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OUR PARISH

Advent: A Time of Waiting, Conversion & Hope

Each Advent season, in prayer and humility we pray and prepare for Christmas. We call to mind the love of the Father reflected in the presence of his Son among us who came to teach us, forgive us, and make us holy through his gift of new life in the Holy Spirit. We and the world can never be the same.

Symbols and traditions enhance our observance of Advent, which the *Directory of Popular Piety and the Liturgy* describes as a time of waiting, conversion, and hope.

The Advent wreath is an ancient Christian tradition. Just as we long for the brightness of the summer sun during the winter's cold, so does the gradually brightening light of this wreath herald the dawn of Christ, the Light of the World! Traditionally, Advent wreaths are a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used. Many parishes and other organizations sell Advent wreaths, but it also easy to create one. The progressive lighting of the candles on the Sundays of Advent symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world.

A "Jesse Tree" is another Advent tradition that is especially appropriate for families with young children. A Jesse Tree depicts the relationship of Jesus with Jesse and other biblical figures who were the ancestors of Jesus. Jesse was the father of King David and is often looked upon as the first person in the genealogy of Jesus. For your own Jesse Tree, a branch can be placed into a pot or a large vase at the beginning of Advent and every day a new ornament can be added to it. These ornaments represent individual figures or stories from the Old and New Testaments. As the children place the ornaments onto the branch, a parent can read an appropriate scripture passage that talks about the given ancestor of Jesus. You can find ready-made Jesse Tree ornaments online or create your own.

As believers in Christ, we find his presence most perfectly in the Eucharist,



as well as in prayer, in his Church, and in our brothers and sisters, especially those most in need of our love. We are encouraged to pray often during this Advent season and to attend daily Mass as our schedules allow.

Simbang Gabi at St. Anne

From December 15 until 23, a nightly 7 PM Mass (5.30 PM on Saturday and Sunday) is offered followed by dinner in the tradition of Simbang Gabi. Join us!

Join us for the 9 Night Masses in preparation for the Coming of Jesus! Dinner by Filipino Community will be served. For more information please call Jenny Castaneda (201) 659.1545 / Totie Samson 201.653.7735 / John Floresca 917.541.0987 It is possible to sponsor one night dinner. If you are interested, please contact above persons.



GIVING TREE Sharing The Christmas Message of His Love!

Our Giving Tree is up! Please take a tag from the tree, purchase the gift(s), attach tag to gift and drop off DROP OFF AT THE CHURCH UNDER THE TREE by December 13th!

ALL GIFTS ARE REQUESTED TO BE GIFT-WRAPPED WITH THE ORIGINAL TAG ATTACHED. THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

Advent Concert

All are invited to *Waiting for Love*, an Advent & Christmas cantata performed by the Children's Choir of St. Brendan's School in Clifton on December 15 at 7:00pm at Saint Brendan's Church. Written by New Jersey composers Gerard Chiusano and Mary Hochman, *Waiting for Love* unites music and catechesis to bring the story of redemption to life, from the creation through the Incarnation. It is a perfect Advent evening for families. The performance will be live streamed as well; please see *www.ocp.org/WaitingForLove* for information. Catechists and music directors won't want to miss the opportunity to see this resource in action. *Waiting for Love*, **Tuesday, December 15, 7:00pm. Free admission. Saint Brendan's Church at 154 E First Street, Clifton**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The search is underway for the longest married Couple in the U.S. Do you think you know who they are?

Maybe it's your parents... grandparents... That nice couple who live down the street... Nominating a couple is easy! Just send their names, wedding date and where they live and your contact information to: wwmelmc2015@gmail.com Nominations accepted until January 10. 2016.

Winners will be announced February 2016 to celebrate World Marriage Day. Nominate a couple you know today!



