



ST•JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

"What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you, so that you may share life with us." 1 John 1:3

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

CLERGY

Reverend Timothy F. O'Sullivan
Pastor

thepastor@stjohnpa.org

Reverend Walter J. Benn
Temporary Administrator

Weekend Assistants

Reverend Patrick Brady

Deacon James E. Hartmann

Deacon Robert P. Gellentien

RECTORY

752 Big Oak Road

Morrisville, PA 19067

215.295.4102

Fax 215.295.3128

sjeoffices@stjohnpa.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday

9 AM - 5 PM

No office hours Saturday & Sunday,
except by appointment

PREP OFFICE

728 Big Oak Road

215.295.9239

prepoffice@stjohnpa.org

PREP-RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTIONS

Sunday 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Monday 5:15 PM to 6:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism preparation should begin before the child is born. All expecting parents and parents of newborn children are asked to enroll themselves in our parish Baptism Preparation Program. Baptism preparation is our Pre-Jordan class (2nd Monday in March, June, September and December at 7:00 PM in the Deacon James Hartmann Meeting Room). Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM. Please contact the Parish office for more information



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:30 PM

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM

Weekdays Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

Holy Days Vigil Mass: 5:30 PM

(Also see Church bulletin)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Other times by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made with the priest at least 6 months before the wedding.

Attendance at Pre-Marital Classes required.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

Fridays: 3:00 PM in the Chapel

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesdays: after 8:00 AM Mass until 6:50 PM

BLUE ARMY DEVOTION

Tuesdays: 7:00 PM in the Chapel

VISITATION CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED MOTHER

Spend time in prayer and reflection from 6:00 AM till 8:00 PM

Monday through Saturday

PARISH STAFF

Sister Marganne Drago, SSJ
Pastoral Associate and Director
of Liturgical Ministries, ext. 116
srmdrago@stjohnpa.org

Mrs. Barbara Ann Nuzzolo
Director Religious Education
prepdirector@stjohnpa.org

Mrs. Leona Furente
Business Manager, ext. 102
businessmanager@stjohnpa.org

Ms. Meghan Horn
Youth Ministry, ext. 118
youthministries@stjohnpa.org

Ms. Darlene Morales
Parish Secretary, ext. 100
sjeoffices@stjohnpa.org

Mrs. Maureen Traynor
Administrative Assistant, ext. 111
adminasst@stjohnpa.org

Mrs. Joan Crawford
Music Ministry
musicministry@stjohnpa.org

Mr. Walter Burek
Web Administrator
Web@stjohnpa.org

RCIA - RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The R.C.I.A. is a process of welcoming new members into the Catholic Church. It also welcomes baptized Catholics who have not received Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation. For information contact the Parish Office at sjeoffices@stjohnpa.org.

LECTIO DIVINA

Thursdays: after 8:00 AM Mass
in the Chapel

On the web at www.stjohnpa.org



The Parish "Temp" December 10, 2017

Well, Christians throughout the world have entered into the wonderful Season of Advent. Sometimes, celebrations come upon us so quickly, that when they arrive, we look back at the preceding days with a bit of regret because we didn't invest time in preparing for that celebration. Belatedly, we realize that the celebration was diminished because we allowed ourselves to become distracted with the many things going on in our lives.

Here it is and already we are celebrating the "Second" Week of Advent. What have we done with the First Week? How have we prepped ourselves to be enriched for the coming graces of the Christmas Season? If you feel that you don't have much to show for this past week, don't beat yourself up, but at the same time don't shrug your spiritual shoulders and become indifferent about what you can still do. I encourage you to look for 5-10-15 minutes of "Me Time" with Our Lord. This is time that will not be given to you; **you and I must make the time**, which will probably involve sacrificing something else in order to make room for it in our daily life. Consider making a daily or occasional visit to the parish chapel during the week, even if it is only for a few minutes. Resolve to seek out Our Lord....Your Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If it has been a while and you don't know where to begin, no problem. That is why the confessor is there; to help walk you through it. If there is something that you dread or have avoided confessing; trust in the compassion of Our Lord. It was for you that He came into the world. The confessor is not there to perform a spiritual autopsy on you. Rather, he is there to lead you to Our Savior for the healing that each of us needs. Try to do something as a family, commit to spending a few minutes around your Advent Wreath or pray even one decade of the Rosary. Surely, each of us can handle one Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's and a Glory Be to the Father. Whatever you do; whenever you do it; with whomever you do it spend time with your Messiah!

*Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Walter J. Benn*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Saturday, December 23rd beginning at 9:00 AM. If you are able to give us any time that day to help make our Church beautiful for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, please come and join us!

THIS WEEK AT ST•JOHN THE EVANGELIST ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

Sunday, December 10

Adopt-A Family Christmas Food Drop-off
PREP Classes, 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM
Dick Wilson/ & Chuck Meyrick Memorial Men's Coat Drive, 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM
Jesse Tree Sort after 11:30 Mass

Monday, December 11

PREP Classes & PREP Confessions, 5:15 PM to 6:30 PM
Children's Choir, 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Pre-Jordan Catechesis, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Tuesday, December 12

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30 AM to 6:50 PM
Little Flowers Girls Club, 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM
YDisciple (All HS Boys), 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Benediction, 6:50 PM to 7:00 PM
Blue Army Holy Hour, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Bible Study, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Wednesday, December 13

Rosary at Manor Care, 6:15 PM to 6:45 PM
Shared Meal, Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Seton Society Meeting, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Thursday, December 14

Lectio Divina, 8:35 PM to 9:35 PM
YDisciple, (All HS Girls), 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Adult Choir Practice, 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Friday, December 15

Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Jr. CYO Meeting, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Rosary, 7:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 16

Miraculous Medal Novena, immediately following 8:00 AM Mass
Adopt-A-Family Food Drop-off, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Confessions, 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

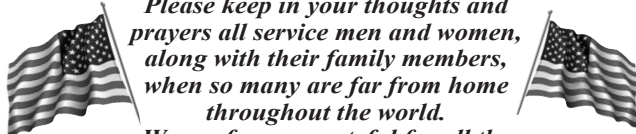
December Food Drive

December's food drive will be held next weekend, December 16th and 17th. That's assuming parishioners have any food (or money) left after last month's bonanza. At Mary's Cupboard, the November collection weighed in at 504 pounds, the second largest amount in well over a year. And, as you can guess, your generosity will help a lot more people in need throughout our Lower Bucks community. Here's wishing God's Blessing to all and a Very, Merry Christmas.

ADVENT PRESENTATION

An Advent Presentation by Father Benn and Sister Marganne will be held in the Church Chapel next Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 PM. All are welcome!

God Bless Our Service Members



Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all service men and women, along with their family members, when so many are far from home throughout the world. We are forever grateful for all the sacrifices that they and their families have made.

Lt. Timothy Abbracciamento
(son of John and Ana Abbracciamento)

Lt. Commander Matthew Piasecki
(nephew of Alan and Linda Marquis)

Majors David and Ann Driscoll
(grandchildren of Joseph and Mary Loncosky)

Chief Petty Officer Jim Buckley, USN
(cousin of Linda Russell)

Second Lt. Daniel P. Cummings
(son of John and Christina Cummings)

Ensign Stephanie G. Radzinski, USN
(daughter of Rick and Maria Radzinski)



REST IN PEACE



In your kindness, please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **David Rudolph,**

husband of Mary Jean Rudolph.

May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

DECEASED PARISHIONER CANDLES

The candles that were burning during the month of November in memory of the deceased parishioners in 2016-2017 may now be taken home by a family member or friend. Please stop by the parish office during the week and we will be happy to give it to you. If you cannot stop by, please call the office and we can make another arrangement.

We continue to remember and pray for all of our deceased parishioners, family members, and friends.



SETON SOCIETY

Meeting on Wednesday, December 13th, 7:00 pm
in the Convent Meeting Room.

