

Church of St. Sebastian
December 7, 2014 — Second Sunday of Advent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, Dec. 6, Vigil, Second Sunday of Advent
 5:00 pm Chad Ramsey

Sunday, December 7, Second Sunday of Advent
 9:00 am For the Parishioners

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

**Monday, December 8, The Immaculate Conception
 of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
 ~~~A Holy Day of Obligation~~~

7:00 am For the Parishioners

5:30 pm Mass

**Tuesday, December 9, Advent Weekday**

7:00 am Katherine and John P. Kaveny  
 - requested by Pat and Sal Annarummo

**Wednesday, December 10, Advent Weekday**

7:00 am Mass

**Thursday, December 11, Advent Weekday**

7:00 am Jacob Hansen

**Friday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadeloupe**

7:00 am Mass

**Next Weekend Masses**

**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



**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, and Ursula Shea.***

***THE PASTOR'S CORNER***

The preaching ministry of Isaiah spanned many decades. The book is divided into three parts: Chapters 1-39; 40-55, and 56-65. Today's First Reading begins the so called Book of Comfort. These words begin Handel's Sacred Oratorio, *The Messiah (composed in 1741)*. The words are hope-filled, "*Comfort, give comfort to my people, say your God.*" My first Messiah concert was in 1968; the music begins the beautiful Advent Season.

John the Baptist appears in the Judean wilderness as recorded in Mark, Chapter 1. (*As an aside, the symbol of St. Mark is the lion...like John the Baptist roaring in the wilderness!*) To this day, the wilderness is stark, arid, and barren. It extends east of Jerusalem to the Dead Sea. The spring rains can rush through the wadis taking with it rocks, sand, and anything unfortunate to get caught in the cascade of water. This is where John lived, received his prophetic call, and preached to the people.

This reflective season includes the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Monday (Masses at 7 am and 5:30 pm), and **the Parish Penance Service next Sunday at 6:30 pm**. Two other priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). It's a good time to prepare our hearts during this Advent Season. "Do not be afraid!" You need not be embarrassed about either the last time you went to Confession, or what may have happened. Faith, not fear is the gift awaiting you from the Lord.

*Again, speaking of music...* parishioners sing at our area nursing homes during the Advent Season. **This year the date is Sunday, Dec. 21st at 1 pm**. We'll meet at the Church and car pool to the three nursing homes. A sign up list is in the front hallway. Thank you to Sue and Greg Elliott for once again coordinating this Advent/Christmas event for us.

~ The Lord is coming: Rejoice!  
 Monsignor Darcy

***THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH***

|       |       |                            |          |
|-------|-------|----------------------------|----------|
| Sun.  | 12/7  | Religious Ed. Grades 6-8   | 10:00 am |
|       |       | Religious Ed., Grades 9-10 | 6:30 pm  |
| Mon.  | 12/8  | Religious Ed, Grades 1-5   | 3:30 pm  |
|       |       | Holy Day Mass              | 7:00 am  |
|       |       | Holy Day Mass              | 5:30 pm  |
| Wed.  | 12/10 | Parish Book Club           | 7:00 pm  |
| Thur. | 12/11 | Choir Rehearsal            | 7:00 pm  |

## ADVENT HAPPENINGS

### EMBRACE A FAMILY PARTICIPANTS

*Just a reminder to drop off your packages on Sunday, December 14th between 9 am and noon at the Church hall.* Any questions please contact Karin Schrott (401-465-7444). Once again, thank you for your participation in this program.

### 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.

### PARISH ADVENT Penance SERVICE

Prepare your heart for Christmas by celebrating the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) at the **Parish Penance Service on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 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 **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.

## AROUND THE PARISH

### WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

November 30, 2014

|                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| # of Budgets and Checks Received | <b>83</b>         |
| Contributions-Budgets and Checks | \$4,227.00        |
| Loose Contributions              | \$ 491.00         |
| Total Offertory                  | <b>\$4,718.00</b> |

### Quarterly Income Report

Budgeted \$110,311 Actual \$112,305.00

Please remember our 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](http://www.stsebastianri.org).

**ST. SEBASTIAN BOOK CLUB** will meet on Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00 pm to discuss All Quiet on the Western Front by E.K. Remarque. Questions? Call 751-0196

### 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.

There two male international students from China in need of housing over the Christmas holidays. Their dorm room is closing from Dec. 22 - Jan 2. Unfortunately, they will have no place to live during that period and cannot return to China for Christmas break. They are looking to possibly rent a spare room. They will only need to rent from December 24th to December 30th. Both students are males, ages 19- 20 and speak some English. They may rent together or separately. If anyone can accommodate these students please contact Luiz Bravim (one of our CCD teachers) either on his cell: 754-214-6759 or through his email: [luiz.bravim@gmail.com](mailto:luiz.bravim@gmail.com)

## CHURCH CELEBRATIONS TO NOTE

**Mon. December 8<sup>th</sup> Holy Day, Immaculate Conception**  
Masses at 7 AM and 5:30 PM

**Sun. December 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM Parish Penance Service**

**Wed. December 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass**  
Including the Children's Christmas Pageant

**+ CHRISTMAS MASSES +**

**Wed. December 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 pm Christmas Mass**  
Lessons and Carols at 9:30 PM

**Christmas Day at 10 AM**

**N.B.: ONE MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

### 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 reminder to spell names CLEARLY. Thank you for your continued generosity.*