

**First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2014**



**Sunday, November 30, First Sunday
of Advent**

5:00 +Joseph and Catherine Sullivan
8:30 Parishioners of St. John
10:00 (Sp) + Carmelo Montanez Rodriguez
11:30 + Bernadette Cooney & Deceased
Members of Cooney Family
1:00 (Sp) +Ramon Alberto Cruz

Monday, December 1, Advent Weekday

9:00 + Bernadette Cooney
12:15 + John, Jean & Bobby Tramontozzi

Tuesday, December 2, Advent Weekday

9:00 + Joseph Zane
12:15 + Robert McCarthy
7:00 (Sp.) + William Rosario

Wednesday, December 3 Advent, Weekday

9:00 + Msgr. William B. O'Brien
12:15 + Jerry Kilgannon

Thursday, December 4, Advent Weekday

9:00 + Adelino Guimaraes & Family
12:15 + Jerry Kilgannon

Friday, December 5, Advent Weekday

9:00 + Patrick N. Hayes
12:15 + Patricia Henn
7:00(Sp) + Ramon de los Santos

Saturday, December 6, Advent Weekday

12:15 + Parishioners who died in
November

5:00 + John, Flo & John Joe Sullivan

**Sunday, December 7, Second Sunday of
Advent**

8:30 Parishioners of St. John
10:00 (Sp.) + Leopersia, Espifanio, Ramon,
Pedro, Agustin, Sergio and Pedro
Jose Rosario
11:30 + Brian McDonnell
1:00(Sp.) + Alex & Luis Ortiz and
Hector Brito

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

The Altar Candles burning in the Lower Church
for the week of November 30-December 6 in
memory of:

KEVIN G. KENNY

The Sanctuary Lamp burning in the Lower
Church for the week of November 30-
December 6 for:

SPECIAL INTENTION

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK.....



Fr. Peter J. McCrann, SMM , Maria Rivera
Malucci, Lindsey Guzman, Alice Ann
O'Donohue Mason, Noreen Liddane,, Timothy
Mahoney.

“Well Done, My Good and Faithful Servant”

These words from the Gospel parable on the
talents (Matthew 25:14-30) read at the Masses on
November 16th coincided with the day that Mr.
Robert Stanton, our longtime parish sexton and
dedicated volunteer for the Cardinal's Annual
Archdiocesan Stewardship Appeal passed on to
eternal life after many difficult months of struggling
with health problems.

St. John's Parish is grateful for Bob's many
years of dedicated work and faithful service to the
church and archdiocese. Our prayers, sympathies,
and condolence are extended to his wife, Eileen, his
children and grandchildren and the Stanton Family.

May Bob and all the Lord's faithful departed
servants rest in God's eternal peace.

Parish Website

If you have digital photos from our recent
parish events and would like to submit them for
possible consideration to be posted on our parish
website, www.churchofstjohnbx.org please send
them to our parish e-mail address
stjohnkingsbridge@yahoo.com

Advent Season Upon Us

This weekend marks the beginning of the *Season of Advent*, the start of the Church's new liturgical year. The purpose of the liturgical year recalls the saving events of our faith as pilgrims on the journey of earthly time moving forward to the fullness of the Kingdom of Heaven. This year our Sunday Gospel readings will primarily be taken from the *Gospel of St. Mark* along with several consecutive weeks in Ordinary Time from the *Gospel of St. John*.

The word *Advent* is derived from the Latin *adventus*, the past participle of the Latin verb *advenire*, to come to (*ad*, to + *venire*, come to).

Advent has a two-fold quality:

- 1) a season to prepare for Christmas in which we recall the first historical coming of Jesus Christ into human history.
- 2) a season in which that remembrance directs our hearts and minds to await the second coming of Jesus Christ at the end of time

Special brochures ***Prepare The Way! Advent Prayers and Customs*** are available in the church describing in greater detail various *Advent* customs and traditions associated with this liturgical season.

Christmas Charity Drive

With another Christmas season approaching, our parish is accepting donations of new toys, gift cards, and new clothing for children, youth, and families assisted by the outreach mission of the Cardinal McCloskey Center. The age range is from newborn to teenagers.

New clothing for teenagers will gratefully be appreciated along with new, unwrapped toys for young children, both boys and girls. Donations may be dropped off at the church during weekend Masses and during the week at the parish office. The last day for donations will be Monday December 8th so that the gifts may be distributed to the recipients in time for Christmas.

