

Parish of St. Sylvester

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

"You . . . must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come." —Matthew 24:44



Liturgies and Intentions for the Week

Nov. 26 - Vigil for First Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. = Rosa Noone

Nov. 27 - First Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. = All souls intentions

10:00 a.m. = Ismael and Marciana Holipas

12:00 noon = All souls intentions

Monday, Nov. 28 - Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. = Jennie Camarda

Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. = Merlita Olivares

Wednesday, Nov. 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle

8:30 a.m. = Richard Biscardi

Thursday, Dec. 1 - Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. = Bernard Iammatteo

Friday, Dec. 2 - Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. = Mr. and Mrs. Di Lallo

Saturday, Dec. 3 - St. Francis Xavier, priest

9:00 a.m. = Brian and Carol Cannizzaro

Dec. 3 - Vigil for Second Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. = Pracelis Leung

Dec. 4 - Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. = Mary Brescia

10:00 a.m. = Louise Milza

12:00 noon = and Anna Martucci



before the Tabernacle this week the
Sanctuary Lamp burns
in memory of

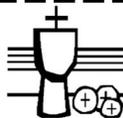
Brian and Carol Cannizzaro

requested by **Sister Portu**

The **Bread and Wine** are offered
this week in memory of

Brian and Carol Cannizzaro

requested by **Sister Portu**



Weekly Collections Our Parish Family's Support on . . .

Nov. 20, 2016

1st collection - \$4,207.00

Human Development - \$1,163.00



PLEASE PRAY . . . for those anticipating a hospital stay, recuperating, the homebound in our parish, and in our families. Please keep this list near the place where you pray each day so that you remember them throughout the week.

Victor Andrea, Antonia Carlino, Lucille Chatznoff, Frances Cirincione, Dr. Nicolas C. Lansigan, Jr., Stephen Cucci, Jean De Santis, Robert Forlenza, Thomas Galvin, John and Connie Garbarino, Connie Gorrasi, Agnes Jennings, Bridget Kehley, Frank Labano, Rose Marchese, Louis Matos, Delia Murguia, Joseph Murguia, Amy O'Donnell, Joseph Palumbo, Lee Poyntz, Carmela Rogan, Annette Scardigno, Louise Stanley



Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands, especially those from our parish family and community . . .

Seaman Daniel Brennan - USN

SR Francis S. Cummings - USN

SR Michael J. Cummings - USN

Col. Jeffrey N. Davila, MD - USAF

Francesca DiSimone-Biggins - US Army

Lucia DiSimone-Biggins - USMC

Ryan Foley - USMC

Lt. Col. Jay Le Pore - USAF in Japan

Col. Patrick J. Mahaney, Jr. - US Army

Prescod Montgomery - US Army in Iraq

Ensign II Steven Passignajen-Trimble - US N/Persian Gulf

Samuel Rios - USAF

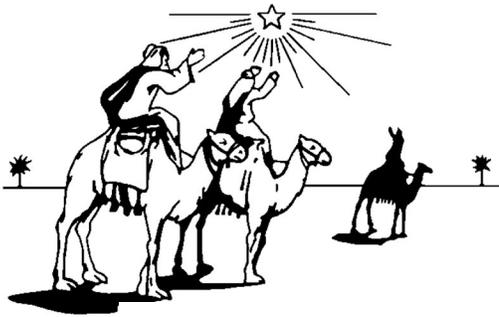
Darrin Sack

Major Michael Volpe - US Army



Suzanne Reale Criscione
and
Christopher David Vuoncino
to be wed Dec. 3, 2016

St. Sylvester Parish - 854 Targee Street - Concord - Staten Island, NY 10304



Join us

as we journey

toward ***Christmas***

December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Tree Lighting @ 5:00 p.m.

followed by Refreshments in the Parish Hall

December 11 - Parish Christmas Dinner Dance

3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

December 18 - Lessons and Carols

After the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Church

December 19 - Reconciliation Monday - in the church

Confessions heard 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

December 24 - Christmas Eve of the Nativity - in the church

Vigil for Christmas Mass - at 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Carols with the Choir - 11:00 p.m.

