

# THE PARISH OF SAINT EUGENE

DECEMBER 10, 2017 – THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9	
5:00 PM	Catherine O'Malley (decd) <i>req. by Elizabeth Reid</i>
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10	
8:00 AM	Mary Shallo (decd) <i>req. by Mary Delasantra &amp; Gloria DiPaola</i>
10:00 AM	Eira Fatima Maghuyop (decd)
12:00 PM	Julia Duffy (decd) <i>req. by Gina Mastrangelo &amp; Paul Henshaw</i>
6:00 PM	Katherine Esposito Allan (decd) <i>req. by Frances Stallone</i>
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11	
6:45 AM	Fr. James Shevlin (decd) <i>req. by Gina Mastrangelo &amp; Fr. Fernan</i>
9:00 AM	Joseph Prestipino (decd) <i>req. by Maria Prestipino</i>
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12	
6:45 AM	Donald Deighan (decd) <i>req. by Carol Killeen</i>
9:00 AM	Annie & James Ferry (decd) <i>req. by Eileen Barone</i>
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13	
6:45 AM	Paul Henshaw & Gina Mastrangelo (living) <i>req. by Eugene &amp; Ann Fernan</i>
9:00 AM	Lucy Enrico (decd) <i>req. by Gina Mastrangelo &amp; Fr. Fernan</i>
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14	
6:45 AM	John Patrick Clarke (decd) <i>req. by Peter &amp; Peggy Clarke</i>
9:00 AM	Mathew Varghese (decd) <i>req. by Ortila Family</i>
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15	
6:45 AM	Robert C. Yager (decd) <i>req. by Ita Yager</i>
9:00 AM	Joseph Paparella (decd) <i>req. by Mr. &amp; Mrs. Mario Paparella</i>
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16	
9:00 AM	Eugene Fernan (decd) <i>req. by Father Fernan</i>

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11** Prepare the way of the Lord.  
**Psalm 85** "Lord, let us see Your kindness, and grant us Your salvation."  
**2 Peter 3:8-14** We await new heavens and a new earth.  
**Mark 1:1-8** Make straight the paths of the Lord.

Our God is a compassionate God and each Scripture passage we hear today reminds us of this. The people of Isaiah's time are living in exile, but Isaiah assures them that the Lord has not abandoned them, The author of Second Peter assures Christians that God is patient, allowing time for all to come to repentance. In Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims forgiveness from God through baptism. As we face difficulties in life, let us remember that we are not alone: our compassionate God is always ready to comfort and forgive.

## MEMORIAL CANDLES & BREAD & WINE

Interested in memorializing the Sanctuary Candle by the Tabernacle or for the Virgin Mary, Our Blessed Lady? These candles, which burn continuously, could burn for your specific intentions. If you are interested in having a loved one remembered or a special intention placed before God, please contact the rectory. An offering of \$15.00 a week is requested.

**TABERNACLE CANDLE**  
**SPECIAL INTENTION FOR BABY ELIZABETH LASKI**  
 REQ. BY GRANDMA & GRANDPA

**BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE**  
**SPECIAL INTENTION FOR MATHEW GEORGE**  
 REQ. BY THE GEORGE FAMILY

**BREAD AND WINE**  
**IN MEMORY OF NORA KERR**  
 REQ. BY HER DAUGHTER, PATRICIA SMITH



## SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES

Adoration Chapel	Natalie Philpin	793-4757
	Patricia Finan	961-0146
Altar Guild	Jennie Sepe	776-9847
Boy Scouts	Donna Ragusa	472-7567
Religious Education	Gina Mastrangelo	961-2590
C.Y.O.	Joan DeLuca	497-9798
Catholic Daughters	Martina Parisi	400-3634
Cheerleaders	Lori Fox	325-0333
H. S. A.	Toni-Ann Licatesi	879-3956
Holy Name	Frank Giacoio	793-5392
Legion of Mary	Josephine Bitetti	337-1372
Living Rosary	Natalie Philpin	793-4757
Music Director	Jerry Celestino	961-2590
Parish Council	Father Fernan	961-2590
Serra Club	George Alessi	779-8719
Senior Club	Jennie Sepe	776-9847
St. Vincent DePaul		
Of Saint Eugene Parish	Walter Whitmore	779-1826

### PARISH SUPPORT

As evidence of their gratitude for God's generosity to them in their lives, our people returned to His Holy Church the following offerings:

<b>December 3</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Weekly Collection.....	\$12,134	\$11,201

"As stewards we are accountable to God for our time, talent and treasure. We return to the Lord, the giver of all our gifts, a truly grateful and meaningful first share of our time, talent and treasure."

### RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

The second collection today is for our retired religious. As always, thank you for your generosity especially during these difficult economic times.

