

ADVENT

HOPE FOR THE WORLD

Lord,
make us
turn to you;
let us see
your face and
we shall be saved.

PSALM 80



THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

From the Deacon's Desk*Dear friends in Christ,*

Today we begin a new liturgical **Church** year and our **Advent** journey.

It may be hard to believe but I like to refer to **Advent** and **Lent** as “*sister seasons.*” **Advent** is so fast, busy, and buoyant, full of people and prone to parties. **Lent** feels more solemn, advancing with a solitary and contemplative pace, leading us within instead of drawing us outward. **Advent** ends with the birth of a child, whereas **Lent** closes on the passion of a man. It takes a moment to recall that our celebration of **Advent anticipates death**, too, only it's the dissolution of the world as we know it. And **Lent moves relentlessly toward new life**, too, in the dawn of **Easter** morning. In a spiritual sense, **Advent is just the inside-out of Lent**. Though we may use different imagery—cleaning out our stables for the **Christ** child rather than repenting in preparation for the coming **Kingdom**—we are waiting on one and the same hope.

Incarnation and **Resurrection** are two facets of the same mystery: how **God** can share in our mortal life and how we might share in **God's** eternal life. Both events in salvation history open doors that have never been opened before and allow passage into realms never before dreamed of. Both moments in time burst the limits of what human beings thought possible. **Incarnation and Resurrection change what we thought was true of God and what could be true for ourselves.** Though we, locked in linear time as we are, experience these events as distinct, they are inseparable and part of a whole truth about our relationship with **God** and **God** being with us.

Advent serves, as **Lent** does, as **a period of preparation for wonder.** **Advent** this year is one more opportunity to put ourselves confidently in the hands of the potter and allow the re-fashioning to begin. As today's **Gospel** reminds us, we do not know the precise hour when the wheel stops spinning, and the potter's work is done. But our ignorance of the hour doesn't mean we are unaware that the clock is ticking. We know there are almost **four** weeks until **Christmas**, and almost **five** until the end of the secular year—but we do not know how long the world will last, nor how many days or hours are left to each of us. Why not use this season as a grateful chance to start again, while we wait in joyful hope for the world worth waiting for?

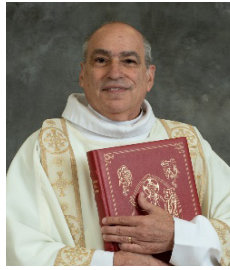
While our celebrations may be different this year, there is much we can do to prepare our minds and hearts for the truth of **His** coming. May we take time to quiet ourselves—to step aside—to purify—to contemplate—and to allow ourselves to be transformed by what we see.

Saint John the Baptist pray for us!
Happy Advent,
Deacon Frank

Dear **St. John Parishioners** join me periodically on **St. Brigid of Kildare Parish** livestream. If you missed it, the videos are available at **St. Brigid YouTube channel** and **St. Brigid of Kildare Facebook page.**

**Celebrant for Sunday Mass,
 December 6, Msgr. Cody**

**Confessions Heard before Mass
 Sundays at 9:00 a.m.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Sunday, November 29, 2020, 9:30 a.m. | |
| Lector: | Ed Pagnanelli |
| Eucharistic Min.: | Antonio D'Alberto |
| Sunday, December 6, 2020, 9:30 a.m. | |
| Lector: | TBA |
| Eucharistic Min.: | TBA |

PARISH INFORMATION

*The Italian Catholic Community at St. John the Baptist
 Corner of E. Lincoln and Hamlet Streets
 Church Mailing Address: 168 E. Lincoln Street,
 Columbus, Ohio 43215
 (614) 294-5319, Fax: (614) 294-4303*

*Livestream our 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on our
 St. John the Baptist Facebook page or by visiting our
 website www.sjbitaliana.com*

*Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day and Friday
 Email: info@sjbitaliana.org*

Deacon Frank Iannarino – Administrator
Msgr. John Cody – Weekend Assistant
Father Charles Klinger – Weekend Assistant
Father Charles Cotton – Weekend Assistant
Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain,
 Korean Catholic Community
Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant
Ms. Victoria Gammell – Secretary and Bulletin Editor
Mrs. Gina Bishop – Director of Liturgy
Mr. John Huffman – Organist and Musical consultant

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – 9:30 a.m. each Sunday
Sacrament of Penance – 9:00 a.m. (before Sunday Mass or by appointment)

