

1st

SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

- Mt 24:44

PADRE'S PONDERINGS

Dear Parishioners,

What a joy to be able to welcome the season of Advent, the great season of hope and expectation! Advent reminds us that amid all the busy-ness and bustle of this time of year, we need to be still. The buying and shopping and prepping and decorating and all of the frantic running around that accompany them are distractions from the true message of the Christmas season: **when we least expect him, God arrives, and never in the way we imagine.** Advent prepares our hearts for change, for new beginnings, for breaking old habits and taking off the blinders. God is coming! And we need to be ready to welcome him.

Advent, because it is a season of hope and because it fixes our sight on the future, is **a good time for us as a parish community at All Saints to reflect on our future.** That will require some change on our part, but it will also require some vision. I had breakfast with a very good friend recently who reminded me, *"We talk of God having a 'plan,' but God doesn't have a plan, God has a vision!"* I couldn't agree more. A plan is about practicalities, strategies, mechanics. No one can get behind a mere plan. Vision is bigger! A vision is more daring, it requires greater risks, but it is worth getting behind, buying into.

Since I arrived at All Saints five months ago, I have stated plainly that my principal tasks were to assess the needs of the community and to stabilize the parish. I—with the support of our staff, parish trustees, and finance council—am taking steps to actively secure our parish financially. **These steps are being taken in accord with a vision for the parish that focuses our resources on outreach to the poor and the marginalized.**

All Saints has weaknesses, yes, but it has many strengths. **I believe that we need to play to our strengths.** It has an impressive history of outreach to the poor and the marginalized. I want to strengthen those ministries and secure them for the future. It has a dedicated group of parishioners who worship and donate weekly to our parish. I want to encourage them and give them reason to keep coming and contributing to our cause. It has a group of talented and loyal leaders who are willing to assume greater responsibility for our community. I want to work with them in securing the future of our parish and in creating a shared vision.

You already have an idea of our weaknesses. We are facing serious difficulties with our physical plant. Demographically, we are not a young parish. We are not able to provide for youth and family programming as well as other parish communities. **But none of those things mean that All Saints doesn't have a future. We just need to define what our future will look like.**

Here's what I see in our future. I see another holiday bazaar that not only brings in much-needed revenue, but

more importantly, brings more and more parishioners together. I see our food services strengthened and growing, enabling them to serve more hungry people. I see our Adopt-a-Family program giving out more presents than ever before. I see our Meat Raffle continue to generate revenue and, most importantly, community. I see greater returns for our toy drive and coat drive and our participation in ROVAC. I see our Linus crafts going to even more people who need them. I see us expanding our outreach to people in recovery and partnering with Deacon John Silvia on St. Mathias Ministry. I see us expanding our outreach to victims of domestic abuse and partnering with Carol Owens on Pathway to Peace. I see us taking in even more baby items for St. Gabriel's Project. **All of this and more is possible if we work together with a shared vision!**

In the coming weeks, be on the lookout for information about **the institution of a Parish Council**, which will include representative members of the parish community. As Jeff Gaulin and Nel Savaria, our parish trustees, and I will be working at reconstituting our Finance Council, both of these representative groups will provide a wider participation from a greater number of people to participate in developing solutions to our problems and in crafting a vision for our parish. I will be looking forward to sharing more information about both of those councils in the coming weeks.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly by phone (401-762-1100) or email (FatherUpton@gmail.com). As I said in my remarks at all Masses last month, please be patient with me. I know there will be missteps but I am trying my very best to help secure the future of our parish community.

On another note, please consider joining us for the tour of Saint Charles Church today (Sunday) at 2pm. One of the most difficult aspects of the process of closing a parish is saying goodbye to a space that is not only so beautiful but also so meaningful to a great many people.

And plan on joining us this coming Friday for our **Christmas-themed Meat Raffle!** Doors open at 6:15pm!

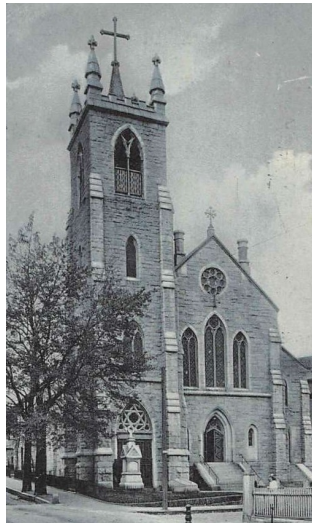
Until next week, *Fr. Joe*

ADVENT WREATHS FOR SALE

We have a limited number of Advent Wreath kits which include a brass ring and four candles. A limited amount of artificial greens are also available, although the rings could be set inside a real or artificial store-bought wreath. The kits are only \$20.00. Begin a new family tradition this year! Call the rectory for more information.



SAINT CHARLES LEGACY COMMITTEE UPDATES



As our Legacy Committee continues to work at organizing events to commemorate the parish life and historical legacy of Saint Charles, please keep these dates in mind. **We ask that, especially for the final Christmas Concert and Banquet, that you reach out to former parishioners or friends who might be interested in these events.** As we only have on hand a database of presently registered and active parishioners, it would be helpful to have some assistance in spreading the word!