### ADVENT DAY OF RECONCILIATION

Monday, December 18th.....4PM – 8PM

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve.....	5PM
	12 AM Midnight Mass
Christmas Day.....	8:00 AM
	10:00 AM
	12:00 Noon

**There is no 6:00 PM on Christmas Day.**

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF SAINT EUGENE PARISH

Please let us remember all those who are in need of a meal or food on the table. There are many who are struggling in our own community. Please remember those who are in need. We are in need of non-perishable food items. (Cereal, soup, pasta, etc.) Please place these items in the baskets at the entrances of the church.

We serve our people as well as the *Sharing Community* in Getty Square. If you are able to cook but not deliver, please contact either Walter Whitmore (914) 779-1826 or David Fabi at [hotfabi@optonline.net](mailto:hotfabi@optonline.net)

*"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."*



### ADULT BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

If, for whatever reasons, you have not been Baptized, nor received First Holy Communion, nor received Confirmation, or may have questions about Marriage, please call Father Fernan at (914) 961-2590, regarding Bi-Weekly classes to prepare you to receive God's grace in His Sacraments. Classes will be in the evenings. The Sacraments will be in the Spring.

### LEGION OF MARY

Please take an ornament off of the Legion's annual giving tree and assist them as they bring joy to those in need. The gifts will be distributed to various organizations that are in need.

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Christmas Caroling and Pageant. We are looking for children to be angels and shepherds in our living crèche. If your child is interested please fill out the pageant forms which are located at the table in the front of the church and at the entrances.

### ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Recitation of the Rosary at the Divine Mercy Chaplet after the 9AM weekday Masses.

### ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel, located in the vestibule, is open daily Mon-Fri from 9:30am to 4pm, unless noted on schedule. We are asking specifically for prayers for Vocations. Please come and make a visit with the Lord. For more information call George Alessi, 779-8719.

### CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Please contact Martina Parisi at (914) 400-3634 to learn more about the Catholic Daughters. All women of the parish are welcome.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

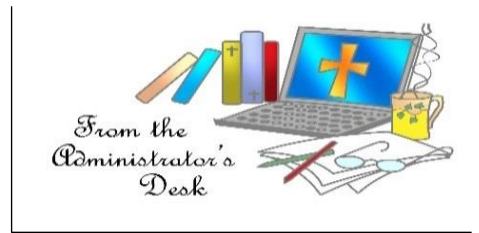
Please keep in your prayers the ill of our parish especially Helen Sheedy, Nicholas Gardini, Michael Tomanelli, Elise Gelpi, Liam Frawley, Angelo Bavaro, John Hopkin, Deborah Mahon, Joseph Kelly, Grisha Balaj, Eileen Brasiel, John McGarry, Serette Bernadin, Franzgermain Bernadin, Lisette Abraham, Joan Pinto, Frank Azaltovic, Frankie Delosso, Mary Ann R. Encarnacion, Fr. Terence Lee, Cora Lucy Sannella, Ann McMahan, Anthony Battista, Andrea Dworken, Anthony McCauley, Baby Elizabeth Laski, Mary Sweeney, John Sweeney, Joseph A. Collins, Francis Bowen, Geraldine Gluck, Albert Casico, Charlie Saumell, Leonor Abanilla, Jerry Weber, Carmen Delia Rivera, Fr. Joseph Irwin, Teagan Maria Farrah, Helene Layman, Aimee Rizzi, Martha Jane, Margaret Fleming, Michael Laymon, Charles Saumell, and those recently called home to God especially Monsignor James K. Vaughey and Deacon Victor Tosi. Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

*If you know of parishioners who are ill and would like to be visited by a priest, please contact the rectory at 961-2590.*

### PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Janelle Amador, Jose Luis Petrovich, Matthew Valentinetti, Brian Mulhern, John Kollinger, Kevin Brodeur, David Daliso, Logan Wilson, Matthew Fishwick, Kevin Jones and Joe Kelly. If you have family members or friends you would like to put on our Military Prayer list please notify the Parish Office at 961-2590.

Dear Parishioners:



