



# 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. - Mk 1:4



**SATURDAY, December 5**

- 4:00PM † Jessie Olivan by Kathy Olivan  
 † John M Hayes by Lawrence Clarke  
 † Patricia Sim by Arthur Fealey  
 † Barbara Zupan by Ken & Mittsie Shannon

**SUNDAY, December 6**

- 8:00AM † Robert Leyden by Deb & Andy Phelan  
 † James D'Agostino by Rory & Bernie Flannery
- 10:30AM † Suzanne Dunn by the Family  
 † Paul & Virginia Longthon by Andrew Bigness  
 † Bob & Barbara Roy and Frank & Esther Bulan by Family
- 12:30PM (Latin) † Joseph Dooley by Mary Dooley

**MONDAY, December 7**

- 7:00AM Alexis Santoro (living) by the Family

**TUESDAY, December 8**

- 8:00AM (Latin) † Dr. Peter Collins by The Koreman Family  
 12:00PM † Dennis Galka by The Koreman Family

**WEDNESDAY, December 9**

- 7:00AM † Laura Margaret Teresi by Deb & Andy Phelan

**FRIDAY, December 11**

- 7:00 AM † Doud Burch by The Family

**SATURDAY, December 12**

- 4:00PM † Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Scaringe by Son  
 † Loretta Miller by Arthur Fealey  
 † Susan Groark by Her Husband  
 † Barbara Zupan by Dottie & Warren Roberts

**SUNDAY, December 13**

- 8:00AM † Hugh Margaret Hopkins by Memole Family
- 10:30AM † Brian Dunn by The Family  
 † Mick Pupello by The Family  
 † Florence Gavigan by Jane & Steve DiGiovanni
- 12:30PM (Latin) Joseph Sweeney (Living) by The Family

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mass will be offered at 8:00am (Latin) and 12:00 pm.

**WHATSOEVER YOU DO FOR THESE LEAST ONES**

Jesus says in the Gospel "Amen, I say to you, whatsoever you did to the least of these my brethren, you did for me." As part of priestly formation, the seminarians at Cathedral seminary collect clothes and money for the homeless of New York City. One of our parishioners is a student at Cathedral seminary and is asking for our support. The seminary has asked him to collect adult sized gloves and sweatshirts in sizes: Medium, Large, XL, and XXL. If you wish to make a donation please place the new clothes (or used clothes in excellent condition) in the large box in the vestibule. If you wish, you may also support the drive with a monetary donation by making a check out to the *Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn with Cathedral Seminary Midnight Run* listed in the subject line. Please place checks in the collection basket during mass. The drive officially ends Monday, Dec. 14.

**A NOTE FROM HOLLY RE: CHRISTMAS MASS RSVP's**

Thank you to everyone who has been emailing, calling and sending in their Christmas Mass RSVP forms. I am receiving them but due to the sheer volume I am unable to respond to each parishioner to confirm receipt. I assure you that I will be in touch if there is a problem or concern with your RSVP form



**JOURNEY TO HOME**

There's something familiar about John the Baptist. It's not only because of his habit of showing up this time every Advent. John's look and message are familiar. Years before, the prophet Malachi hoped for a messenger to prepare the way of the Lord. The hope was that someday the prophet Elijah would return and God would follow. John the Baptist resembles Elijah. He announces the way of the Lord. John echoes another prophet, too. Isaiah once announced a great road construction project in the wilderness: "Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!"

This highway is good news. The message of Isaiah and John the Baptist is a biblical road report saying the way is safe for home. That's good news. This is the time of year that stirs up the familiar desire to be at home. For the people who first heard Isaiah and then John the Baptist, the highway in the wilderness is good news. They desired and longed for the peace of being at home, especially home with God and to have God's presence at home in them. For them, there had been no comfort.

The history of God's people is a history of being far from home. They were in bondage in Egypt. Once they were freed, they wandered forty years without a home. Finally, they entered the Promised Land and found home. But years later they were taken from their homes and led away into exile. While they were in exile, the prophets promised they would see home again. "Home" became their hope. One day they would be home with God.

Now that God makes a home among us, how shall we live? In Advent the call is to watch and wait for the coming of Christ for he is now already among us. In Christ we discover that home with God is not just some heavenly mansion but a safe place right here in the middle of an anxious world. The road can be rugged. But when we are lost in the wilderness of life, Jesus gets on the road to come to us. This is the beginning of the good news. The way of the Lord, the way home, is open.

**BEST ADVENT EVER**

Make Advent special - receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly and Dr. Allen Hunt, practical tips to incorporate into your everyday life, and personal stories from Dynamic Catholic team members. You'll have a once-in-a-lifetime experience of Christmas because you've prepared for it in a unique way. Go to <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever> to sign up and to start receiving your daily Advent message.