Sacrament of Baptism and Baptism preparation (by appointment)

Sacrament of Matrimony (you must be registered at **Saint John** at least 6 months prior to scheduling your wedding by Deacon or Priest)

Sacrament of Confirmation and Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults (please make an appointment with Parish Administrator)

Saint John Italian Festival (please visit our website for more information)

Sala Hall and Marrapese Hall (scheduled with approval of Parish Administrator)

Bulletin Deadline: Announcements must be submitted in writing by Tuesday at noon.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

| Catholic Churches | Saturday | Sunday |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---|
| St. Patrick's | 7:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. | 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m. |
| Sacred Heart Church | 4:00 p.m. | 11:00 a.m. |
| St. Joseph Cathedral | 5:15 pm | 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:15 pm |
| St. Mary Mother of God GV | 4:00 p.m. | 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. |
| St. Francis Assisi | No Mass | 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. |

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

| | | |
|------------|-----------|---|
| Sun. 11/22 | 9:30 a.m. | Giovanni and Valeria Capoccia by Maria Capoccia & Family |
| Sun. 11/22 | 9:30 a.m. | Rina Tiberi by Claudio Carifa & Family |
| Sun. 12/06 | 9:30 a.m. | Carolyn Panzera by Sam and Donna Troiano |
| Sun. 12/06 | 9:30 a.m. | John DiCarlo by the Militello Family |

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: *Joyce Tisone*
by Carl Tisone
Blessed Sacrament: *Wes Walker*
by Chris Soteriades

EVENTS THIS WEEK

| | |
|------------|--|
| Sun. 11/29 | KCC Mass – Fr. Kim, 12:00 p.m. 1:00-2:30 p.m. Meeting (Sala Hall) |
| Mon. 11/30 | Italian Village Catholic Faith Sharing Group, 6:00 p.m. (Marrapese Hall) |
| Tues. 12/1 | Parish Advisory Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m. (Library) Piave Club Meeting and Christmas Party canceled. Future Meetings canceled until further notice. |
| Fri. 12/4 | KCC Mass – Fr. Kim, 7:00 p.m. |

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

| Catholic Churches | Christmas Eve | Christmas Day |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Sacred Heart | 4:00 p.m. Midnight Mass | No Mass |
| St. John's | 5:30 p.m. | No Mass |
| KCC | 8:00 p.m. | 10:30 a.m. |
| St. Francis of Assisi | 5:00 p.m. | 10:00 a.m. |
| St. Patrick | 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 and 12 Midnight Mass | 7:00, 8:30, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. |

2020 Liturgical Calendar & Mass Readings

November 29 – *First Sunday of Advent*
Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
November 30 – *Saint Andrew, Apostle*
Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22
December 1 – *Advent Weekday*
Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
December 2 – *Advent Weekday*
Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
December 3 – *Saint Francis Xavier, Priest*
Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
December 4 – *Advent Weekday*
Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
December 5 – *Advent Weekday*
Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-30:1, 5a, 6-8
December 6 – *Second Sunday of Advent*
Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

**Pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated religious life.*

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. For Vienna D'Alberto, who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village.**

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 November and December are:

November 29 Margaret Contino, OFS
December 6 Robert Contino, OFS
December 13 Carl Tisone

If you would like to volunteer to lead the Rosary, contact the office at 614-294-5319 for more information.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN

November 22, 2020

Number of Envelopes Used Sunday – 25

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Env.: | \$ 1,455.00 |
| ACH: | \$ 1,298.33 |
| Loose: | \$ 0.00 |
| Total: | \$ 2,753.33 |
| Less Diocesan 6% Assessment | \$ (165.20) |
| | \$ 2,588.13 |
| Votive: | \$ 33.00 |
| Campaign for Human Development: | \$ 50.00 |
| Capital Improvements | \$ 25.00 |
| Total: | \$ 108.00 |

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

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/20-6/30/21)

| | Budgeted | Actual | Difference (\$) | (%) |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-----|
| This Week: | \$ 2,885.00 | \$ 2,753.33 | (\$ 131.67) | -5% |
| FYTD: | \$60,585.00 | \$57,175.75 | (\$3,409.25) | -6% |

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, November 30, 2020

Aggie Howard and Rose Ann Graf

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, December 7, 2020

Aggie Howard and Linda McCreary

50/50 Winner: Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Sam McCreary, winners of the October 50/50 Drawing. Thank you to all who support the church!

