

**My brothers and sisters,**

As we come to celebrate this 4th Sunday of Advent and immediate preparations for the celebrations of the Nativity of the Lord at Christmas. We are reminded once again that this season Advent has been a time of joyful expectation as we await the coming of the Lord into our hearts, lives and our world. Let us take this week, as we prepare to celebrate Christmas to reflect upon how the Lord has come to make His dwelling within our hearts and lives during these past few weeks and how we are able to continue to welcome Him as we are renewed once again in our Faith.

**Have a great week**  
**Fr. Tony Lonzo**

**Associate Administrator**  
**Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist**

**MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Sun., 12/18	9:30 a.m.	Lucertini, Agriesti and West Families by Family
Sat., 12/24	5:30 p.m.	Mark Petty by Mary Ann (Petty) Thissen & Family
Sun., 12/25	10:00 a.m.	Marianne Mayer (Palma) by Mary Lou Palma

**Blessed Sacrament and Marian Lights Intentions:**

**Blessed Sacrament: Viola Del Greco**

by Blessed Mother Sodality

**Marian Light: Joyce Tisone** by Carol Tisone

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Sun., 12/18	San Giovanni Dance Group Practice 4:30 p.m. Marrapese Hall
Sun., 12/19	Italian Village Men's Faith Sharing Group 6:00 p.m. (Marrapese Hall) SJB Women's Faith Group 6:00 p.m. (Classroom)

*Please remember in your prayers those who are sick or suffering, especially those who are in Hospitals, Nursing Facilities or Homebound suffering.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS\*\***

**THE BARRINGTON OF CARMEL – CARMEL INDIANA:** Yola Rossi

**MOTHER ANGELINE McCrory:** Marie Tarantelli

**THE JAMES:** Sherri Snoad

**AT HOME:** Mike Auddino

**\*\*If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>
<b>Dec. 24 5:30 p.m.</b>	Gabe Bishop Adolfo Gastaldo	Pat Rossetti, Blaise Marcucci, Karen Quick, Gerry Paglione Margaret Panico-Harn
	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>
<b>Dec. 25 10:00 a.m.</b>	Antonio D'Alberto Samantha Fallucco	Leslie Pasian, Ed Pagnanelli, Andrea Myers

**The Rosary before Mass on Sunday:** We begin the Rosary around 9:00-9:05 a.m., and it takes about 15-20 minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact the Men's Faith Sharing group. Leaders for **December** are:

**December 25th – Robert Contino, SFO**

**2016 Liturgical Calendar & Mass Readings**

**December 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
 Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

**December 19 – Late Advent Weekday**  
 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25

**December 20 – Late Advent Weekday**  
 Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38

**December 21 – Late Advent Weekday**  
**St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church**  
 Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45

**December 22 – Late Advent Weekday**  
 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

**December 23 – Late Advent Weekday**  
**St. John of Kanty, Priest**  
 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

**December 24 – Late Advent Weekday**  
 Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79

**December 25 – The Nativity of The Lord (Christmas)**  
**Vigil:** Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25  
**Day:** Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 (16)

\* Pray for our Priests and seminarians

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S**

December 11, 2016

Number of Envelopes Used – 54

In Envelopes: \$2,680.00	Loose Money \$231.00
Regular Collection:	\$ 2,911.00
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	\$ (174.66)
	\$ 2,736.34
Votive Lights	\$ 79.00
Share in the Care	\$ 85.00
St. Anthony Bread	\$ 25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 205.00
50/50	\$ 20.00
	\$ 414.00

**\$\$\$ HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? \$\$\$**

**Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/16-6/30/17)**

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 2,911.00	\$ 26.00	1%
FYTD:	\$ 69,240.00	\$ 63,784.03	(\$ 5,455.97)	-8%

**SJB Collection Counters for**

**Monday, December 19, 2016**

Tom Elliott, Carl Tisone, Gus Gastaldo

**SJB Collection Counters for**

**Monday, December 26, 2016**

Mary Spellacy, Genevive Knouff, Paul Cosentino

**Office Hours:**

The **Parish Office Hours** are 9:00 am until 2:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday.