**OUTREACH APPEAL FOR CHRISTMAS**

Fall is in the air with cool days, chilly nights and color bursting forth. At the Outreach Center we are preparing for the Christmas Holidays. Out of an abundance of concern for all, we are changing how we do the holidays. We will not be putting Christmas gift requests on a giving tree in Church. We are asking if you could provide gift cards to either Target or Walmart so that our parents can purchase gifts for the children. You can place the gift card(s) in an envelope marked Outreach and place it in the collection basket, or mail it to the Parish Office, again, marked Outreach. If you wish, the Center is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 – 11:30 AM if you would like to drop it off. In order to give our parents time to shop, we would like to have the cards to distribute as soon as possible. Thank you for considering this request as we continue to serve those who are less fortunate than we, especially our children.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Christmas will be here before we know it. Because of the ongoing Corona Virus and the need to limit the amount of people in church at any one time, we need to plan ahead. St. Mary's will keep the following Mass schedule this year: Christmas Eve Masses will be celebrated at 2:00pm, 4:30pm, and 7:30pm. The Traditional Latin Mass will be celebrated at Midnight. On Christmas Day, Mass will be celebrated at 8:00am and 10:30am. We are requiring everyone to pre-register for the Mass that they plan to attend. We apologize for this inconvenience, but we wouldn't want to turn people away in the event that more showed up than we are permitted to accommodate. When your letter arrives in the mail, you can fill out the slip and drop it off in the collection basket, or you can put it in the mail to the parish office. If you have already made your reservation either by phone or email, then it is not necessary to duplicate the RSVP by filling out the slip. If you do not want to wait for the letter to make your RSVP, please email Holly at [holly.hayes@rcda.org](mailto:holly.hayes@rcda.org) or call (518)462-4254 to make your mass reservation. Thank you for understanding. It is our hope that as many people as possible will be able to celebrate the birthday of our Savior at Historic St. Mary's and that all will come together safely. God bless you and your loved ones

**PANDEMIC GOT YOU DOWN?**

If you have not already done so, we would recommend checking Rev. Tom Konopka's on-going series "Managing Stress and Anxiety during Difficult Times" on the diocesan website. His most recent series touches on a lot of our worries and anxieties during these strange times. To find the full series go to: <https://www.rcda.org/coronavirus>

**IRA DISTRIBUTIONS**

This is the time of the year when many people take distributions from their IRA Accounts, often with an eye to making to charitable organizations. Please keep St Marys in mind if you are making such contributions.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL— HAS OPENINGS**

Blessed Sacrament School has immediate openings available for their 5 day in-person learning for grades Nursery through 8 Full day program 7:15am-3pm.—Aftercare to 5:25 Free breakfast &lunch—financial aid— call 518-438-5854.

**PARISH FINANCES**

**Thank you to all who continue to make their donations. It is a HUGE help. Please do what you can to assist the parish financially during this pandemic crisis. Over the past 8 months our collections are down significantly. Please do whatever you can to assist. Even though some cannot meet on a weekly basis at church, the bills must be paid and payroll must be met. Your contributions may be sent to the parish office or you may participate by using our "on-line" giving program (located on our parish website: [www.histstmarys.org](http://www.histstmarys.org)). Your help is greatly appreciated!**



**THIS YEAR'S BISHOP'S APPEAL IS DIFFERENT**

What stays the same is our participation. Every parish continues to have a target goal (an assessment). Therefore we count on your generous participation to help us meet our goal. Every bit of your donation will help St. Mary's since we must make up the difference at the end of the campaign. Please do your best to give what you did in past years. If you can do more— please do so, since a number of our parishioners have suffered financial loss and difficulties because of the pandemic. Parishioners should have received an appeal request. **We need your help—our goal is over \$143,000 and so far our donations total \$39,246.**

**MASS INTENTION REQUESTS**

Due to the CoVid Pandemic and the precautions we must take until the pandemic is over PLEASE do not come to the rectory to schedule mass intentions. Instead—please call the parish office or email Holly at [holly.hayes@rcda.org](mailto:holly.hayes@rcda.org) to schedule your intentions. If you are in need of a mass card immediately, please call the office so that Holly can have the card ready for you to pick up. Thanks you for your understanding and cooperation.

**MARIAN CONSECRATION & RENEWAL**

**WITH 33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY  
OR ANOTHER MARIAN CONSECRATION BOOK**

Bishop Ed is inviting everyone in the diocese to join him in a 33-day preparation period beginning this week. The preparation will culminate with the renewed Consecration to Jesus through Mary at our Cathedral on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Tuesday December 8 at 12:15 PM. Please join via Livestream: [rcda.org/Livestream](http://rcda.org/Livestream) or find the recording later at your convenience on the [diocesan YouTube channel](#). Please check out [rcda.org/marianconsecration](http://rcda.org/marianconsecration) for more information.

**BE A PRAYER PARTNER TO POPE FRANCIS**

For those who have made the commitment to pray every day for the monthly intentions of Our Holy Father, Pope Francis: - for December he asks that we pray for: **For a Life of Prayer** We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

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