- Second Sunday of Advent: *O holy, patient, and loving God, in this season of grace-filled longing, we await the coming of Your Son and our Savior. It is difficult for us to remember that this is a holy time. There are many distractions: commitments seem to pile up, and expectations are high. In the midst of our busy world, our busy lives, we need Your help to remind us of what is important and necessary. While many of those things that we do not need will come to us in packages gleaming and bright, the one gift that will last comes from you alone, gracious God, as we grow in our awareness of Your love. Bless us, our family and friends, and the food and the company that we share. Increase in us a growing urgency to celebrate the birth of Your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.*
- Christmas Toy Drive: Our Christmas Toy Drive has begun. Please remember those who are less fortunate than us. The Toy Box will be in the back of the church on the left near the statue of Saint Jude. All unwrapped toys are to be dropped off by Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Saint Eugene Legion of Mary: The legion will have their annual giving tree in the church starting today. Please take an ornament off of the tree and assist them as they bring joy to those in need. The gifts will be distributed to various organizations that are in need. All the gifts need to be back under the tree by next Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Christmas Pageant: Next Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Christmas Caroling and Pageant. We are looking for children to be angels and shepherds in our living crèche. If your child is interested please come to the church on Sunday, December at 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM for a quick rehearsal and costumes.
- Holy Name Society Epiphany Coat Drive: The Holy Name Society will be coordinating the Saint Eugene's Parish Coat Drive on the feast of the Epiphany. As we prepare this Advent, would you consider donating to someone in need during this Christmas Season? If you have new or gently used coats, hats, scarves or winter gloves, and you would like to donate them to someone in need? We will be collecting them at the church entrances. The drops off times are after the masses January 6<sup>th</sup> at 5PM, and after each Sunday mass on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.
- Advent Day of Reconciliation: Next Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> in all of the parishes in the Archdiocese of New York, it will be the annual Day of Reconciliation (Penance). The schedule is from 4:00-8:00 pm in the church. Penance is a great way to prepare ourselves as we await the birth of our Lord.
- Letters to God: If any child would like to write a letter to God for Christmas please have them write the letters and put them into an envelope marked "Letters for God" and give their letters to Father Fernan at the end of mass or to me at Religious Education class. All the letters will be presented to *Our Lord* on Christmas Eve at the 5:00 PM Mass.
- Prayers: As we enter this glorious season of Christmas, let us not forget that this is an extra difficult time for those who are sick, searching for a job, or have lost a loved one. Please let us remember all of these, our neighbors and parishioners in prayer. ***Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2***
- 2018 Calendars: The 2018 Religious Calendars are in the baskets around the church. Again we would like to thank *Flynn Memorial Funeral Home* for providing them for our Parish.
- Religious Education: Inclement Weather: Just a reminder, if there is any form of winter weather that should occur on the Wednesday afternoons or evenings which may interfere with Religious Education, please watch News 12, or News 12 Interactive on the web.



May God bless you always, Gina Mastrangelo, Administrator

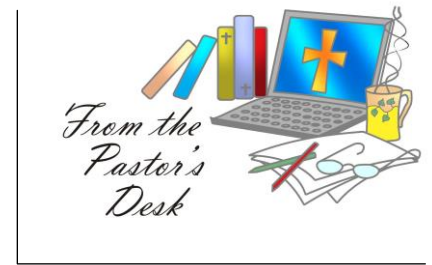
#### Christmas Tree Blessing

Lord Jesus, Encircle this tree with Your blessing, May its twinkling lights remind us of the hope and promise of Your coming. May we find joy in the memories we share in its tinsel and trimmings. May the presents we place beneath it give rise to an appreciation for the gift of Your presence among us. We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.



Beloved of God,

**The Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady  
within the Womb of Saint Anne  
December 8<sup>th</sup>... Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America**



*“Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a Son and you are to name Him Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.” (Matthew 1:18-23)*



*Prepared for... pre-destined.* As we have read above, Saint Joseph was prepared for the task before him as Foster-Father of Our Blessed Lord and Husband to the Mother of God. What a kindness by Almighty God... *“God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial He will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it.”* (1Corinthians 10:13) He had many difficult moments before him, not least of which was protecting the Baby Jesus and His Mother from evil wrought through King Herod... *“When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under.”* (Matthew 2:16) As Saint Joseph was prepared, so too was Our Blessed Lady prepared.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is that act of preparedness when God intervened at the moment of the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother Saint Anne (pictured above). Excuse me as I take a moment to explain the difference between *pre-destined* and *pre-determined*. As in the passage above, the words of the Angel are of great importance... *“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.”* This *“do not be afraid”* is not a demand from God ordering Joseph to take Mary into his home. It is rather a spiritual encouragement offered from above to let Joseph know that whatever he has to face in the years ahead if he decides to take Mary into his home, that *“God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength.”* The decision remained with Joseph. He was not *pre-determined* to be the foster-father and guardian of the Lord. He was, however, *pre-destined, prepared or given from God all that he needed to fulfill this role if he freely decided to follow the will of God.*

Our Blessed Lady’s *preparation* began at her conception, which was free from Original Sin. Tradition reveals that Mary’s parents, Saint Joachim and Anne, were elderly and without child (just like the parents of Saint John the Baptist and many others throughout the Old Testament). God heard their prayers and Saint Anne conceived a daughter. This precious gift was for only a short time, according to tradition. Just three years after God had removed Saint Anne’s curse and graced her with a child, Mary was dedicated to God and entered the service at the Temple... and so continued Mary’s *preparation* to eventual assent to being the Mother of God.

Have you prepared your soul for it to be a dwelling place for Christ? How do I do that? *“Jesus answered and said to him, “Whoever loves Me will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him.”* (John 14:23) Keep the word of God and God will live in you.

God love you... Father Fernan