

Third Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 14, 2014



Sunday, December 14, Third Sunday  
of Advent

5:00 +Anna Sweetnam

8:30 Parishioners of St. John

10:00 (Sp) + Dulce Rosario and Napoleon  
Cabral

11:30 + John, Jean & Bobby Tramontozzi

1:00 (Sp) +Agustina Morel vda, Medina

Monday, December 15, Advent Weekday

9:00 + Joseph Maxwell

12:15 + Fr. Edward Fagan, OAR, Brother  
Peter Stewart, FSC & Brother  
Joseph Murphy, FSC

Tuesday, December 16, Advent Weekday

9:00 + Agnes, Thomas, Sr. & Jr. and  
James Brett

12:15 + Robert Stanton

7:00 (Sp.) + Francisco Felix

Wednesday, December 17, Advent, Weekday

9:00 + Joseph Zane

12:15 + Robert Stanton

Thursday, December 18, Advent Weekday

9:00 Intentions of Mildred Kolessar

12:15 + Patricia Marie Kelly

Friday, December 19, Late Advent Weekday

9:00 + Robert Stanton

12:15 + Dymphna Dee Duffy

7:00(Sp) + Previsterio Gomez

Saturday, December 20, Late Advent

Weekday

12:15 + James Nugent

5:00 + Rafael, Maria & Ralph Sanchez

Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of

Advent

8:30 Parishioners of St. John

10:00 (Sp.) + Angela, Jose and Martin  
Delgado

11:30 + Mary and Joe O'Keefe

1:00(Sp.) + Catalina & Candelaria Javier

**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THIS WEEK'S  
DONATIONS**

The Altar Candles burning in the Lower Church  
for the week of December 14-20 in memory of:

**FR. MICHAEL J. KENNY, OAR and  
FR. EDWARD J. FAGAN, OAR**

The Sanctuary Lamp burning in the Upper  
Church for the week of December 14-20 in  
memory of:

**CALLAHAN, COYLE and  
McVANN FAMILIES**

The Sanctuary Lamp burning in the Lower  
Church for the week of December 14-20 for:

**SPECIAL INTENTION**

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*In Grateful Appreciation*

Many thanks to all those who generously  
responded to the request for gifts of new toys and  
clothing for children, youth, teenagers, and families  
assisted by the charitable outreach mission of the  
Cardinal McCloskey Center for Christmas. While  
St. John's Parish collected many donations over the  
past weeks, we also extend our gratitude to the  
sophomore students from St. Raymond's High  
School for Boys and Mr. Steven Patzke, Christian  
Service Coordinator for their assistance in sorting,  
packing, and delivering the donations received this  
past Tuesday to the Cardinal McCloskey Center.

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*By The Numbers*

Many thanks to our parishioners who have  
generously responded to the request this Fall to  
consider increasing their weekly/monthly donation  
to St. John's Church. Like the October collections,  
the following amounts reflect a similar and positive  
response during the month of November.

November 1-2 \$7708.00

November 8-9 \$8074.00

November 15-16 \$6362.00

November 22-23 \$6125.00

Campaign for Human Development

\$2,126.00

November 29-30 \$5753.00

Average Weekly Amount Received During Month:  
\$6805

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*Christmas Flowers*

Specially marked envelopes are available in the church for those who wish to donate with the upcoming decoration of both the upper and lower church for Christmas with flowers and poinsettias.

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### ***Still Looking For Religious Christmas Cards***

If so, please stop by the parish office. Boxes of assorted religious Christmas are available at the cost of \$5.00 a box. Using religious Christmas cards is a helpful way for us as Catholics to “keep Christ in Christmas.”

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### ***Year of Consecrated Life***

During his meeting with the Union of Superiors General on November 29, 2013, Pope Francis noted:

“Religious life ought to promote growth in the church by way of attraction. The church must be attractive. *Wake up the world!* Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living! . . . It is this witness that I expect of you. Religious should be men and women who are able to wake the world up.”

Special posters depicting the various religious communities who presently serve the Archdiocese of New York are displayed in both the upper and lower church as a way to familiarize us with the faithful work and service to God’s holy people by these dedicated religious women and men. Please remember to pray for and to encourage vocations.

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### ***Reconciliation Monday***

*“Prepare the Way of the Lord”* Mark 1:3

St. John's Parish will be joining other parishes throughout the Archdiocese of New York with offering opportunities for individual confessions on Monday December 15th from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. Please spread the word, consider inviting and accompanying someone who has not celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for awhile to prepare for the celebration of Christmas by experiencing God's love, mercy, and forgiveness.

