

Saint Charles Borromeo

November 29, 2015

First Sunday
of Advent



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Woonsocket, RI 02895

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Pastor: Rev. Gerald F. Finnegan, S. J.

Parish Secretary: Lucille M. Hannon

Bookkeeper: Jennifer Collins
bookkeeper@stcharlesborromeo.com

Religious Education Director: Donna Zannelli
(401) 766-2890

Music Ministry: Wayne and Becky Kilcline

Brian's Pantry: (401) 766-3088

Office of Community Services & Advocacy
Woon. Satellite: Antonio Andreu Galvan
(401) 762-2849

Cemetery Care: Jack Marzini, Superintendent
(508) 883-6838

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

Brazilian Mass 12:00 noon

Rev. Adriano Lessa

Weekday Masses

(in the lower-level Chapel)

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 AM

Confessions: Saturdays 3: - 3:30 PM
or by appointment

Adult Religious Education

Wednesday: 9:30 - 10:15 AM

Holy Days

9:00 AM and 7:00 PM

If you are new to the parish, WELCOME!

Please introduce yourself. We want to know you and to serve you. We hope you will favor your parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance - according to your means.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 28	4PM - Margaret "Peg" Shiel by her husband & daughters
Sunday, November 29	9AM - Octave & Elizabeth Bousquet by the family
Tuesday, December 1	9AM - Laval Legare by his wife Thérèse
Wednesday, December 2	9AM - James Cote by his wife
Thursday, December 3	9AM - Rosa, Alfredo & Anibal Afonso by the family
Friday, December 4	9AM - Lucille Blake
Saturday December 5	4PM - Ashley Signorello by Bill & Claudette Kerrigan
Sunday, December 6	9AM - Kennedy and Shiel Families by the families



Happy Advent! It seems as though someone pushed the fast forward button, and, lo, we are already facing Christmas. Yes, I know. Those who are older always feel that time is going faster and faster. Maybe it is because we have been around the track of life so often that the markers appear to be placed closer together. In any case, may you enjoy the beautiful season of Advent in preparation for Christmas.

We had a Parish Council Meeting this past weekend to discuss the future of our parish. It was agreed by all that there should be "a transitional committee" to help our parish and its new pastor in the clustering of St. Charles and All Saints in July. This committee will be made up of our trustees and the chairs of the following committees: the liturgical committee, the finance committee, the pantry, and the CCD program. In the coming clustering this last program will join with its sister program at All Saints. The other committees will retain their identities. So, let us hope that the joining of the two parishes under one pastor will go off smoothly, due to the efforts of this committee.

On Sunday, December 13th, the Year of Jubilee celebrating the mercy of God will begin with a 1 P.M. Mass at the cathedral in Providence and the opening of the Jubilee Door. If you can attend, please do so.

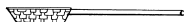
Fr. Finnegan, S.J.



Last Weekend's Offertory

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 1,739.00
Loose Money	\$ 192.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,931.00

Thank you



Scripture for the week of November 29, 2015

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14/1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
 Mon.: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22
 Tues.: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
 Wed.: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 15:29-37
 Thurs.: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27
 Fri.: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
 Sat.: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-6/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8
 Next Sun.: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

"He hid the time from us so that we would be on the watch and so that each of us might think that the coming will happen in his own lifetime."

~St. Ephraem

Announcements



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is held every Friday in the lower church from 1 to 2 PM.

On December 8th, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Holy Day Masses will be at 9AM and 7PM in the lower church.

INDOOR YARD SALE will be held in the parish hall this **Sunday from 9 AM to 12 Noon.** Household and yard items as well as construction tools.

The Greater Woonsocket Catholic Regional School System will be hosting a **Super Bingo** on Sunday, January 10th at Precious Blood Church Hall. A total of \$6,650. in prizes will be given away! Tickets are \$30 for 18 cards plus specials. (Additional cards will be available for purchase.) Only 275 tickets will be sold. For more details on the event or how to purchase tickets, contact GWCRS Regional Office at (401) 762-1095.

A MINI RETREAT will be held at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center, 226 Great Neck Road in Wareham, MA on December 19th, entitled: *Come to the Quiet* - When we move too quickly amidst noise and obligation, it's easy to become fragmented and fatigued. We can even lose our sense of purpose. Silence holds many gifts and making time to explore the treasures of silence might just be what our souls need as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Mini Retreats begin at 10 AM until 12:30 PM. Please call Peggie Patenaude at least two days in advance to register: (508) 548-9149. At times, Mass is celebrated at 9AM. Ask Peggie when you call to register.

