

Church of St. Sebastian
November 27, 2016 - First Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, VIGIL: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 pm ANTONIO AND YOLANDA SPILLARE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 am INTENTIONS OF PARISHIONERS

11:00 am STEPHEN DANIELS, 3rd anniversary,
by wife and family

Monday, NOVEMBER 28

7:00 am BARTHOLOMEW MCELROY

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 29

7:00 am FR. RUSSELL PAGE

7.25 am Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 30, Saint Andrew, Apostle

7:00 am INCREASE OF VOCATIONS

Thursday, DECEMBER 1

9:00 am INTENTIONS OF PARISHIONERS

First Friday, DECEMBER 2

7:00 am FR. WILLIAM LAWLESS

5:30 pm JOHN AND CATHERINE DONNELLY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, VIGIL: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 pm SICK OF THE PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 am INTENTIONS OF PARISHIONERS

11:00 am INTENTIONS OF CELEBRANT

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Floral donations in memory of our loved ones may be placed in the collection basket using the budget envelopes provided for this purpose. Extra envelopes are at the doors of the Church. A gentle reminder to spell names CLEARLY. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Prayers are asked for these friends, family, and fellow parishioners. If you would like someone included in the Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory.
Bartholomew Steid, Sal Spagnoli, Jacob Kenner, Natalie Swift, Leah Davis, Frances Geary, Maureen Kenner, Sandy C., John Haddad, Bob, Sylvia L., and Bob K.

My Dear Parishioners,

Advent is upon us. And things are busy, some might even say crazy and stressful. The world is anticipating the birth of the Savior although we are not allowed to mention the name of Jesus (God forbid). Stores comb over CDs so their PA systems only blurt out "secular holiday season songs".

I actually went to a department store the other day. The store's PA was playing, 'I wish you a Merry Christmas'. The person behind the register said, " This singer sounds like he is dying. We need Jose Feliciano"

That struck me. A great song. An above average artist. But the person behind the register wanted more. And what the person wanted was JOY!

The joy we seek is not a feeling, not an emotion. It is SOMEONE.....someone as tangible and recognizable and immediate as Jose Feliciano was absent. Joy arises when we possess the thing that makes us truly, deeply happy. This Advent we are waiting for Joy-Made Flesh: Jesus Christ.

Advent might start off in sadness. But from that experience of waiting and sadness comes the certainty of what we need.

Check your time. And let us use this time to cry out, to sing out, "Come Lord Jesus."

Feliz Navidad!

Monsignor Montecalvo



MONTHLY MAINTENANCE COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Our Monthly Maintenance Collection helps defray the cost of maintaining our beautiful church, rectory and parish grounds. The parish is very fortunate to have staff members who take great pride in keeping our facilities in magnificent shape. A monthly collection of \$3,000 would pay for this ongoing and necessary maintenance. Please be generous to this important collection to continue necessary maintenance and improvements on our parish property.

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ADVENT CHURCH CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, Dec. 4th Open House in Rectory after
 11 am Mass
Thursday, Dec. 8th Feast of Immaculate Conception
 Mass at 7 am and 5:30 pm
Tuesday, Dec. 13th Parish Penance Service
 6 pm to 7 pm
Saturday, Dec. 18th Christmas Caroling 1 pm

ST. SEBASTIAN CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

All children are welcome and encouraged to join.
 Rehearsal: Sundays 10-10:30, immediately after 9
 am Mass. Contact Kristen Pedroso with any
 questions: 302-598-8998 Kristenpedroso1@gmail.com

PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Prepare your heart for Christmas by celebrating the
 Sacrament of Penance (Confession) at our **Advent
 Penance Service on Tuesday, December 13 at 6 pm.**
 Even if you have been away for some time, *'Do not be
 afraid!'* Return to the Lord and Communion at Christ-
 mas. It's a wonderful free gift offered us by the Lord.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASSES

Saturday, December 24th

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Family Mass
 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
 Christmas Music at 8:30 pm

Sunday, December 25th

9:00 am Christmas Mass
 11:00 am Christmas Mass

Saturday, December 31st

5:00 pm Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, January 1st

9:00 am Feast of Mary, Mother of God
 11:00 am Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Caroling at Area Nursing Homes

Come share the spirit of Christmas by caroling for
 residents of local nursing homes on **Sunday,
 December 18th.** Singers of all ages are welcome! It
 is always a wonderful and giving way to celebrate the
 Christmas Season. A light meal will be served
 following the caroling. We will meet at St. Sebastian's
 no later than 1:00 pm. Please sign up in the Church
 vestibule. Call Susan Elliott at 831-1162 for more info.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Please come over to the Rectory following the 11:00
 Mass on Sunday, December 4th for our Christmas
 Open House. Come and enjoy a glass of egg nog or a
 cup of warm apple cider. We are in need of
 parishioners who are will to back their favorite
 Christmas goodies! Also, we will have babysitting
 services available at the 11 am Mass to accommodate
 the families with young children. Hope to see you at
 the Open House!

THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION

At the time of year in which we give thanks for our
 many blessings, St. Sebastian Parish remembers
 those who are hungry in our annual Thanksgiving
 Food Collection drive takes place **through November
 27th.** Envelopes are in the pews for those who wish to
 donate cash or check, but donations of food will also
 continue to be collected at the back of the church.
 Many thanks to all for their support for the hungry.

TOY COLLECTION

The Community Outreach Committee is collecting toys
 this Christmas season. Please consider donating
 1 unwrapped child's toy. The toy bin will be located in
 the vestibule beginning the weekend of December
 3rd – 4th. Toys will be donated to The Diocese of
 Providence Immigration & Refugee Services. One
 child's toy creates many moments of holiday joy!



COAT DRIVE: A SINCERE THANK YOU

The winter coats and clothing were delivered to the
 State House the day after Thanksgiving. Sincere
 thanks to the Outreach Committee for coordinating
 this effort. Well done!

Parish Meetings and Activities

11/28	Rel. Ed, Grades 1-5	4 pm	Classrooms
12/2	First Friday Mass	7 am and 5:30 pm	Church
12/4	Rectory Open House	Noon	Rectory

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

*Due to an early deadline from the bulletin's publisher,
 the collection information is not available at this time.*

May God bless you for your continued support!

**Please remember St. Sebastian Church
 In your Will and Estate**