Some possible gift ideas to consider:

- Fisher Price Toys
- V-Tech Educational Toys
- Board games
- Dolls & Toy action figures
- Trucks and Trains
- Legos
- Jewelry Making and Boutique Crafts Kits
- Sports (Soccer Balls, Basketballs, Baseball/Softball, etc)
- Books and puzzles

Year of Consecrated Life

Pope Francis has called for a special ***Year of Consecrated Life*** that will begin on November 30, 2014, the First Sunday of Advent and will close on February 2, 2016, the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

The main purpose of this year will be evangelizing the vocation to consecrated life and the response of religious to "awaken the world" with their prophetic witness to the poor and those in need. The Archdiocese of New York will be offering ways and opportunities to learn more about the religious communities of sisters, brothers, and priests who presently serve the People of God in our Archdiocese.

Did You Know?

St. Nicholas, a 4th century bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, inspired the origin of our modern day figure of *Santa Claus*. As Bishop of Myra, St. Nicholas was known for his charitable concern for the poor and families in need, especially those who were unable to provide dowries for their daughters to get married. Tradition has it that St. Nicholas would leave anonymous gifts to assist those in need.

In English speaking countries *St. Nicholas*, by a slight twist of the tongue, became called or known as *Santa Claus*. While the Blessed Virgin Mary is the most portrayed of Christian images, the next most depicted saint by Christian artists and among popular society is probably *St. Nicholas* or *Santa Claus*. His feast day is December 6th and this is a popular day among Eastern Christians to exchange gifts and presents.

Making All Things New:

The Merger of our Kingsbridge Catholic Parishes

As previously announced by Cardinal Dolan on November 2nd, the parishes of Saint John and Visitation will merge into a new parish with the Church of Saint John being designated as the new parish church. It is anticipated in this time of transition and merger that by August 1, 2015, Visitation church will no longer be celebrating Masses and the sacraments on regular weekly basis.

In the coming months ahead, beginning in early 2015, discussions and future planning involving both Visitation and St. John parishes will take place with the implementation of this merger. What will emerge in shaping a new Catholic parish community in Kingsbridge has yet to be determined.

Your prayers, patience, and understanding during this time of major transition in the Archdiocese of New York are greatly appreciated and much needed..

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly
First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2014

“Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he orders the man at the gate to watch with a sharp eye.’”

A new season of grace begins, advent, when we remember the first coming of Christ, anticipate His future coming and discern His presence among us today. The image of the traveler found in the person of Jesus is so appropriate.

We have been given our personal, as well as collective tasks. He has placed certain responsibilities in our hands. As disciples we are called to be faithful followers, stellar examples as parents, responsible members of His flock and enthusiastic in the practice of our faith.

A person on watch is there to provide safety from danger, but also to seize opportunities to serve. How many needs can be answered, how many wounds can be healed, how many chances for growth in the life of the church are offered to us, but we fail to take advantage.

The church needs ministers at worship, teachers as catechists, sponsors for RCIA candidates. The church needs models for our youth, and support for our aging and homebound. Who is ready to respond to these needs?

Advent offers a new beginning. Are you ready? His coming today is what is all important.

SU PALABRA HOY
por el Reverendo William J. Reilly
Primer Domingo de Adviento
30 de noviembre de 2014

“Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: ‘Tengan cuidado y estén prevenidos porque no saben cuándo

llegará el momento. Será como un hombre que se va de viaje, deja su casa al cuidado de sus servidores, asigna a cada uno su tarea, y recomienda al portero que permanezca en vela.’”

Una nueva época de gracia comienza, el adviento, cuando recordamos la primera venida de Cristo, anticipamos Su futura venida y percibimos su presencia entre nosotros hoy. La imagen del viajero que se encuentra en la persona de Jesús es muy apropiada.

Se nos han dado tareas tanto personales como colectivas. El ha puesto ciertas responsabilidades en nuestras manos. Como discípulos se nos ha llamado a ser fieles seguidores, extraordinarios ejemplos como padres, responsables miembros de su rebaño y a practicar nuestra fe con entusiasmo.

Un guardián debe proveer seguridad contra el peligro, pero también debe tomar oportunidades para servir. ¿Cuántas necesidades pueden llenarse, cuántas heridas pueden curarse, cuántas oportunidades de crecimiento en la vida de la iglesia se nos ofrecen, pero fallamos en tomar ventaja de ellas?

La iglesia necesita ministros durante la misa, maestros de catequismo, patrocinadores para candidatos RCIA. La iglesia necesita modelos para nuestros jóvenes y apoyo para nuestros ancianos y confinados a casa. ¿Quién está listo para responder a estas necesidades?

El adviento ofrece un nuevo comienzo. ¿Está usted listo? Su venida hoy es lo único que impo