

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the Gospel for this **Second Sunday of Advent**, **Luke** introduces us to the ministry of **St. John the Baptist**. He does so by telling us the civil rulers of the day, including the emperor and the various governors of Palestine. We are familiar with these names: **Caesar, Herod, and Pontius Pilate**. **Luke** also uses a similar introduction when he tells us about the birth of **John the Baptist** and the birth of **Jesus**. You are no doubt familiar with the beginning of **Luke's Christmas** story: "in those day a decree went out from **Caesar Augustus...**" **Luke** is keen to remind his audience that **Jesus'** birth came about in the context of human history. He was immersed in the world the same way we are, being born, growing up amidst tragedy, war, political and social intrigue and discord. If we think that the world in which we live is chaotic and out of control, remember that our Lord came into this chaos to save us and direct us to salvation. He came to change the path of this world and reorder it towards **God's** kingdom. He continues to do this, especially through His Church. We must invite **Jesus** into our lives in order to change the course of our history. Let us change our hearts and minds for **Jesus Christ**.

Have a good week!
Fr. Kitsmiller
Administrator

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sun., 12/9	9:30 a.m.	George Paesano by Linda Henry
Mon., 12/10	5:30 p.m.	Mercede D'Alberto Mandolini by Antonio, Sharon & Family
Sun., 12/16	9:30 a.m.	Sully Caradonna by Antonio Caradonna
Mon., 12/17	5:30 p.m.	Angelina Dinovo by Joe & Dina Milano

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Joyce Tisone
by Carl Tisone
Blessed Sacrament: Toby Derrik
by Chris Soteriades

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sun., 12/9	Altar Guild Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 a.m.
Mon., 12/10	Italian Village Men & Women's Faith Sharing Group Will not be meeting until after the 1st of the year beginning January 7th, 2019

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday	December 9, 2018 – 9:30 a.m.
Lectors:	Gabe Bishop, Landa Brunetto
Eucharistic Ministers	Marge Contino, Ed Pagnanelli, Pete Tamburro, Judy Pishitelli, & Sharon D'Alberto
Sunday	December 16, 2018 – 9:30 a.m.
Lectors:	Adolfo Gastaldo, Bob Contino
Eucharistic Ministers:	Margi Baker, Andrea Myers, Marge Contino, Leslie Pasian & Pete Tamburro

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

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

***If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. Pray for Diamond Boggs, sister of Linda McCreary.*

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 9 Carl Tisone
December 16 Robert Contino, OFS
December 23 Norma Jean Finissi
December 30 Gary Bosco

Anyone interested in leading the Rosary on Sundays, please contact Bob Contino at 614-833-0371. Thank you!

2018 Liturgical Calendar & Mass Readings

December 9 – Second Sunday of Advent
Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
December 10 – Advent Weekday
Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
December 11 – Advent Weekday
Saint Damasus I, Pope
Is 4:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
December 13 – Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr, Saint Nicholas, Bishop
Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
December 14 – Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
December 15 – Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
December 16 – Third Sunday of Advent
Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

*Pray for our Priest and seminarians

Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers a wonderful opportunity to experience **God's** mercy on a very personal level. The Sacrament of **Penance** is a beautiful sacrament through which we are reconciled to **God**, ourselves and our neighbors. Remember the words of **St. Paul**, "God is rich in mercy; because of His great love for us, He brought us to life with **Christ** when we were dead in sin" (Eph 2:4). **Father** is available for Confession prior to Mass, and by calling the office for an appointment.



Office Hours:

The Parish Office hours are **Monday-Friday**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24th
Monday, Sacred Heart 4:00 p.m.
Monday, St. John 5:30 p.m.
Christmas Day, December 25th
Tuesday, St. John 10:00 a.m.
New Year's Eve, December 31st
Monday, Sacred Heart 5:30 p.m.
New Year's Day, January 1st
Tuesday, St. John 10:00 a.m.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

December 2, 2018

Number of Envelopes Used – 52

In Envelopes: \$3,108.00 Loose Money \$219.82

Regular Collection \$ 3,327.82

Less Diocesan 6% Assessment \$ (199.67)
\$ 3,128.15

Votive \$ 35.00
St. Anthony Bread \$ 57.00
Christmas Flowers \$ 160.00
50/50 Drawing \$ 40.00
Total \$ 292.00

?? ?? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? ?? ??