Book of Remembrance of the Dead

Each Year we begin the month of November by celebrating the Feast of All Saints and All Souls. Traditionally, we place the Book of the Remembrance of the Dead in our church. I have placed the names of all those who have been buried here from our parish at Saint John the Baptist since last year in our book that is now located in front of the beautiful Madonna Mosaic as you enter the Baptismal Chapel. Please feel free to inscribe the names of anyone you wish to remember and light a small vigil candle in their memory. If you are not attending Mass due to the pandemic restriction, you may call the parish office at 614-294-5319 and we will inscribe the name and light a candle for you. You can also email Vicky at vgammell@sjbitaliana.org or Aggie at ahoward@sjbitaliana.org to let us know the names you would like written in the book.



Kroger Plus Cards Earn for St. John the Baptist – You could be earning money for St. John the Baptist just by using your **Kroger Plus Card**. Simply link your **Kroger Plus Card** to **St. John the Baptist** through **Kroger's** website at www.kroger.com Once your card is linked, a portion of your purchase price will be donated to **St. John's**. Participation in this program **WILL NOT** have any effect on earning fuel perks. The process takes just a few minutes and is an easy way to help our **parish**. **Thank you for your support!**

PAVERS: The front **Pavilion** of **St. John's Church** is covered with **Pavers**. These **Pavers** are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information please call the office of **St. John's** at 614-294-5319.

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: First Sunday of Advent: In this new liturgical year, the **Church** not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow **Christ, the Lord**. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich, and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the **One** who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire **Liturgy of the Advent** season, will spur us to an awakening in our **Christian** life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for **Our Lord Jesus** who is coming.

Holy Father's Intention for November 2020: *We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.*

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection: Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development!** Your support will help those on the margins who are living in poverty in the **United States**. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! [Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections).

Retirement Fund for Religious: In good times and bad, senior **Catholic** sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Catholic Charities Christmas Help 2020: is a listing of items needed to help clients of our diocesan-sponsored **Catholic** charities. The people who they serve need the basics: **food, clothing, personal hygiene products, and household items**. They also need volunteers. To access the bulletin list online, visit www.columbuscatholic.org/social-concerns-office.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Diocesan Celebration: A diocesan-wide celebration in honor of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** will take place on **Saturday, December 12, 10 a.m.-noon** at **St. Joseph Cathedral**. There will be songs, dance, a keynote speaker, and Rosary. The event will culminate with **Mass** with **Archbishop Christophe Pierre**, the **Apostolic Nuncio** to the **United States**. Due to the pandemic, there will be a limited number of invited guests in the **Cathedral** that day. However, everyone is encouraged to participate virtually via television (**NBC4**), **radio (103.1 La Mega)**, and **social media (YouTube)**. The event will be in **Spanish**, with **English** translation available. If you have any questions regarding this celebration, please email **Lisset Mendoza** at lmendoza@columbuscatholic.org.

Divine Worship Office: The **Diocesan Liturgical Calendar for 2020-21** is posted and available to download via the following link on **Divine Worship's** webpage. You can also find a copy of the **2020-21 Holy Days of Obligation** there as well. <https://columbuscatholic.org/liturgical-calendar>.

Divine Worship has also dedicated a page on their office's website to resources and information available for parishes and families to use during the seasons of **Advent and Christmas**. For more information please visit: <https://columbuscatholic.org/pandemic-advent-christmas-resources>. The resources will continually be added to during the season.



The Beauty of the Advent Wreath: The **Advent Wreath** is a long-standing **Christmas** tradition, adding beauty and light to the season. The wreath is a circle, without beginning or end, symbolizes 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, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice. The pink or rose-colored candle highlights the **Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**, when we rejoice because our preparation is now halfway finished. The light itself represents **Christ**. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our **Lord**.

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man."

~Pope Francis

'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", it not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the God-who-comes.'