- **TODAY, Sunday, December 1, 2pm—Church Tour of Saint Charles:** An opportunity to learn about the art and architecture of Saint Charles and their theological meaning and symbolism.
- **Sunday, December 15, 2pm—Final Christmas Concert followed by catered Parish Banquet in Saint Charles Church Hall:** This will be the final social gathering of our parish community. While the concert is open to the public, the dinner afterward will be ticketed.
- **Tuesday, December 24, 4pm—Final Christmas Eve Mass in Saint Charles Church**
- **Wednesday, December 25, 9am—Final Christmas Day Mass in Saint Charles Church**
- **Sunday, January 12, 9am—Final Mass in Saint Charles Church:** All who attend this special liturgy will receive a special memento, “a piece of Saint Charles,” which will be explained at the final Mass.

REGARDING THE FINAL PARISH BANQUET: We are planning a banquet to accommodate around 125 guests in the parish hall. Tickets are required and will be available after Masses this weekend and next to registered parishioners at no cost. Once registered parishioners have obtained the tickets they need, others—including former parishioners or staff, or friends of Saint Charles—will be able to obtain tickets, also at no cost.



Meat RAFFLE

All Saints Meat Raffle

Date: Friday December 6th

Time: 7:00 Raffle Doors open at 6:15

Let's relax, have some fun and embrace the true joy of the season. Come join us for a Christmas themed event with valuable meat packages, assorted raffles and lots of fun!

There will be a light supper for all participants. Join us!!

WEEKEND FINANCIAL UPDATE

November 24th 2019

All Saints

Sunday Collection & Campaign for Human Development:

Unavailable at time of printing

St. Charles

Sunday Collection: **Unavailable at time of printing**

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 30th

4:00: (SC) Parishioners of St. Charles Parish

4:00: (AS) Yolanda Renzoni, *by Gerard Martel*

Sunday, December 1st

7:30: Levi Brooks

9:00: Maureen Lambert, *16th anniversary, by family*

10:15: Frechette, Sitko, & Trinque Families

Monday, December 2nd - All Saints

8:00: Louis and Gertrude Martinelli, *by family*

Tuesday, December 3rd - St. Charles

9:00: Parishioners of St. Charles Parish

Wednesday, December 4th - St. Charles

9:00: Parishioners of St. Charles Parish

Thursday December 5th - All Saints

9:00: Parishioners of All Saints Parish

Friday, December 6th - All Saints

8:00: Claire Levreault, *by family*

Saturday, December 7th

4:00: (SC) Margaret Dwyer, *by Mary Gizzareli*

4:00: (AS) Parishioners of All Saints Parish

Sunday, December 8th

7:30: Roger Sylvestre, *by wife*

9:00: Parishioners of St. Charles Parish

10:15: Edward Zarski, *by family*



REMEMBER

in your prayers



Knights of Columbus
Woonsocket Council, No. 113
3200 Pawtucket Avenue
Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895



2019 OPERATION ROVAC DRIVE
Remembering Our Veterans At Christmas

As part of OPERATION ROVAC, Council #113 is collecting BRAND NEW items to be distributed to 200 men and women at the R. I. Veterans Home in Bristol, R.I.

(FINAL ROVAC Collection Day Event is Friday., Dec. 13th)

Requested BRAND NEW w/ TAGS (ONLY) donations should include:

- Winter hats, gloves, and scarves
- Men's pants – khaki & jean
- Long sleeve flannel shirts (Up to 4X)
- Men's flannel button down pajamas (Med to 4X)
- Women's flannel button down pajamas (Med to XL)
- Under shirts (Medium to 4X)
- Sweat pants and flannel pants (Up to 4X)
- Button down sweaters, fleece & vests (Up to 4X)
- Winter jackets (Medium to 4X)
- Shoes/sneakers (Velcro tab) Sizes 8 through 12.5
- Handkerchiefs
- Men's slippers (Shoe type) w/ backs & rubber bottoms
- New Word/find search books (Large print ONLY)
- **NEW TOILETRIES (NO TRIAL SIZES):**
- Dove Soap / Irish Spring soap
- Men's and Ladies stick deodorant
- Men's cologne / ladies perfume
- Toothpaste / Tooth brushes
- Please leave your donations in the ROVAC collection entrance of the church



Thank you very much for your generosity. Merry Christmas and God Bless!

THANK YOU

To Bob & Connie Boisvert for their generous donation of brand new book covers for the All Saints song books.

12 Days of Christmas

All Saints annual Christmas card and raffle, 12 Days of Christmas, is here again!

Thinking about buying one of the most beautiful Christmas cards ever produced for a friend or loved one. Also, give a friend or loved one a chance to win one or more of the 12 prizes at the Christmas Season. For only \$10 it's a great for teachers, Secret Santa, or that hard to buy for friend!

We will be selling tickets after all masses at the front door, or you can purchase tickets at the rectory.