A grief support group for everyone

Grief, no matter where it comes from, can only be resolved by connecting to other people. - Thomas Horn

For more information for individual or group support, please call Tom Brunner, 215-734-3031. (All discussions are confidential)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 10 Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM John Niedermeyer

9:30 AM Art Toman, requested by the Hertkorn Family

11:30 AM All the Members of our Parish

Monday, December 11: Saint Damascus I

8:00 AM Kaitlin Abel, requested by the Gladwell Family

Tuesday, December 12: Tuesday in Advent

8:00 AM Jack Young, requested by the Knights of Columbus #7515

Wednesday, December 13: Saint Lucy

8:00 AM Sister Honor Keirans requested by the Vassallo Family

Thursday, December 14: Saint John of the Cross

8:00 AM Victor Napolitano, requested by the Napolitano Family

Friday, December 15: Friday in Advent

8:00 AM Lucille Falorio, requested by Walter and Frannie Burek

Saturday, December 16: Saturday in Advent

8:00 AM Anna Escher, requested by Janet Groome

5:30 PM Matthew Graves, requested by the Graves/Kirlin Families

Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Maria Smith, requested by Larry and Linda Smith

9:30 AM All the Members of our Parish

11:30 AM Living and Deceased members of the Witt Family, requested by the Family

NEW ALTAR SERVER SIGN UP TIME!

Any child in grades 4-6 who is interested in becoming an altar server is invited to attend one of the following training sessions:

Tuesday, December 12 at 4:15 p.m.

Thursday, December 14 at 4:15 p.m.

The session will last approximately 75 minutes and will be held in Church. Please contact Sister Marganne at srmdrago@stjohnpa.org OR just come!!

Next Sunday's Readings – December 17, 2017

Prepare for Sunday Mass by reading, reflecting and praying the readings with family and friends.

Reading 1

Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11

Responsorial Psalm

Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

Reading 2

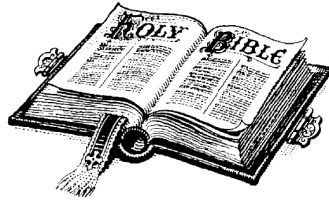
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Alleluia

Isaiah 61:1

Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28



ADMINISTRATION

Fourth Sunday in November 2017

Regular Sunday Collection	\$ 12,600
Number of Envelopes	360

Fourth Sunday in November 2016

Regular Sunday Collection	\$ 14,477
Number of Envelopes	411
YTD Collection (July 1, 2017 – November 26, 2017)	\$282,698
Average Number of Envelopes	365

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Come, Let Us Worship The Lord!

On the Weekend of December 2/3, 2017

N/A people joined us at our 5:30 PM Mass;

184 people joined us at our 7:30 AM Mass;

307 people joined us at our 9:30 AM Mass;

and, 276 people joined us at our 11:30 AM Mass.

Thank You For Making The Lord A Priority In Your Life!



HOSTS FOR CELIAC DISEASE

We have special hosts available to anyone who suffers from Celiac disease. Only those who suffer from Celiac disease may use these hosts. Please see Father Benn or Father Brady before Mass.



McCAFFREY'S Help Your Church! Non-Cash Fundraiser

Please continue to save your McCaffrey's grocery receipts and deposit them in our marked box located in the vestibule of the Church. For all receipts collected, Saint John's, in turn will receive 1% back from McCaffrey's.

Thank you!

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Adoration Society: Maria DiDonato, Cynthia Mariotti