'Midnight' Mass - in the church at 11:30 p.m.

December 25 - Christmas Day of the Nativity - in the church

Masses at 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

December 31 - Vigil for Sunday/Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Mass at 4:00 p.m.

January 1 - Sunday/Feast of Mary, Mother of God

usual Mass schedule: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

Christ is in our midst!

**First I was dying to finish high school and start college.
And then I was dying to finish college and start working.
Then I was dying to marry and have children.
And then I was dying for my children to grow old enough
so I could go back to work. But then I was dying to retire.
And, now, I am dying ... And suddenly I realized I forgot to live.**

**Please don't let this happen to you.
Appreciate your current situation
and thank God for the good and the bad in your life.
If you are living for God,
your current situations are working for good.**

**Remember that every day is a day of thanksgiving.
Give God the praise for what He is doing in your life right now.
Perhaps something is amiss or has gone awry,
but the Lord is still in charge
and He has promised never to leave you or to forsake you.
The song declares that,
"This Too Shall Pass",
because God is working it out for you.**

While you are in the now, God is in the NOT YET!!!





**Pastor's
Corner**

My Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis' Jubilee Year of Mercy has ended. The Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica has closed. However, although the Jubilee Year of Mercy ends, our thoughts, words, and works must continue to be born of Christ's mercy, sharing his mercy with others.

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, is also the first day of the Christian year. For many of us the start of a new year is a time for beginnings, new resolve, and new efforts. Last year may not have been all we wanted it to be, but now we can start fresh. Is there a better occasion for preparing for our own rebirth than Advent, the time when we ready ourselves to celebrate Christ's birth?

What do New Year's resolutions look like? I will eat better, exercise more, and lose a little weight. I will spend less time watching television and take that course I've always meant to begin. I will organize my life and get rid of the things I don't need any more. These are all good, but let's leave those kinds of resolutions for December 31.

Instead, let's turn to St. Paul. We can find some good New Year advice in his almost 2,000 year old letter to the Christians at Thessalonika. Keep it simple, Paul says. Allow God to "make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all" and "strengthen your hearts in holiness."

Imagine what this Advent season would look like—indeed our whole lives—if we listened to Paul and resolved to renew our hearts so they move closer to God and become more open to loving those all around us.

Keep smiling,

Fr. Jacob



When you are next in the Parish Hall look UP! Brand new, lighting has been installed! This next step in our RENEW + REBUILD campaign—the Energy Efficiency Project—is becoming a reality. Because Lifestyles is sharing in this with us, quite soon the entire school building will shine with this same cost-saving new illumination. Your participation in RENEW+REBUILD is making this happen!



*"...they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them
and found them worth of Himself."*

Edna Rettagliata

returned to the Lord's embrace.



St. Sylvester Youth Group

Join our

OK Clean Water Project

We're collecting rinsed, clean redeemable cans and plastic bottles to help finance water management teams bringing clean water to remote villages in Cameroon.

Will you help?

Bring your contributions to Hospitality Sunday in the Parish Hall on the 1st Sunday of each month after the 10 a.m. Mass, beginning on

Dec. 4. **START SAVING!** To learn more go to:

<http://www.okcleanwaterproject.org/>

presented by

THE STATEN ISLAND BALLET

SAT., Dec. 17: 3PM & 7PM

SUN., DEC. 18: 2PM & 5PM

CSI CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Charge by phone: 718-980-0500

All seats reserved—\$50/\$40

New York Times: "The spirit goes beyond the show." This professional production brings charm and good will as we celebrate the Greatest Gift.

GRACE INSTITUTE of NYC calling young women ages 18-24. We offer tuition-free job training & paid on-the-job training..Young Adult seminars 5-month computer & professional training-1-yr. job placement services w/80% placement rate. To **Attend an Open House** register at admissions@graceinstitute.org Classes will begin March 2017.



Begin your Christmas shopping the easy way—SHOP ON-LINE...

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of S. I. has teamed up with Yankee Candle to

raise money for the needy here in our communities.

Shop with their on-line fundraiser through January 11th to help them reach their goal:

www.yankeecandlefundraising.com

using the group 990103926