**GIVING TREE:** Collecting Gift Cards of any denomination from **TARGET, KROGER, WALLMART, MEIJER.** Place Cards or Cash in box under tree in SALA HALL. Gifts for needy families **CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES.**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE****December 24**

Christmas Eve Vigil (SH) 4:00 p.m.  
Christmas Eve Mass (SJB) 5:30 p.m.

**December 25**

Christmas Day (SJB) 10:00 a.m.

**December 31**

New Year's Eve (SH) 4:00 p.m.  
Mary Mother of God Vigil

**January 1**

New Year's Day (SJB) 9:30 a.m.  
New Year's Day (SH) 11:00 a.m.  
Mary Mother of God

**The Home Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima**

In order to promote the Rosary among our families **St. John the Baptist Parish** is launching a home pilgrim statue of our Lady of Fatima. **Quote from Pope Pius IX: "Give me an army praying the Rosary and I will conquer the world."**

This statue can be taken weekly by parishioners to their homes. Remember the Rosary is one of the weapons the Blessed Mother uses to tie Satan down. So please make use of the opportunity afforded by the parish. This pilgrim statue is blessed and when taken to a home will bring about peace in the home. **A weekly sign-up sheet is available in the Sala Hall after 9:30 a.m. Mass** if you have any questions you may email [Antonio@ExitTrinity.com](mailto:Antonio@ExitTrinity.com) or call/text **Antonio D'Alberto at 614-419-2594.**

**Around Us**

**NEW YEARS EVE:** Spend **NEW YEARS EVE** with the daughter of **DEAN MARTIN: DEANA Sings DINO Rick Brunetto Orchestra & DEANA MARTIN. THE BLACKWELL INN at OSU.** Dinner, Show & Dancing. Purchase tickets. [www.rickbrunetto.com](http://www.rickbrunetto.com).

**Pope's December Intentions**

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for specific intentions each month, one for some general worldwide need, and another for a specific need related to evangelization. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for these intentions each month.

**Universal:** That the scandal of child soldiers may be eliminated the world over.

**Evangelization:** That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness and truth of the Gospel which give joy and hope to life.

**The Beauty of the Advent Wreath**

**The Advent Wreath** is a long standing Christmas tradition, adding beauty and light to the season. However, it is easy to let slip the true meaning of Christmas it is meant to call to mind. The wreath is a circle, without beginning or end, symbolizing our participation in God's plan of salvation, and our hope to share eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven. The traditional wreath is made from fresh, natural materials, because Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death and resurrection. There are three purple or white candles, (depending on tradition), symbolizing penance, preparation and sacrifice. The pink (or rose) colored candle symbolizes the same ideas, but it highlights the third Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete* Sunday), when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished. The light itself represents Christ. Some modern adaptations include a white candle in the middle of the wreath which also represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Eve. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord.

– From an article by Fr. William Saunders

**Advent**

**A Poem based on Revelation 22:20 – by W.H. Smaw**

*I am. I was. I will be.*

*I am not coming soon, I am here.*

*I was born on a cold night in a cold place,  
unnoticed, unheralded by cold people*

*who turned my mother away.*

*On that night were you listening?*

*On that night the "least of your brothers" was me.*

*Now do you see, do you hear and do you care?*

*I am not coming soon I am here.*

*In your life do you see me*

*in the ragged men and women*

*who search the cold street*

*looking for my reflection in your heart?*

*Do you hear my voice in their muttered plea or in their tear?*

*I am not coming soon I am here.*

*Do you hear me when your friend turns to you*

*to ask forgiveness and trust?*

*Do I not forgive you always?*

*Do I not give you a merciful ear?*

*I am not coming soon I am here.*

*In this season I was born unto you*

*fulfilling the promise of God's care.*

*Look for me, listen to me...*

*I am not coming soon; I am here.*