Saint Anne Of The Heights Church

3545 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07307 Tel: 201-360-0838 Fax: 201-721-5996 info@sahjerseycity.com SAHJERSEYCITY.COM

Pastoral Team

Fr. Nigel	Parish Priest
Fr. J. Ranieri	Weekend Assistant
Msgr. L.J. Miller	Weekend Assistant
Fr. D.X.Stump, S.J.	Weekday Assistant
Mrs. J. Waddleton & Lt. J	.Carroll Trustee

Weekly Planner

SUNDAY 12/13 • 3rd Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY 12/13 • 3"	' Sunaay of Aavent
10 AM–1 PM	H.N.S Mass/Mtg Church/Convent
10 AM	CCD Mass Church; Lesson at Home
12 PM	Rosary Christmas Brunch Cent Hall
MONDAY 12/14	
1–3 PM	St. Anne Seniors Cent Hall
3:30-4:30 PM	Legion of Mary Convent Comm Room
6–8 PM	Brownie Mtg Cent Hall
TUESDAY 12/15	
12:15 PM	BINGO Cent Hall
3–4 PM	Holy Hour for Priests Convent Chapel
5–11 PM	Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall
WEDNESDAY 12/1	6
5–11 PM	Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall
THURSDAY 12/17	
5–11 PM	Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall
7–9 PM	OLG Choir Practice Convent
FRIDAY 12/18	
12:15 PM	BINGO Cent Hall
5–11 PM	Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall
SATURDAY 12/19	
9:30 AM (set up)	Padre Pio Christmas Party Cent Hall
1–4 PM	Padre Pio Christmas Party Cent Hall
5:30-11 PM	Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall
5:30-10 PM	Rosary Society Plant Sale Cent Hal
SUNDAY 12/20 • 41	* Sunday of Advent
10 AM–1 PM	CCD "Breakfast w/ Santa" Church/Convent

10 AM-1 PM	CCD "Brea	kfast w/ Santa"C	nurch/Convent
5:30–11 PM	Fil-Am Sin	nbang Gabi <mark>Chur</mark>	ch/Cent Hall
Liturgies			
Saturday Evening	Church	Engli	sh 5:30 PM
(anticipating Sunda	iy)	Misa Esp	añol 7 PM
Sunday Church		8 AM, 10 AN	1, 12 Noon
Monday > Sature	day: Mass	S Church	9 AM
Wednesday: Mas	s Church		7 PM

Holy Hour

Tuesdays Convent Chapel	3–4 PM
Sacrament of Penance	
Saturdays Church (Or by Appointment)	5 PM
Schedule of Masses December 14 th -2	0 th , 2015

Monday	, December 14	
9 A M	Lawrence Shin	Family
Tuesday	ı, December 15	
9 A M	† Romeo Hernandez	Parish Intention
	1st Anniversary in He	aven
Wednes	day, December 16	
9 A M	† Angel Ortiz	Parish Intention
	1st Anniversary in He	aven
7 PM	+ Special Intention	OL Perpetual
		Help Group
Thursda	ay, December 17	
9 A M	+ Alessander Belfiore	Wife
Friday, E	December 18	
9 A M	† Anna Principe	Daughter, Toni
Saturday, December 19		
		- I

9 AM	+ Carmen Principe	Daughter, Toni
5:30 PM	† Joseph Piezzoa	"Nanna" Madeline
7 PM	Thank God for Famil	v Mirna Paciello

Sun day, December 13

8 AM + Joseph Vicari 10 AM + Helene Clifford 12 PM + Giuseppe & Rosalina Leone

Sunday Readings

First Reading:	Zephaniah 3:14–18A
Psalm:	lsiah 12: 2–3, 4,5–6
Second Reading:	Philippians 4:4–7
Gospel:	Luke 3:10–18

