

Second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 2016



But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham." (Matthew 3:1-12)

Last Week's Collection

Sunday Offering - \$ 1588.85
 'Host a Family..' \$ 20.00
 Building fund - \$ 31.00
 Bless you for your continued generous support.

Upcoming Events

Host a Family Fund Raising Programs:

Christmas Concert— December 15th @ 7PM
 At Notre Dame School Auditorium
 Tickets on sale at the office or church
 Adults \$10 each or Family Pass \$15 (Parents and children under age 13)

Friends, please think about joining in any of the above activities that we may support two Syrian families.

Children's Annual Nativity Pageant.

Sisters of the Sacred Heart Kindergarten Children's Annual Nativity Pageant. Everyone is welcome to come and experience the meaning of Christmas as we open our hearts to Christ's coming. Date and Venue Saturday December 10, 6:30 pm, Sacred Heart Convent, 1 Edward St. Welland

Mass Schedule & Intentions from December 3 to December 11, 2016

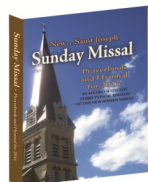
Saturday	5:00PM † Domenico Mammarella by wife Liliana & family Giuseppina Lucci by Teresa DiGioia Giacomo Mancuso by Frank Marotta Bruna Belcamino by Sonay & Gerri Borello
2nd Sunday of Advent	9:00AM † Tullio Cicerone by Daughter & family Pierino Ioannoni by Wife Bruna Ioannoni & family Enzo Zinatelli by Wife Loreta Zinatelli Frank & Rosina DeChellis by family
	11:00AM For us and for all our dearly deceased ones
Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	9:00AM † Alberto & Giuseppina Lucci by family
Wednesday	9:00AM † All souls in Purgatory by Maria Fazzalari
Thursday	9:00AM † Salvatore Giovinazzo by Joe & Rose Nicotera
Friday	9:15AM † Maria Agostino by Ray & Rita DiMartile
Saturday	5:00PM † Antonio Muzzi by Bruna Ioannoni & family Giuseppina Nero by Amore & family Pasquale Vaccaro by family Clara Lorelli by Rocco & Carmela Ranieri & family
3rd Sunday of Advent	9:00AM † Salvatore Ventresca by Filomena Ventresca Anna Maria & Antonino Giovinazzo by Children Tina, Nancy & Rosa Giovinazzo Michele & Annunziata Mammoliti by grandchildren Tina, Nancy & Rosa Giovinazzo Agostino & Milvia Mammoliti by nieces Tina, Nancy & Rosa Giovinazzo
	11:00AM For us and for all our dearly deceased ones

Thank you for supporting 'Host a Family'



2017 Sunday Missal

Donate a New Missal . Kindly buy and donate 2017 Missals in memory of a loved one. These Missals will be kept in the pew boxes at the church for the use of all. The cost of a Missal is \$5.00. There are envelopes with forms at the entrance of the church to place your order for the Missals. Thank you.



Envelopes for 2017

We are preparing envelope sets for 2017. Please inform the office of any changes to your address ASAP. If you are not using envelopes, please consider starting this year.

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near'.

Advent Reconciliation On Dec.19th Monday at 6.30PM

There will be a priest who speaks Italian and Polish to help us with confessions!



Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us

POPE FRANCIS - General Audience November 30, 2016



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Today we conclude our series of catecheses on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The last of the corporal works of mercy, burying the dead, is not untimely, when we think of the many people who risk their lives in order to give decent burial to the victims of war and armed conflict in various parts of our world. Like Joseph of Arimathea, who offered his own tomb for the burial of Jesus, we Christians devoutly bury our dead in hope of the resurrection. The last of the spiritual works of mercy, praying for the living and the dead, is especially meaningful in this month of November, when we commemorate all the faithful departed. Prayer for the living and the dead is an eloquent expression of the communion of saints. Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, who knows our deepest desires and hopes, and embrace in our prayer all those in any kind of need. May the corporal and spiritual works of mercy on which we have meditated throughout the Holy Year continue to inspire and guide our Christian lives on the path of God's mercy.

Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide- Did You Know?

Since Canada legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide in June 2016, 374 people across the country have already died by lethal injection. Meanwhile, only 30% of Canadians have access to quality palliative (end of life) care. Please visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more and write directly to the Ontario government.

About the Funeral Liturgy

The Responsorial Psalm for the First Sunday of Advent states, "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." This is how we celebrate the Last Things too. When we experience the death of a loved one, we go to the loving arms of Holy Mother Church to be offered comfort and hope. The Funeral Rites we celebrate offer us the joy that comes from our hope in eternal life, "Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven." (Preface for the Dead – Funeral Mass). The Order of Christian Funerals is divided into three parts: the Vigil, Funeral Mass, and the Rite of Committal. The Vigil Service usually takes place at the funeral home or church. The Christian community joins with the bereaved family to offer prayers for the deceased. This is traditionally called the Wake and it provides opportunities for personal sharing about the deceased. At the Funeral Mass we experience the union of the Church on earth with the Church in heaven. At the end of Mass is the Commendation and Farewell where the Church commends the deceased to God with specific prayers and ritual actions. The Funeral Mass reminds us that all of the faithful will be raised up and reunited in the new heaven and a new earth, where death will be no more. The Rite of Committal is the final act of caring for the body of the deceased. In committing the body to its final resting place, the prayer we offer expresses our hope in the resurrection. Catholic cemeteries are an expression of this hope. Unfortunately, today there is a growing number of Catholics who simply choose one part of the whole. It may be only prayers at the funeral home or immediate disposition with prayers at the grave. Hopefully we will all see the wisdom in following the entire Order of Christian Funerals. Just as the Last Things are experienced in totality – death, judgment, heaven, and hell, so too should our liturgical celebration of this mystery. (notes from the diocesan update)

Advent and Christmas

What are the liturgical readings for the Sundays of Advent?

Each of the four Sundays of Advent has its own special readings and characteristics:

- First Sunday of Advent - The readings look forward to the "End Times" and the coming of the "Day of the Lord" or the "Messianic Age"; the Gospel is an excerpt from the Apocalyptic Discourse of Jesus in one of the Synoptic Gospels.
- Second Sunday of Advent - The Gospel readings focus on the preaching and ministry of John the Baptist as the forerunner of Jesus, the one who came to "Prepare the Way of the Lord."
- Third Sunday of Advent - The Gospel readings continue to focus on John the Baptist, while the first and second readings convey the joy that Christians feel with the increasing closeness of the incarnation and the world's salvation.
- Fourth Sunday of Advent - The Gospels tell of the events that immediately preceded the birth of Jesus, including the dreams and visions of Joseph and Mary of Nazareth. To be continued..

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Dec 24, 2016 5:00PM Family Mass
 11:30PM Carol Singing 12:00AM Midnight Mass
Christmas Day Dec 25, 2016
 9:00AM & 11:00AM Mass
Dec 31, 2016 Year-End Mass 5:00PM
Jan. 1, 2017 New Year's Mass 9:00 & 11:00 AM