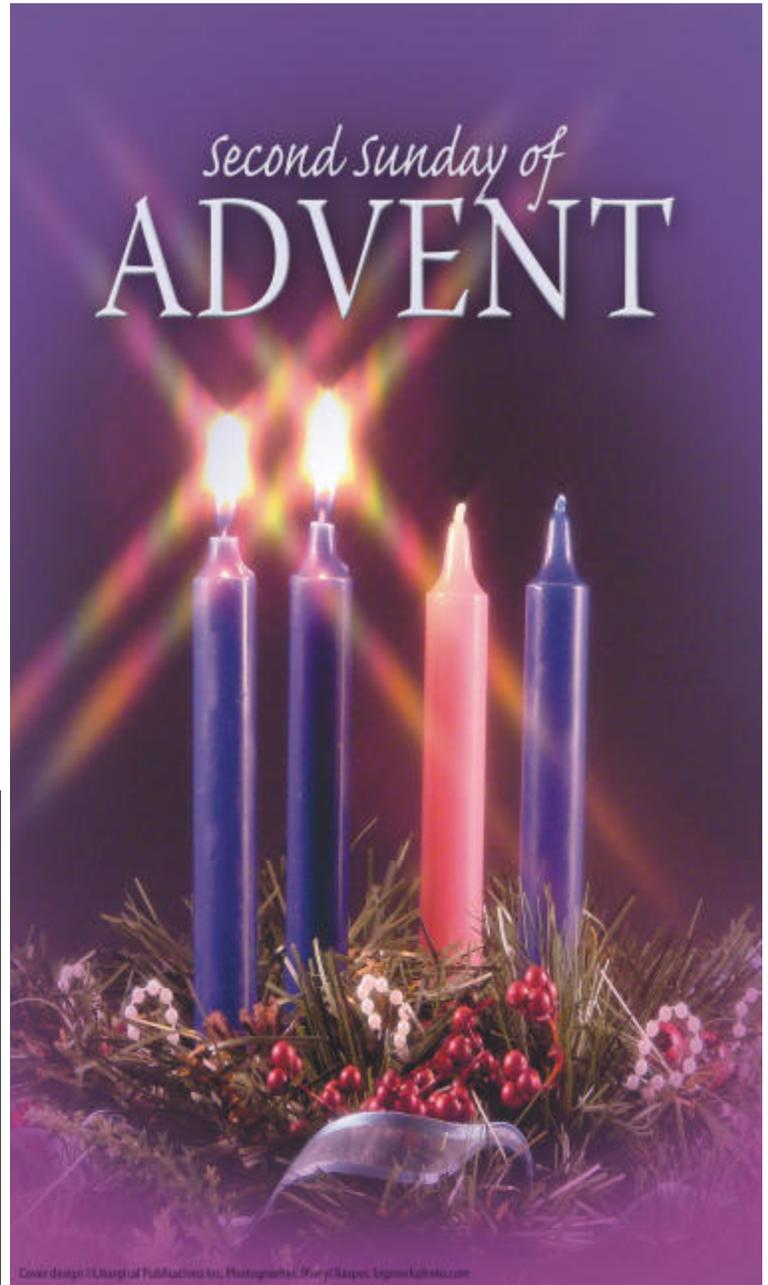
Saint Alphonsus Liguori Parish
2918 US Route 7
Pittsford, Vermont 05763

802.483.2301

Email: Stalphonsus@vermontcatholic.org

**A ministry of the Capuchin Franciscans,
Province of St. Mary, New York and New England**

Father Maurice Moreau, OFM Cap, Pastor
In residence at Saint Peter's Friary with
Father John Tokaz, OFM Cap.



MASS SCHEDULE

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Sunday | 9:00 AM |
| Monday & Tuesday | 9:00 AM |
| Holy Days | 9:00 AM |

CONFESSIONS - upon request

BAPTISMS - Contact Parish Office well in advance.

WEDDINGS - Contact Parish Office at least six months in advance to make arrangements for marriage.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday and Tuesday
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Dee Daly
Administrative Assistant

FINANCE COUNCIL

Third Tue of the month 5:45 PM

PARISH COUNCIL

Third Tue of the month 6:30 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Grades K-8)
Sarah Carrara (353-7284)
sarahlynnecarrara@gmail.com

Website:

<http://www.ovcc.vermontcatholic.org>

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/saintalphonsusvt

**SAINT ALPHONSUS
CEMETERY ASSOCIATION**

Jon Keith (483.6489) work
Jon Keith (483.2029) home

ONLINE GIVING <https://osvhub.com/st-alphonsus-liguori-parish/funds>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

5 SUN Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

✠ 9:00 AM **Queen Family** by the Estate

6 Mon Saint Nicholas, Bishop Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

9:00 AM **All Souls**

7 Tue St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14

9:00 AM **Parishioners**

✠ 7:00 PM **Vigil Mass in OLGH**

8 Wed The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

9:00 AM **Parishioners**

9 Thu Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

10 Fri Our Lady of Loreto Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

11 Sat Saint Damasus I, Pope Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

12 SUN Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

✠ 9:00 AM **Deceased Hale Family** by the family

Church Offertory

Weekly Offertory Goal \$ **1,500.00**

Last Sunday's Offertory \$ 1,796.00

Online giving \$ **50.00**

Offertory Total \$ **1,846.00**

Building & Maintenance \$ -

Utilities \$ -

Thanks for making up your envelopes.