Joyce Tuzzo

Tango

Marie Carlson

Mr. & Mrs. Angelo

Weekday Readings

	•		
Monday <i>Memorial of Saint John of the Cross</i> Nm 24:2-7, 15-17A/Ps 25:4-5AB, 6 & 7BC, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27			
Tuesdav	VPS 25:4-5AD, 6 & /E	5C, 8-9/1121:23-2/	
	s 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19	9&23/Mt 21:28-32	
Wednesday			
ls45:6C-8,18,21C-2	.5/Ps 85:9AB & 10,11-1	2,13-14/LK7:18B-23	
Thursday			
Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 7	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4AB, 7-8, 17/Mt1:1-17		
Friday			
Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25			
Saturday			
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25A	/Ps 71:3-4A, 5-6AB, 1	6-17/Lk1:5-25	
Sanctuary Gifts for December 13 th — 19 th			
Gift In	Memory/Honor of	Requested By	
Altar Wine +	John J. Musante	Parish Intention	
Alter Durad	T	Deviale Internetion	

 Altar Wine
 + John J. Musante
 Parish Intention

 Altar Bread
 + Teresa Fusco
 Parish Intention

 Sanct. Lamp
 + Alma DeBenedettoParish Intention

 Altar Candles
 + Christina Burke
 Parish Intention

Sick List

Let us pray for the sick (People will remain on sick list for 2 weeks unless otherwise notified): Marie Portelli • Portelli Niece & Nephew • Jennifer O'Connor • Donna Tuzzo • Matt Bolger • Dennis Mallon • Marie Carlson • Lawrence Shin • Lupe Pena, • Frances Kearns • Josephine Cermak Rowan • Steve & Rachel Mastin • Diane Shea • Joseph Callandrillo • Humberto Quintana • Julia Annicchiarico • Javier Vega • Jennifer Moloughney • Antoinette Maddi • Carol Jordan • Anthony Biggio • Sammy DeLeon • Shane Quinn • Alice Daly • Sadie Krieger • Dolores DelMonte • Dianne O'Sullivan • Carl Carlson • Larry Bello • Miyuki Campbell • Diane Albert • Meghan Connaughton

Ministry to the Sick

We hope to give to all the sick and aged in our parish the opportunity to receive the Eucharist. If you or someone you know can no longer get to church, and would like a Eucharistic Minister to bring you Communion, please call *St. Anne's Rectory at 201-360-0838 or email: info@sahjerseycity.com*

December Papal Prayer Intentions

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

Religious Education News

Our Religious Ed Office is located inside St. Anne's Rectory. Office Hours: M-T-W 9 am to 5 PM, TR & F, 10 am to 5 pm.

Social Media

Please follow the official Twitter chan	nels of the
parish:	

🔰 sah_promise	Faith Formation Grade K—1
	Faith Formation Grade 2-3
💆 sah_venture	Faith Formation Grade 4—6
🔰 sah_visions	Faith Formation Grade 7—8
🎔 stah_nation	General parish feed

Website & Online Services

Website:	sahjerseycity.com	
Parish registration:	sahjerseycity.com/register	
CCD Registration:	sahjerseycity.com/ccd	
Parish Calendar and online		

Readings of the Day: sahjerseycity.com/calendar

How much should I give in the collection basket each Sunday?

We ask **each person working** in the household to gift **one hour's wage** to the parish **every week**. **How much is one hour?** Below you can find the recommended contribution based on your annual combined income:

Annual combined	Hourly Wage
income	(Recommended weekly
	donation)
\$100,000	\$50
\$75,000	\$38
\$50,000	\$25
\$40,000	\$20
\$35,000	\$17
\$30,000	\$15
\$25,000	\$12
\$20,000	\$10
\$15,000	\$7

We are grateful for your contribution!

Baptism Information

Baptisms take place on the 1st Sunday of every Month: 2 Baptisms per Mass at 10 AM & 12 Noon (English). Because they will be promising to help raise your child in the practice of the Faith, the church requires that at least one of your child's godparents be a 'fully initiated Roman Catholic;' i.e., one who has been Baptized and received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. At the time of registering your child for Baptism, we ask that one of your chosen godparents provide a copy of their Confirmation certificate or some documentation from their church of Baptism or Confirmation indicating the month and year of their Confirmation. GODPARENTS & PARENTS are also required to attend a "baptism instruction" session on Saturday (the day before the Baptism) @ 4:00 PM in CHURCH (English & Spanish). A donation to the church for Baptism is always appreciated: please place your offering in an envelope marked 'BAPTISM' with your child's name and drop it in the Sunday collection basket. Contact the office with any questions. Thank You.