Adult Faith Formation: Debbie Brzezynski, 267.918.8834

Aid for Friends: Mary Africa, 215.428.9581

Altar Servers: Father Timothy O'Sullivan, 215.295.4102

Community Food Dr.: Cathy & Joe McLean, 267.833.3177

Blessed Counters: Father Timothy O'Sullivan, 215.295.4102

CYO Athletic Directors: Mike & Mary McGill,
215.337.8282

Disability Advocate: Kathy Ross, 215.736.8017

Extraordinary Ministers Holy Communion:
Sister Marganne Drago, 215.295.4102

Faith in Action/Staying Put in Bucks County:
Susan Cridge, 215.295.5726

Funeral Liturgy Assistance: Kathy Ross, 215.736.8017

Hospitality/Bakery Basket: Ann Damron, 215.736.3527

Knights of Columbus #7515: Grand Knight,
Joseph Retallick, 267.997.1087

Lectors: Sister Marganne Drago, 215.295.4102

Men's Faith Share: Vince Bodnar, 215.321.5155

Pastoral Council: Magda Manetas, 215.295.2512

Prayer Network: Lisa Petrino, 215.295.6468

Respect Life: Ed Barry, 215.295.4335

Seton Society: Tom Brunner, 215.734.3031

Social Concerns Committee: Diane Coyle, 215.493.8472

Ushers/Greeters: Jim Karkosak, 215.493.3463

Women of the Word Prayer Group:
Bunny Maffey, 215-369-3183

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Robert Amadio, Merriam B. (friend of Kristen Yost), Nancy Baradziej, Michael Barkovich (son of Michael and Diana Barkovich), Tom Biester, Carol Buiocchi (mother of Laura Parto), John Camerlengo, (brother of Carmine Camerlengo), Kathy Camerlengo (niece of Carmine Camerlengo), Claudia (4 yrs. old - granddaughter of Karen and William DiBraccio), Louis D., Edward, Dennis Flynn (daughter-in-law's father of Chris and Diane Ledes), Patricia Funk, Pauline Garceau (mother of Kathryn DeMorro), Peter Garceau (brother of Kathryn DeMorro), Ann M., Joseph Jaconski (brother of Mary DiTanna), Annette Macecevic (wife of Joe Macecevic), Linda Mahoney, Bernard Matulis, Derrick and Marty Warren, Joseph Wasiakowski (husband of Shirley Wasiakowski), and all residents of Manor Care and Arden Court.

VISITING THE SICK

If a family member is sick, in the hospital, at home or in a Nursing Home, and they would like a short visit by one of our members, please call the Parish Office at **215-295-4102.**

PREP HAPPENINGS

Barbara Ann Nuzzolo, Director of Religious Education

SEE MORE ABOUT PREP ON THE WEBSITE:

<http://www.stjohnpa.org/PREP> or call 215-295-9239

Today, we are introducing you to Mrs. Ami Taddei who has been with the PREP program as an aide and now she returned for her fourth year as a teacher for Grade 4 on Sunday mornings. Her family supports her effort to teach the fourth graders while her children, Eryn, Kennan, and Connor attend PREP. The Taddei family is well known in this parish since the time her husband Ken was a student here at St. John the Evangelist School. (And I know first -hand what a good student he was!!)

Mrs. Taddei brings a new perspective to her 11 students when she does Scripture activities that include skits and interactive activities. Her goal is for the students to learn and understand the rules God has given them and to apply the Beatitudes and Ten Commandments to their everyday lives. Mrs. Taddei wants each child to understand that God’s love is endless and that serving Him is an honor. She encourages her students to make life-long friends, and to believe in God’s forgiveness.

The curriculum encompasses many aspects of faith. The students learn how God’s laws guide them and how they are to respond to the call of holiness. They learn that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Light. The Commandments, the Precepts of the Church, the lives of the saints, feast days, devotions, and Catholic practices are all covered. And by the amount of this work it only proves how important parents are as the primary religious educators of their children!

Mrs. Taddei prepares to give the students an overview of all that is in the curriculum and hopes that each one ponders how this fits into their own personal faith journey.

Thank you, Mrs. Taddei for all your dedication to PREP and to our Parish.

Youth Ministry Announcements

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH

Youth Minister: Meghan Horn

<http://www.stjohpa.org/youth-ministry> or 215-295-4102

Junior and High School CYO Registration

For anyone who would like to register for Jr. CYO (6th, 7th, & 8th grade) or High School CYO (YDISCIPLE) for the upcoming school year, please contact Meghan.

- **Jr. CYO youth group will be held on Friday’s from 6-8pm
- **All H.S. Girls will meet with Meghan on Thursday’s from 6-8pm
- **All H.S. Boys will meet with Steve Lopez on Tuesday’s from 6-8pm

Poinsettia Sale

Poinsettias will be sold in the vestibule of the Church after all the Masses this weekend, December 9/10. Thank you for your support of Youth Ministry.

Pretzel Sale

The next pretzel sale will take place on Sunday, December 17th after all Masses.

“An ApPEALing Campaign”

Father O’Sullivan would like to install a carillon bell system in our Church. The system, fully installed, will cost fifteen thousand dollars – twelve thousand dollars for the actual system and three thousand dollars for the installation. Our Parish’s Knights of Columbus Council have generously pledged twelve-hundred dollars towards the purchase. Father O’Sullivan is hoping that many other parishioners will share his desire to bring bells back to our Parish and donate to reach our goal. Any parishioners who wishes to pledge towards our campaign for a new bell system is asked to return their donation to our Parish Office. All donations towards the carillon bell system will be credited towards a parishioners donations. Let’s hear the bells at Saint John’s once again!