ST. PATRICK'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - 45 Main Street, Harrisville will be held Friday, 12/4/ from 4 to 7PM, Saturday, 12/5/ from 9AM to 4PM, and Sunday, 12/6/ from 9AM to 1PM. Money Raffles, Gift Baskets, Baked Goods, Craft & Knitted Items, Holiday Decorations and more.

The Diocese urges anyone who has been the victim of sexual abuse or has credible knowledge of such

abuse, by any member of the Catholic Church in Rhode Island, to report the information to Kevin O'Brien, Director of the diocesan Office of Compliance at (401) 941-0760. To seek assistance for victims or family members affected by such abuse, please contact Paula Loud, Director of the diocesan Office Outreach & Prevention at (401) 946-0728.

LINCOLN PARISHES TO HIGHLIGHT ST. LUKE'S GOSPEL OF MERCY

St. Ambrose parish in Albion and St. James parish in Manville will offer three evening sessions during the season of Advent on the Gospel of St. Luke, often labeled The Gospel of Mercy, in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy announced by Pope Francis and beginning lessons will follow the 7PM Mass at St. James Church, 33 Division Street, Manville, on Thursdays, December 3, 10, and 17, from 7:30 through 8:30PM. Fr. John Kiley, weekly columnist for the RI Catholic, will lead the three discussions emphasizing the Evangelist's theme of mercy, the Biblical "loving kindness" of God to wards all humanity especially the poor, the handicapped, the foreigner, the outcast and notably women. The Scriptural discussions are free and open to the public.

A LIFELINE FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES - All ages of couples come to Retrouvaille from many walks of life and ethnic backgrounds. Some have already separated or divorced, but want to try again. Many are struggling to stay together. What all these couples have in common is a sincere desire to build a stable loving marriage. Retrouvaille is Catholic in origin and orientation, but is open to all married couples regardless of religious background. Upcoming weekend is 1/8-10/2016 in Framingham, MA. For more info see www.HelpOurMarriage.com or contact Tess and Sawn Yates at (508) 271-7155. Also, see bulletin boards for leaflet.



WHY DO WE HAVE ADVENT?

You say, "I don't know, it always just comes along." Or, "to prepare for Christmas." But Christmas came long ago, and if Christ has already been born, what is this Advent waiting about? "Have we forgotten about his birthing?" I have heard these questions, answers, and others, a number of times.

So let us look at his birth and at our forgetfulness.

Our hearts get drowsy and lazy, tired out by the anxieties of daily life. Maybe we distract ourselves from troubles by working very hard, or becoming depressed, or becoming fascinated with drink, or sex, or out-of-control emotions, or gambling, or email, or golf, or surfing the web, or pride, or, or, or (name yours). Whatever it is for you, the very clear message of Advent is, "Settle down for a while." Open the door just a crack to let God in.

There is a design to help us do this. Each week's First Reading is the carrot: usually positive, a promise of good. Then the Gospel hits you with a big stick to wake us up.

Take the encouraging First Reading this Sunday. It reminds us of the promise God made to his people: rightness and justice will come to the earth. Security. The day of the Lord will arrive, though long delayed. Peace in our day.

How rewarding it is to desire such a time. Too good to be true? Just pious thought? Read the First Reading now and ask yourself those questions. Spend time with them. Pray to God for help. The Responsorial Psalm will aid you. It asks God to make known his ways to us, to guide us and teach us.

The Second Reading urges us to put God's promise of peace into action, even if we are not yet sure what it means. Love others and be loved.

Ah, and then the Gospel. It tries to wake us up, especially if the above has not helped. "But I am perfectly awake," you say. Alright then, go ahead and read the Gospel.

Signs in the sun, moon and stars, nations in dismay, the roaring of the sea and the waves, people dying of fright, and the Son of Man appearing in the clouds with power and great glory!

Terrifying.

So are you all ready for it? Let yourself imagine what such a time might be like. Picture it scene by scene and don't worry about being exact. Just experience it.

Will such a shakeup really happen literally? We do not know. Maybe much worse is to come, judging from the state of the world today. Do you live without fear of terrorists or ISIS, of proliferating nuclear weapons, of horrific climate change, of a crash of the world economy, or of the greed that fills so many hearts to overflowing—in your city, in your state, your world?

If you can say "You are right, I am afraid of these," then you have a start on the reason for Advent.

Christ has to be born afresh. Yes, it worked the last time, but you and I forget so easily. His birth must happen again, in our liturgy, in our lives, in this Advent, so that his sacrifice will not be in vain. This is why we have Advent

~John Foley, S.J.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the rectory after your baby's birth to prepare for this initial Sacrament of spiritual life.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick (and Communion Calls)

Please notify us if anyone is ill, in the hospital or homebound and may wish to receive Holy Communion at home.



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