Misericordiae Vultus

BY POPE FRANCIS BISHOP OF ROME

Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him. The Father, *rich in mercy* (EPH 2:4), after having revealed his name to Moses as *a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness* (EX34:6), has never ceased to show, in various ways throughout history, his divine nature. In the *fullness of time* (GAL 4:4), when everything had been arranged according to his plan of salvation, he sent his only Son into the world, born of the Virgin Mary, to reveal his love for us in a definitive way. Whoever sees Jesus sees the Father (*cf*)N14:9). Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God.

We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.

At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective.

The Holy Year will open on 8 December 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This liturgical feast day recalls God's action from the very



beginning of the history of mankind. After the sin of Adam and Eve, God did not wish to leave humanity alone in the throes of evil. And so he turned his gaze to Mary, holy and immaculate in love (cf. Eph 1:4), choosing her to be the Mother of man's Redeemer. When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy. Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive. I will have the joy of opening the Holy Door on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On that day, the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instils hope. On the following Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, the Holy Door of the Cathedral of Rome - that is, the Basilica of Saint John Lateran-will be opened.

In the following weeks, the Holy Doors of the other Papal Basilicas will be opened. On the same Sunday, I will announce that in every local church, at the cathedral - the mother church of the faithful in any particular area - or, alternatively, at the co-cathedral or another church of special significance, a Door of Mercy will be opened for the duration of the Holy Year. At the discretion of the local ordinary, a similar door may be opened at any shrine frequented by large groups of pilgrims, since visits to these holy sites are so often grace-filled moments, as people discover a path to conversion. Every Particular Church, therefore, will be directly involved in living out this Holy Year as an extraordinary moment of grace and spiritual renewal. Thus the Jubilee will be celebrated both in Rome and in the Particular Churches as a visible sign of the Church's universal communion.

Pope Francis' Prayer for the Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed

to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

YEAR OF MERCY Pilgrim Churches

For the Year of Mercy, six Archdiocesan Parishes and Shrines, in addition to the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, have been designated as *Pilgrim Churches*. Those Pilgrim Churches are:

- Saint Francis Xavier, Newark
- Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus, Linden
- Divine Mercy, Rahway
- Our Lady of Mercy, Park Ridge
- Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Wallington
- and Our Lady of Mercy, Jersey City

Each of these Pilgrim Churches, and the Cathedral Basilica where the Door of the Year of Mercy will be opened on December 13, will enable the faithful to gain a Plenary Indulgence under specific conditions.

OUR CHURCH

Understanding the Light

As we wait to the coming of the redeemer, we also discern the significance on the true meaning of light. Our Lord says of himself: I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. When we see the image of the Nativity, we reflect on God's redemptive love. In the midst of what was seemed to be a never ending dark night, in a world and future which became empty because of His absence in our mind and heart, he truly comes. He comes in our weariness.

He comes not as a police guard who brings punishment but

We Are All Hurt By Child Sexual Abuse

When someone commits an act of abuse against a child or youth - whether within the Church or in public schools, town organizations or in homes-all of society suffers. For that reason, the Archdiocese requires everyone who works with children or youth to be trained in sexual abuse awareness and to undergo a background check. By participating in this effort, we all say "We do not condone abuse within the Church, and are taking steps to ensure that it does not." The Protecting God's Children program is a requirement for those working with children, but it is open to all adult parishioners or school parents who wish to learn more about how to ensure safe environments for children and youth in our society. To see a listing of the current sessions of Protecting God's Children, or to learn more about the Archdiocese's policies and procedures, visit the Archdiocese of Newark website at rcan.org/offices-and-ministries/ child-youth-protection.