“An ApPEALing Campaign”

Yes, I want to help bring bells back to Saint John Parish!

Enclosed is my donation towards the Carillon Bell System for our Church.

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** ____ (____) _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

FUTURE EVENTS:

December 17, 2017 - Feed My Flock, 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM , St. Francis Room
December 22, 2017 - Shared Meal, 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM , School Cafeteria

DONATIONS: (leave in St. Gianna room (Cry Room))

Refugee Centers – snacks
Backpack Center – cereal; Pancake Mix and Syrup
Soldiers' Ministry - used cell phones or chargers

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you"

John 15:12

PASTORAL CARE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Catholic Bishops Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments for Persons with Disabilities may be found by going to <http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/policies/guidelines-sacraments-persons-with-disabilities.cfm>.

"Catholics who are deaf should have the opportunity to confess to a priest able to communicate with them in sign language, if sign language is their primary means of communication. They may also confess through an approved sign language interpreter. The interpreter has the obligation to observe secrecy. When neither an interpreter or a priest with signing skills is available, Catholics who are deaf should be permitted to make their confession in writing or through the use of a portable electronic device that can be passed back and forth. The written or digital device are to be returned to the penitent and properly destroyed or deleted." All are welcome!

A new sign language APP is available for teaching students and parents to sign religious signs and prayers. It is available at the APP Store on Google play.

"Seek not the things that are too high for you, neither search the things that are above your strength. there is nothing hid that shall not be revealed." Matthew 10:26



Knightly News

ADOPT-A-FAMILY REMINDER FOR CHRISTMAS

As a reminder, if you adopted a family, please bring your food for Christmas to the SCHOOL before or after any of the Masses this weekend, December 16 - 17. Thanks for supporting this activity and for helping those who are in need. Please contact Tom Rossi (215.295.1654) if you have any questions or if you know of any families that may need some assistance this year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HIS (HANDS IN SERVICE)

Saint John's HIS (Hands in Service) Group does light cleaning of our church once a month and we could use your help. We meet the second Friday of each month after the 8:00 AM Mass and we are finished in less than two hours. If you can help or have any questions, please contact Rosemary Hayes, rgradyhayes@comcast.net.

Because of the Holy Day in December, our next cleaning date is Friday, December 15th at 8:30 AM.

2017 Day of Service Results

Thank you to all that helped make our 2017 Day of Service so successful. Your efforts helped many in need. Here are the results:

Projects running from 12:30 to 2:30 (and later)! - Approximately 150 people

Helping Hands Project running from 2:30 until 4:30 – 117 people included 20 members of Woodside Church

Results:

20 Choir Members sang at Arden Court.

85 Care Bags filled with handmade hats, scarves, gloves, and socks were sent to the Willard School in Philadelphia.

67 Birthday Boxes containing a cake mix, frosting, candles, cake pans, and applesauce (so the cake can be mixed without oil) were made and sent to the Willard School and the Interfaith Food Alliance Backpack Center in Morrisville.

175 Personal Care Packets were put together and sent to the Willard School, St. John Hospice, and our Shared Meal.

20 Baby Bundles containing a handmade baby blanket, baby hat, and gently used outfits ranging in size from Newborn until 2T were put together and sent to Philadelphia and the Interfaith Food Alliance Backpack Center. Baby clothes were also sorted in preparation for future bundles.

50 Christmas Gift Bags were made for the adult members of the families supported by the Interfaith Food Alliance.

48 Table Decorations were made to decorate our Shared Meal tables.

22 Lap Blankets were made and donated to Compassionate Care Hospice.

300 Gently Used Books were cleaned and labeled to be distributed by Cops-n-Kids to children in the area to **promote literacy**.

Gently Used Toys were cleaned and repaired to be given to needy children in Philadelphia.

Over 100 bags of clothing were given to the Welcome the Stranger Clothing Drive. Men's coats were put aside for our Knights Coat Drive in December.

Two yards received a Fall clean-up.

Church Grounds were cleared

Pans of Baked Ziti were prepared and frozen to be used at our November Shared Meal.

1,100 Jesse Tree Tags were made.

6 Boxes of Food were donated to the Interfaith Food Alliance

10,000 Meals of rice and soy were packaged to be sent to Africa!

Thank you!