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Celebration of First Vespers of Advent, Vatican Basilica, December 2006



"May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Mark 13:36

Prayer

*Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty **God**, the resolve to run forth to meet your **Christ** with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly **Kingdom**. Through our **Lord Jesus Christ**, your **Son**, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the **Holy Spirit**, one **God**, for ever and ever.*

Amen

Sunday, Nov 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Keep your eyes open

Nothing is more empowering than a fresh start. Advent brings with it a new gospel to guide us through the new liturgical year: Mark, the shortest of the four narratives about Jesus. Consider reading all 16 chapters at the start of the liturgical year to grasp the breathless beauty of Mark's story. Reflect on other ways to stay alert to new spiritual discoveries, in keeping with Jesus' summons: "Watch!" Pay attention, not just to the news of the day but also to the movements of the Spirit in you. Where might you be prompted to forgive, be generous, get involved, or keep silent?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37 (2). *"What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"*

Monday, Nov 30, 2020

FEAST OF ANDREW, APOSTLE

First responder

Saint Andrew has a special place in the collective heart of Scotland. He is sometimes known as the "first called" apostle because of his early encounter and following of Jesus, alongside his better-known brother and fellow fisherman Simon Peter. When confronting his own crucifixion in the year 60, it is said Andrew chose an X-shaped cross, or saltire, because he felt unworthy to be crucified on the same kind of cross as Jesus. That saltire is now Scotland's national flag. Follow the Scottish example: Give first-called Andrew a special place in your heart.

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22 (684). *"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Tuesday, Dec 01, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

A light shines in the darkness

In this first week of Advent, the church highlights the theme of hope. We remember that the "people who walk in darkness will see a great light." Good news at this time of long nights as we are reeling mentally, physically, financially, emotionally from the coronavirus pandemic and find it hard to cope. But today is also World AIDS Day, a time to remember another virus-borne pandemic that has killed more than 30 million worldwide, calling to mind the inspiring way our world can come together at its best to respond to terrible diseases. Pray for an increase in hope and healing today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24 (176). *"There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain."*

Wednesday, Dec 02, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Martyrs in our time

Forty years ago today, four American churchwomen were murdered and dumped in a shallow grave in a cow pasture in Santiago Nonualco, El Salvador. Maryknoll sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline sister Dorothy Kazel, and lay missionary Jean Donovan were victims of the country's civil war, killed by members of the Salvadoran National Guard. The women knew they faced danger and yet they could not leave the people. Jean Donovan wrote in a letter two weeks before her death: "Several times I have decided to leave El Salvador. I almost could, except for the children, the poor bruised victims of this insanity."

Inspired by the life and martyrdom of Archbishop Saint Oscar Romero, all four women shared a commitment to the church's "preferential option for the poor." Ita, Maura, Dorothy, and Jean—you walk with us still and we remember.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37 (177). *"Jesus summoned his disciples and said, 'My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, for they . . . have nothing to eat.'"*

Thursday, Dec 03, 2020

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

Gain from apparent loss

While focus is often on Francis' youthful fervor, which sparked his missionary adventures in Asia, less emphasis falls on his maturation. In Japan, he learned to appreciate local culture, connecting it with the gospel. While ocean travel in the 16th century was perilous, long separation from Ignatius of Loyola may have been an even greater suffering. Francis was one of Ignatius' first companions at the founding of the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits, as they are commonly known. And imagine Francis' disappointment when he couldn't reach his ultimate dream destination: China. Have you ever had a "dream deferred," an unrealized goal? What have you learned from the apparent failure that you might not have learned from success?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27 (178). *"The house . . . did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock."*

Friday, Dec 04, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF DAMASCUS, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

An iconic witness

History takes some strange turns. John Damascene is considered one of the great fathers of the Eastern Church, known today for its beautiful iconographic representations of the communion of saints. Yet back in the seventh century, John had to *defend* the use of icons against a movement in the East to ban them. And who protected him from being arrested by his powerful opponents? The Muslim caliph of Damascus under whose rule John lived and served administratively. Beneath the twists of history, search for the hidden story of salvation, unfolding through the centuries and before our eyes in these iconic times as well.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31 (179). *"Then he touched their eyes and said, 'Let it be done for you according to your faith.' And their eyes were opened."*

Saturday, Dec 05, 2020

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Pay it forward

Why is it that the season of Lent seems to get all the instructions of what to do—prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—but with Advent, we have no handy summary about what to actually do during the season—besides wait? Sure, we have our creches and wreaths, maybe even a Jesse tree or, better yet, an Advent calendar with chocolate hidden behind each door. While all these customs are good, how can we "effect"—that is, bring about—the new life we so eagerly await? The world may have an answer for us. Today marks International Volunteer Day. How can you put into action on behalf of others your faith and expectation of new life in God?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 (180). *"Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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