

Church of St. Sebastian
December 14, 2014 — Third Sunday of Advent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, Dec. 13, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm Lucia Annarummo and Lucy J. Silvia
 -requested by Pat and Sal Annarummo

Sunday, December 14, Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Richard Ely, 3rd anniversary
 11:00 am Dan Lancellotti
 -requested by Al & Stephen Lancellotti
 and Families

Monday, December 15, Advent Weekday

7:00 am Mass for the Parishioners

Tuesday, December 16, Advent Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Wednesday, December 17, Late Advent Weekday

7:00 am Vincent & Jean Maguire
 -requested by Mary Ann Maguire

Thursday, December 18, Late Advent Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Friday, December 19, Late Advent Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, Dec. 20, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm Thomas Mager
 -requested by Tim and Amy Brown

Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Members of the Backes and Sills Families
 -requested by Joan Backes

11:00 am Dan Lancellotti
 -requested by Al & Stephen Lancellotti



MONTHLY PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Names of friends, family, and fellow parishioners for whom prayers are asked will be listed monthly. If you would like a person included in next month's Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. **Debbie, Tim Cannon, Jack, Mary M., Peter Pizzarello, Maureen, Betty Mullaney, M. Rachel, Lisa Turbitt, Paula C., Heather, John Haddad, and Ursula Shea.**

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Rose Sunday, is also known as *Gaudate Sunday* from the opening words of the Second Reading for today's Mass. "Rejoice always!" The rose candle is lit this week as the expectation builds for the Christ-event. Behold...the rectory has been illumined with window candles for this Third Sunday of Advent. Celebrate the Light of the World! We also pray for our Jewish neighbors on the East Side as they celebrate *Hanukah*, their own festival of light beginning on Tuesday sundown.

The Advent Penance Service will be held tonight. Fr. Victor Silva, Fr. Carl Fisette, and I will be hearing confessions. The quiet time begins at 6:30 PM. I encourage you to take the opportunity to *Come Home to Christ at Christmas*. And what a gift the Lord is offered you tonight!

The Adopt-a Family gifts should be brought to the Church Hall today, Dec. 14 between 9 am and noon. What a great response for sharing with so many much less fortunate that we are. The Outreach Committee has really gone all out for this parish event. God is smiling!

On an interesting note, when I visited Altötting in Bavaria, I noticed an elephant along side the camel in the manger sets being sold in some of the gift shops. The custom is to have three pack animals: a horse (from Europe), a camel (from Asia), and an elephant (from Africa). Those were the three known continents at the time of Jesus birth. I found that to be an interesting cultural inclusion in the Christmas crib as shepherds and kings come to worship in Bethlehem. Enjoy these special days!

A joyous Advent!
 ~Msgr. Darcy

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sun.	12/14 Religious Ed. Grades 6-8	10:00 am
	Religious Ed., Grades 9-10	6:30 pm
	Advent Penitential Service	6:30 pm
Mon.	12/15 Religious Ed, Grades 1-5	3:30 pm
Tues.	12/16 Prayer Shawl Ministry	7:00 pm
Thur.	12/17 Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE TONIGHT

Prepare your heart for Christmas by celebrating the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) at the **Parish Penance Service on Sunday, December 14th at 6:30 pm**. Three priests will be available for the Sacrament. Even if you have been away for some time, *'Do not be afraid!'* Return to the Lord and Communion at Christmas. It's a wonderful free gift offered us by the Lord.

Caroling at Area Nursing Homes

Come share the spirit of Christmas by caroling for residents of local nursing homes on **next Sunday, December 21st**. Singers of all ages are welcome! It is always a wonderful and giving way to celebrate the Christmas Season. Refreshments 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 information.

ADVENT HAT AND MITTEN TREE

You are invited to decorate the tree in the vestibule with new Hats, Mittens, Gloves and Scarves for women, men and children through January 1st. All proceeds will be distributed to Mary House at St. Patrick's Church. Thank you for your generous spirit and kindness.

BABY SITTERS NEEDED

We have need for two additional baby sitters during the 9 AM Mass on Sundays. You would be assigned once a month. All adults must undergo a BCI check as required by diocesan policy. Please contact Karin Schrott for more information at 465-7444.

CHURCH CELEBRATIONS TO NOTE

Sun. December 14th 6:30 PM Parish Penance Service

Wed. December 24th 5:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass
Preceded by Children's Christmas Pageant

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wed. December 24th at 10 pm First Mass of Christmas
Lessons and Carols at 9:30 PM

THURS. DECEMBER 25TH AT 10 AM

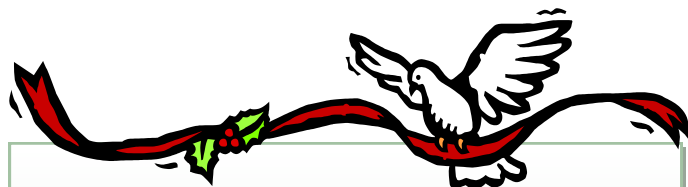
CHRISTMAS MASS

(PLEASE NOTE: ONE MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY)

AROUND THE PARISH

"MONSIGNOR, I'VE NOTICED YOUR RING..."

I found this silver ring visiting Altötting, Bavaria. If you look closely, it is the Our Father in Latin: *Pater noster qui es in coelis...* The band signifies my union to the Church, the bride of Christ. Interestingly, Cardinal Ratzinger gave his Archbishop's ring to this Chapel to Our Lady of Grace after his election as Pope.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Floral donations in memory of our loved ones may be placed in the collection basket with the special envelopes provided for this purpose. Extra envelopes are at the doors of the Church. A gentle re-

WE EVEN SUPPLY THE YARN AND NEEDLES!

The Parish Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the first and third Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Randall Room where we make prayer shawls and small Baptism Blankets. Our next scheduled get-together is Tuesday December 16th. Call Pat Capece 274-8632 with ideas or questions.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

December 7, 2014

# of Budgets and Checks Received	83
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$ 5,394.00
Loose Contributions	\$ 331.00
Total Offertory	\$ 5,725.00
Monthly Maintenance	\$ 1,516.00

Please remember our joint stewardship responsibility to support the parish. You may consider *Parish Giving*, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online on our website www.stsebastianri.org.