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/18-6/30/19)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$3,327.82	\$ 442.82	15%
FYTD:	\$66,355.00	\$63,473.06	\$(2,881.94)	-5%

SJB Collection Counters

for Monday, December 10, 2018

Maruja Paule & Darlene Rauch

SJB Collection Counters

for Monday, December 17, 2018

Tom Elliott, Maria Lucchin & Mary Spellacy

Landa Masdea Brunetto Premier Book for sale: Sunday, DECEMBER 9th during THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST our parishioner **Landa Masdea Brunetto** will be offering her premier book for sale, **The History of the VALLEY DALE BALLROOM**. Several of our parishioners are mentioned in the pages of this enlightening and sentimental read. **One Dollar** of every purchase will be donated back to **St. John**. Makes a tender **Christmas** gift for every age group. **\$22.00** includes tax. Cash or Checks accepted.

Raffle by Vince Militello: Raffling off a **32 pound Mandarini Aged Sharp provolone** with a retail value of over **\$300.00**. Tickets are **\$2.00 each** or **3 for \$5.00**. Winning ticket will be drawn on either **Sunday, December 9th or 16th**. See **Vince** to get your tickets today.

Christmas Flowers: Christmas poinsettias are available again this year. Flowers may be requested in memory of a loved one and will be placed on the altar throughout the **Christmas Season**. An envelope for **Christmas** poinsettias is included in the **December** offertory envelopes. You may also put your donation and memorial request in a regular envelope and place it in the collection basket. There is a suggested donation of **\$10.00** per poinsettia. The **Christmas** flowers add such beauty to **St. John** during this special time of year. Thank you.

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The month of **December** is dedicated to the **Immaculate Conception**, which is celebrated on **December 8**. As Our Lady Immaculately Conceived is the patroness of the United States of America, **this is a holy day of obligation** in the United States. The first day of **December** falls during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time** and is represented by the liturgical color green. The next 22 days fall during the liturgical season of **Advent** and are represented by the liturgical color purple. The remaining days of **December** mark the beginning of the **Christmas** season. The liturgical color changes to white or gold – a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH THE KILBOURNE SINGERS:

Sacred Heart is hosting a **Christmas Concert** on **Thursday, December 13, at 7:30 p.m.**, featuring the **Kilbourne Singers of Worthington Kilbourne High School**. The **Kilbourne Singers** are an award winning, choral group, who have graced us with several beautiful performances in the past. This is a free concert, and open to all. Come join us and add something very special to your **Christmas** season.

Second Sunday of Advent: As the journey of **Advent** continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of **Christ, John the Baptist's** call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the **Son of God** who comes among us to make divine judgement manifest. The Father, writes **St. John the Evangelist**, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgement to the Son, because He is the Son of man. "Awaken! Remember that **God** comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true **God**, 'the **God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**', is not a **God** who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-**God** who-comes."
~ catholicculture.org

Christmas Giving: Catholic Charities Christmas Collection:

This annual collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations including **J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Center, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul**. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the **Catholic Charities** collection this year. Look for the envelope in your parish giving **December envelope** packet.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of December 2018:

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.



Prayer

*May our thoughtful and courageous living,
Our attention to an active, laboring love,
Our belief in the basic good of every living being,
Reflect your way, O God.*

*To all who strive to turn from evil,
To all who seek the truth of God,
Be quiet wholeness, Be calm speaking,
Be wisdom, Be strength, Be open-handedness and healing generosity,
Be the transformation into the ways of God.*

*Lord God, teach us gentle wisdom, Strengthen us for building peace,
Accompany us on our journey,*

And let us say:

Amen.