JOB AVAILABLE

Whiskers and Leo Pet Care

We are a leading neighborhood professional pet care service (been in business since 2008) seeking friendly reliable and professional individuals to walk dogs, and take care of pets in the client's home in the Hoboken area. Added Bonus, if you can also board pets in your own home, while the clients are away.

All applicants must be available to work the upcoming holidays (whether part or full days). This is considered a Part-Time Job.

Qualifications: LOVE pets!!! • Be honest, responsible and reliable; • Be able to make a ONE YEAR commitment at least (don't apply if you are just looking for an interim job) • Be detailed oriented; • Enjoy working outside in all types of weather; • Live/work in Hoboken, Jersey City, Wee-hawken or surrounding area; • Have an internet enabled cell phone; • Have good communication skills; and • Can follow directions. • Daily walkers must be available during afternoon hours, Mondays to Fridays, weekly (we do have the need for a night/weekend walker too!) • Boarders must have a clean, neat, pet friendly home, and NOT have a full-time job. Anyone interested kindly go to www.whis-kersandleo.com and click on JOBS to apply. If you have any questions, our email is info@whiskersandleo.com.

a loving Father, in the person of Jesus, with an open arms and tender compassion. Advent accompanies the redeeming light of God. It is therefore endless.

Advent is not mere occurrence in the past. It is evident in every moment of history and our own journey. In the long nights of despair and melancholy, He assures that He is near. With His light, He assures endless presence. This light, who truly reveals His visible image, is our Lord Jesus Christ. After the long dark night, morning has come. The light enters us.



Holiday Cheer and the Non-Drinker

By **Rev Warren Hall** Rev Hall actively ministers to people who struggle with alcoholism

The Christmas Season can be a very challenging time for those concerned about their diets and overall fitness. They have to watch the in between candies and home-baked cookies and pastries. There are all kinds of formulas that predict how many pounds the average person will put on between Thanksgiving and the New Year. However, experts say the best way to prevent over-indulging and wreaking havoc on overall health and fitness is to have a plan.

There's another group of people for whom this festive season of parties and family gatherings can be a challenge as well, that group are those in alcohol recovery. For those of us in this category it's not the home-baked goods and delicious meals that can be the temptation. Instead, it's the fancy cocktails and the "spiked" eggnog. Just as a puffpastry with whipped cream and chocolate syrup can lure in an unsuspecting dieter so too the perfectly frosted martini glass with the latest flavored vodka and citrus garnish can catch our eye.

Just as the Dieter can "protect" themselves from biting off more than they "should chew" by having a plan, so to the person in recovery should have a plan for attending holiday related festivities. This plan would



include having a soft drink or juice of some kind to enjoy during the event. If you're not sure there will be any non-alcohol offerings then bring your own. Also, enjoy the food. Since none of your calories will come from booze then go ahead and have the guilt free second helping of whatever you want. It's also a good idea for the person in recovery to "bookend" the event with phone calls before and after to a sponsor or a close friend who understands your situation.

Before you RSVP be sure you are secure enough in your recovery program to attend an event at which alcohol will be served. In early recovery being around alcohol and people drinking can be a trigger. If you're unsure about how safe you can be at a party just remember that you can leave at any time, or even better, don't go! It's not just ok but a great decision to know what's safest for you.

To Host/Hostesses: If you're hosting a holiday party of course

you want everyone to feel welcome and enjoy themselves. But keep in mind that not everyone needs alcohol to do that. Some people may not drink because they just don't, some because they are driving, and some because they can't. So be sure that you have a selection of nonalcoholic offerings as well. I don't mean just water and diet coke. You can come up with some creative beverages using club soda and various juices and serve it in some festive glassware.

Out of common courtesy if your guest says they'll just have soda never question why or push to get them to have something stronger. Even if someone is drinking alcohol never fill their glass unless they agree to have another.

Holiday gatherings are a wonderful way to celebrate not just the Season but also our friends and loved ones. We can do that in ways that not only make them feel welcome and festive but also respect whatever journey they are on.



For ad info. call 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

St. Anne's, Jersey City, NJ

04-1043