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***Did You Know?***

The Third Sunday of Advent has been traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. This name is derived from the Latin verb *gaudere*, “to rejoice.” The readings proclaimed at Mass express a joyful note of this liturgical season of anticipation and preparation for the upcoming celebration of Christmas. Advent wreaths often have a rose colored candle which is lit on this Sunday. *Gaudete Sunday* symbolizes that the Season of Advent is more than half over and Christmas is drawing near

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## **Christmas Mass Schedule Catholic Community of Kingsbridge**

### **Church of Saint John**

3021 Kingsbridge Avenue

**Thursday December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**(Christmas Day)**

12:00 am Christmas Midnight Mass  
(Bi-lingual)

8:30 am English

10:00 am Spanish

11:30 am English

1:00 pm Spanish

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### **Visitation Church**

160 Van Cortlandt Park South

**Wednesday December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**(Christmas Eve)**

5:00 pm

8:00 pm

**Thursday December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**(Christmas Day)**

12:00 am Christmas Midnight Mass

10:30 am

12:30 pm

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### ***Christmas Midnight Mass***

This year St. John’s Parish will be celebrating the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with Midnight Mass, the main and solemn liturgical celebration of Christmas. Midnight Mass will begin at midnight, i.e. 12:00 am on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

The church will open at 11:00 pm, a musical prelude will held at 11:30 pm, and the parking lot at the school will be available that evening for the convenience of those who will be driving. Please plan on joining us with your families and friends for our parish celebration of Christmas Midnight Mass or at our parish Masses on Christmas Day remembering that greatest gift the God the Father gave to our world of His Son, Jesus is the reason for this holy season.

**HIS WORD TODAY**

*by Rev. William J. Reilly*  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 14, 2014**

**“The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and release to prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God...Do not stifle the spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test everything, retain what is good. Avoid any semblance of evil.”**

Isaiah's statement written six centuries before the time of Christ, is the statement Jesus used as He revealed His mission in His hometown of Nazareth. Today, the mission of Christ the Redeemer is no different, and in the words of Saint John Paul II, has been entrusted to the church. May we make it real and relevant.

By baptism we have been anointed, Christened. The name Christ means the Anointed One. I have a mission, I have been sent, to bring glad tidings to others, the 'Joy of the Gospel' of Pope Francis. I can and will ease the suffering of someone else, a sick friend, a lonely neighbor, through a card this year, or better a telephone call or visit. I can assist freeing someone from an addiction or habit that weighs them down, as we find in A.A. sponsors. Prisoners, are not only the incarcerated, but refugees from war torn countries living in camps, separated from families cared for by Catholic Relief Services, Doctors without Borders, or Lamp For Haiti. In this way we announce a year of favor, we say 'A Blessed Christmas.'

Decide today how the spirit will speak through you. Let the prophet Isaiah speak again through your actions. Test everything, but above all do something.

**“El espíritu del Señor está sobre mí, porque el Señor me ha ungido. El me envió a llevar la buena noticia a los pobres, a vendar los corazones heridos, a proclamar la liberación a los cautivos y la libertad a los prisioneros, a proclamar un año de gracia del Señor, un día de venganza para nuestro Dios... No extingan la acción del Espíritu; no desprecien las profecías; examínenlo todo y quédense con lo bueno. Cúidense del mal en todas sus formas.”**

La declaración de Isaías, escrita seis siglos antes del tiempo de Cristo, es la misma declaración que Jesús hizo al revelar Su misión en su tierra en Nazaret. Hoy, la misión del Cristo Redentor no es diferente, y citando a San Juan Pablo II, ha sido confiada a la iglesia. Que podamos hacerla real y relevante.

Por el bautismo hemos sido ungidos, hechos cristianos. El nombre Cristo significa Ungido. Yo tengo una misión, he sido enviado a llevar buenas nuevas a otros, la "Alegría del Evangelio" del Papa Francisco. Yo puedo y lograré aliviar el sufrimiento de alguien, un amigo enfermo, un vecino solitario, por medio de una tarjeta o mejor aún con una llamada telefónica o una visita. Yo puedo ayudar a alguien a librarse de una adicción o hábito que les pesa, tal como lo encontramos en patrocinadores de A.A. Gente prisionera, no sólo la encarcelada, sino refugiados de guerra de países devastados por la guerra y que viven en campamentos, separados de sus familias, y que son cuidados por Catholic Relief Services, por los Doctores Sin Fronteras, o Lamp for Haiti. De esta manera anunciamos un año de gracia, decimos "Una Navidad Bendita".

Decida hoy cómo hablará el Espíritu a través suyo. Permita que el profeta Isaías hable de nuevo a través de sus acciones. Examínenlo todo, pero sobre todo, haga algo.

**SU PALABRA HOY**  
*por el Reverendo William J. Reilly*  
**Tercer Domingo de Adviento**  
**14 de diciembre de 2014**