

Saint Charles Borromeo

December 25, 2016
Christmas Day

190 North Main Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Parish office located at
All Saints, 323 Rathbun Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895

Mondays & Tuesdays, 10:00a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Phone: (401) 766-0176

www.stcharlesborromeo.com
rectory@stcharlesborromeo.com

Pastor: Rev. Dennis Reardon
fr_reardon@stcharlesborromeo.com

Parish Secretary: Lucille Hannon

Bookkeeper: Christine Daneault
bookkeeper@stcharlesborromeo.com

Music Ministry: Wayne and Becky Kilcline

Religious Education: Pauline Leclerc
(401) 762-1100

Bryan'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 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Brazilian Mass 12:00 noon

Rev. Messias

Weekday Masses

(in the lower-level Chapel)

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

or by appointment

Holy Days

9:00 a.m.

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, December 24	4PM - Domenic Gizzarelli by the family
Sunday, December 25	9AM - Anthony Caracuzzo (14th Ann.) by daughter Anne
Tuesday, December 27	9AM - Melva R. McMann Allaire by Friends of Holy Family Church
Wednesday, December 28	9AM - Edward McCarthy by a friend
Thursday, December 29	9AM - Mass of the Day
Friday, December 30	9AM - Lucille Blake
Saturday, December 31	4 PM - A. Frances Warrenner by the family
Sunday, January 1	9AM - Leo and Martha McIntyhre by Roger & Barbara Peloquin

GOOD NEWS



If Matthew makes bold to claim up front that the birth of the child Jesus is the presence of God come to save us, the readings for Christmas Day, from the letter to the Hebrews and the Gospel of John, proclaim the same thing in even broader strokes.

Hebrews shout that Jesus of Nazareth is the climax of the Creator's communication to his people: "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through a Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe." The remainder of this magnificent introduction goes on to say that the fullness of such a communication through the eternal Son came to expression in his death and exaltation.

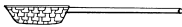
The prologue of John says the same thing more fully by calling Jesus the fullness of life, light for the darkness, eternal Word enfolded, the very tenting of God in our midst.

We read Isaiah 52 today because we know that the end to exile which that prophet called Good News has occurred supremely in the coming of Christ Jesus.

Last Weekend's Offertory

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 1,242.00
Loose Money	\$ 171.00
	1,413.00

Thank you



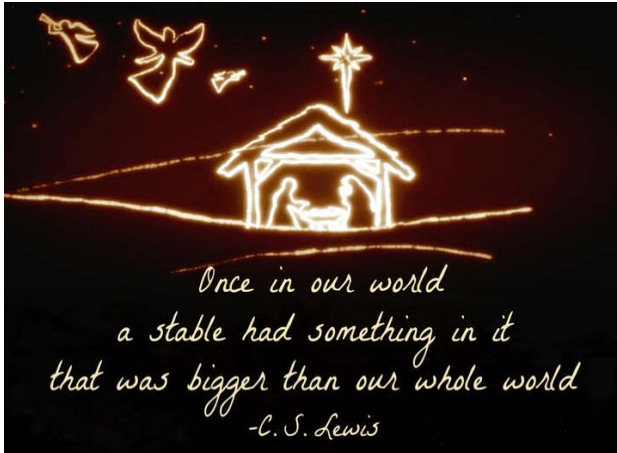
Scripture for the week of December 25, 2016

Sunday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25
Night:	Is 9:1-6/Ps 96/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn:	Is 62:11-12/Ps 97/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day:	Is 52:7-10/Ps 98/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Monday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31/Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday:	1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wednesday:	1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Ps 124/Mt 2:13-18
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96/Lk 2:22-35
Friday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1:1-18
Next Sunday:	Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God."

~C.. S. Lewis

Announcements



THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION is the Christmas offering.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Saint Vincent de Paul Society members would like to thank parishioners for their generous donations during our annual Fund Drive and during the year. We appreciate the support the parish gives us in our efforts to provide food assistance to those in need. May you enjoy the Christmas season knowing that you helped others in need.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA PORTUGAL Join Bishop Thomas Tobin as the Diocese of Providence celebrates *A Year with Mary our Mother*. The Diocese is sponsoring a pilgrimage to Portugal commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Marian Apparitions at Fatima. The nine day pilgrimage departs Boston on August 10, 2017 and returns August 19th, 2017. For further info, please contact Touring International at (800) 975-1761.

PLEASE NOTE that in the upcoming cold months if there is **no school** in Woonsocket due to snow days or inclement weather, there will be **no morning Mass**.

PLEASE NOTE As of January 1st, 2017 the stipends for weekend Masses will be \$25. Weekday Mass stipends will remain at \$10.

Pro-Life Answers False Pro-Choice Arguments (Part II)

A woman's right to "choose"?

The word "choice" (as used on the subject of abortion) is probably the most misleading and deceptive term in the English language.

While it might sound good to say that government should allow people to make all their own choices, that is neither practical nor desirable. Some choices are crimes. All crimes are choices.

Once a woman is pregnant, barring a miscarriage or an induced abortion, she will have a baby. Therefore, her only "choice" is, "How is the baby going to come out?" Will he or she come out alive and crying, or dead and in pieces? Truly, her choice is between life and death — a live baby or a dead one.

Consider this hypothetical situation. A group of young men have just started a "Right to Rape" organization. They argue that they have the right to choose to rape women. The real question, they tell us, is, "Who decides, us or the government? We believe that the government should stay out of this very private matter." Furthermore, they want the state to set up tax-funded centers where they can rape women in a safe, legal fashion.

Clearly, our response would be, "Absolutely not; rape is wrong!"

Note carefully that the real and overriding question is not, "who decides" but a question about the action itself. We must first ask ourselves, "Is rape right or wrong? Only then can we answer the question of who has the right to choose to do it.

And so it is with abortion. No one should have the "right to choose" abortion because it involves taking the life of a separate, innocent human being and is therefore an atrocity.

TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY

The first people to experience the coming of the savior were shepherds, those lowly, uneducated ones who lived among the animals. They were not the only ones, of course, but they were the first to welcome the savior.

It was no accident that such lowly people would be called in first to pay homage to the savior. It is to the lowly, after all, that Christ came first as Lord and Redeemer. The circumstances of his birth testify to that: his mother "wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the place where travelers lodged."

Christmas is the great annual renewal of our being a Church filled with wonder at the nearness of her God. The nearer we are to our God, the nearer we should become to those lowly ones who are God's special ones.

We are challenged at Christmas to do what Jesus and the angels did: bring the good news of redemption to the outcast and the lowly. The "tidings of great joy (are) to be shared by the whole people," and no one is to be left out, not even the most hopeless or despicable person.

Our holy Mother (the Church does) not neglect the care of the poor or omit to provide for their necessities; but, rather, drawing them to her with a mother's embrace, and knowing that they bear the person of Christ Himself, who regards the smallest gift to the poor as a benefit conferred on Himself, holds them in great honor.

She does all she can to help them; she provides homes and hospitals where they may be received, nourished, and cared for all the world over, and watches over these.

Pope Leo XIII, Quod Apostolici Muneris, (1878:9)

Gerald Darring

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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