The last day to purchase cards will be Sunday December 22nd.



Las lecturas de la semana del
1 de Diciembre de 2019

- Domingo: Is 2, 1-5/ Sal 122, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 [cfr. 1]/Rom 13, 11-14/Mt 24, 37-44
- Lunes: Is 4, 2-6/Sal 122, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/Mt 8, 5-11
- Martes: Is 11, 1-10/Sal 72, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17 [cfr. 7]/Lc 10, 21-24
- Miércoles: Is 25, 6-10/Sal 23, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6 [6]/Mt 15, 29-37
- Jueves: Is 26, 1-6/Sal 118, 1 y 8-9. 19-21. 25-27 [26]/Mt 7, 21. 24-27
- Viernes: Is 29, 17-24/Sal 27, 1. 4. 13-14 [1]/Mt 9, 27-31
- Sábado: Is 30, 19-21. 23-26/Sal 147, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Mt 9, 35—10, 1. 5. 6-8
- Domingo siguiente: Is 11, 1-10/ Sal 72, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 19 [cfr. 7]/Rom 15, 4-9/Mt 3, 1-12

Misa de Guadalupe: El Jueves 12 de diciembre, se llevará a cabo la Misa en honor a la Virgen de Guadalupe en la Catedral de San Pedro y San Pablo Presidido por El Obispo Auxiliar de la Diócesis de Providence Monseor Robert C. Evans. Habrá confesiones a las 5 p.m., rezo del Rosario a las 6 p.m. y una serenata a la Virgen con el Mariachi de Verónica Robles a las 6:30 p.m. Luego de la Misa se procederá al salón para un festival folklórico con danzas de países latinoamericanos y aperitivos típicos.

Posada Diocesana y Concierto Navideño en La Salette: Domingo 22 de Diciembre de 6 a 9 pm en el Santuario de La Salette Shrine. Te invitamos a asistir a este evento anual con oración, música de villancicos y el increíble festival de luces. 5:00 pm visita a las luces. 6:00 pm Posada 6:30pm concierto con el coro de niños de San Eduardo. 7:00 pm Concierto Bilingüe con el Ministerio de Música de San Patricio y la Familia Cuéllar y amigos.

PROGRAMA DE TV EN ESPAÑOL: No se olvide de ver a "Católicos de Hoy", por el cable del canal 14 (cox) y 33 (Verizon) los jueves a las 5:30 p.m. y viernes a las 11:30 a.m.

ESCUCHE NUESTRO PROGRAMA DE RADIO: No se pierda nuestro programa Radial en Español todos los sábados a las 9:30 a.m. por la 100.3 FM. Síguenos con noticias diarias en nuestra página www.facebook.com/elcatolicoderi/

WELCOME!

No matter what your present status is in the Catholic Church,
No matter your current family or marital status,
No matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, race, ethnicity or spirituality,
No matter your self-image of holiness or virtue,
You belong to Jesus Christ and you belong to us!
You are invited, accepted and respected
at All Saints and Saint Charles Borromeo.
We want to share our Roman Catholic way of faith and life in Christ with you!

PARISH DIRECTORY

ALL SAINTS PARISH

Phone: 401-762-1100

Email: allsaintsrectory2@hotmail.com

Web: [facebook.com/AllSaintsWoonsocket](https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsWoonsocket)

Daily Masses:

Monday, Thursday & Friday at 8am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4pm

Sunday at 7:30am, 10:15am and 12n (en Español)

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday at 3pm

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO PARISH

Phone: 401-766-0176

Email: rectory@stcharlesborromeo.com

Web: stcharlesborromeo.com

Daily Masses:

Tuesday & Wednesday at 9am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4pm & Sunday at 9am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday at 3pm

PARISH OFFICE

323 Rathbun Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Monday-Wednesday & Friday 8:30am-1:30pm
(Closed Thursday)

PARISH STAFF

Father Joseph R. Upton, *Pastoral Administrator*
(fatherupton@gmail.com)

Deacon Jose Turcios, *Parish Deacon*

Christine Daneault, *Financial Administrator*

Lakesha Mendoza, *Coordinator of Religious Education*

Sr. Jacqueline Dickey, SSCh., *Bereavement Ministry*

Christian Larivee, *Sacristan*

Deb Doris, *Secretary/Food Pantry*

Jonathan Laboy, *Maintenance*

Leo Fontaine, *Director of Music, All Saints*

Wayne & Becky Kilcline, *Directors of Music, St. Charles*

SAINT CHARLES PARISH: A MORE THAN 170-YEAR LEGACY OF FAITH, SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

In this space, we hope to include pictures and memories shared by Saint Charles Parishioners. Thanks to Wayne and Becky Kilcline for sending these along! Email any pictures or memories to Deb at allsaintsrectory2@hotmail.com.



Fr Finnegan and the children of the CCD Program, on a trip to Roger Williams Zoo!



James Simonini and Joseph Oliver during the Homily of the Children's Mass at their First Communion



Fr Finnegan and the last CCD class