Sunday Dec 5th 2nd Collection

Building and Maintenance Fund

Wednesday Dec 8th Collection

Immaculate Conception

**Please return your Christmas Flower
Offering by December 8th**



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP —LPI

A Thought from Tracy Earl Welliver

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

God's Personal Assistants

If you have ever planned a large-scale event, whether it's a musical performance or a religious conference, you may have dealt with someone's personal assistant. Possibly this person would be a representative of the keynote speaker or the master of ceremonies for the local bishop; perhaps it's even the staffer of a local politician or the lackey of a well-known musical act.

Personal assistants are masters of stewardship — overseeing things in their boss' absence. They prepare the way. This person's job is to get everything ready for the person in charge, so that when he or she shows up — whoever he or she is — it's smooth sailing for them to do whatever it is they need to do: sing, speak, pray, mingle, what-have-you. It's usually a big job full of little things, a gig where attention to detail is key.

God is the guest of honor in our life, the keynote speaker, the main event. And what He wants — what He needs — to do is to change our hearts. Constantly, over, and over, and over again.

We are all His personal assistants in this endeavor. We need to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight His paths. We need to make everything ready so that when He shows up — however He shows up, whether it's in the form of a neighbor in need or a burning bush right in front of us — everything is ready for Him to do His job.



THERE ARE VOTIVE CANDLES in front of the Statue of Mary. Feel free before or after Mass to light a candle in honor of Mary, our Mother, and to ask for her powerful intercession.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REMEMBER a loved one, Mass cards are available for anyone who would like a Mass offered on a Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday. Other occasions when we have Masses offered for others are birthday, anniversary, pre-surgery, or recovering from an illness/surgery. Please contact the rectory 483-2301 (email: stalphonus@vermontcatholic.org) or stop by on Mondays or Tuesdays.

December 6—Saint Nicholas



St. Nicholas of Bari (Mar 15, 270 – Dec 6, 343), was born in the village of Patara in modern day Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra in the fourth century. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need—and why he is the inspiration behind Santa Claus.

One story tells of a poor man with three daughters. In those days, a dowry (something of value) was need to offer to prospective husbands. Without a dowry, a woman was unlikely to marry and likely sold into servitude. Mysteriously, on three different occasions, a bag of gold appeared in their home—helping his daughters avoid a life of slavery. These bags had been tossed through the open window, are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry, giving birth to the tradition of children hanging stockings, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols for St. Nicholas.

He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where legend states a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas.

Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of:

Bakers, Brides & Grooms, Children, Greece, Pawnbrokers, Travelers, sick and suffering, and those in need.

The critical eye of modern history makes us take a deeper look at the legends surrounding Saint Nicholas. But perhaps we can utilize the lesson taught by his legendary charity, look deeper at our approach to material goods in the Christmas season, and seek ways to extend our sharing to those in real need. (Franciscan media, Saint Nicholas)



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00pm – Brandon

6:00pm – Pittsford

Christmas Day

9:00am - Pittsford

11:00am – Brandon

A total of 80 people responded to the survey at Our Lady of Good Help and 58 people handed in the survey at Saint Alphonsus. 115 of those surveyed stated that they meet their Christmas obligation by attending Mass on the Eve. The majority of these people stated that 4:00pm was the ideal time; 6:00pm Mass was their second choice. The number of people at Our Lady of Good Help who selected 4:00pm as their first choices plus those from Saint Alphonsus who stated that time was the determining factor when deciding what Mass to attend finalized the schedule. The 4:00pm Mass on the Eve will be celebrated in Brandon and the 6:00pm in Pittsford. On Christmas Day we will follow the traditional times of a 9:00am in Saint Alphonsus and an 11:00am in Our Lady of Good Help.

Jesus is... Tree Project

I met with the students in our religious education program and gave them homework for the Advent season. The purpose of the homework is to have them identify who Jesus is for them and to reflect on its meaning. I called the homework the **Jesus is... Tree Project**. I would like to suggest that we all take on the project.



Each household could make a Christmas ornament for every day of Advent. The ornament should identify who Jesus is. It can take any shape using anything that is at your disposal. Each ornament should be tagged with the scripture citation that inspired the concept for the ornament. An example could be: "Jesus is the Light of World". This title for Jesus is rooted in the Gospel of John, chapter 8, verse 12. To depict this concept, a light bulb, with a ribbon tied around it for hanging and the inscription John 8:12 attached to the ribbon would meet the requirements for making an ornament. Be creative and remember to root your titles for Jesus in the scriptures. If you need help in identifying the citation, goggle the title and most likely it will give you a possible citation. Other ideas for titles are as follows: Jesus is the Son on Mary (Matthew 1:21), Jesus is adored by shepherds (Luke 2:16), Jesus is the Bread of Life (John 6:35), Jesus is my friend (John: 15:15), Jesus is the second person of the Trinity (John 3:18). Why don't we all follow the children's lead and find the true meaning of Christmas. After all Jesus is the reason for the season.

-Fr. Moe



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