

Fourth Sunday of Advent**December 22-23, 2018****From Fr. Anthony Ligato****Let us take Jesus with us wherever we go!**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

There will be a great deal of visiting in the coming days as we celebrate Christmas with family and friends. In most situations we look forward to visiting with family and friends who we only see maybe a few times a year. But in some situations, it may be awkward. We may not have much in common with some of our relatives and thus we don't know what to say. There may be family problems that are unspoken and thus unresolved which cause tension, and so everyone sits there talking about nothing. That is difficult work which can be painful. It can be the same experience when someone is sick or dying, we never know what to say. We forget that our visiting those who are sick or dying speaks volumes, because our presence alone can be a comfort. The awkwardness is also felt when someone dies, what do we say that can be a comfort? In trying to help we can feel totally inadequate. Believe it or not as priests we feel like that ourselves in these types of situations, what do we say? I learned early on better to say nothing and rather show our concern by doing. I learned that lesson from a young boy suffering from Leukemia who I was visiting in the hospital. I went in thinking I was going to have a meaningful visit; he on the other hand had different plans. He was playing his video game and was not going to stop because a priest came in to visit. After a few questions and a try at a conversation it only met with a grunt or a shrug of his shoulders, I decided to watch him play his video game. I learned from that boy it is not talking that matters so much, it is being there that counts.

When our Blessed Mother Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth, she does not know how she is going to be received. After all there may be questions why Mary is so far along in her pregnancy in reference to marriage with Joseph. Mary knew from the Angel Gabriel that Elizabeth was pregnant and that these two pregnancies had something to do with each other. "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." (Luke 1:39-45) That greeting on the part of Elizabeth relaxed any tension that might have existed for Mary. For us, it is Jesus Christ himself that takes away any awkwardness and tension that may exist in our lives or even on the occasions when we are visiting with others and haven't any idea what to say or do. What we need to do is pray before we enter these types of moments, so that when we visit, we are not filled with anxiety but rather that we remember the words of St. Paul, "we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all." When we visit, we take Christ with us and when Christ is with us just as he was with our Blessed Mother in the womb, there is never an awkward moment to our visits only opportunities to make Jesus visible to others. I want to offer Christ's Blessing for you all to have a Joyous and Merry Christmas,

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Anthony

T'was the night before Christmas....

as I began to write my message for the bulletin, the office was abuzz with all sorts of activity in preparation for Christmas. Gifts were arriving for the Giving Tree and they are being readied by **Stephanie Safford, Karla Jones and Patti Mugrace** to be sent out to **50** people from **22** families, at total of **802** gifts, have been donated through the Giving Tree. I want to thank Team Pathways and St. Jude School who helped with the Giving Tree. **Dan Purcell** was delivering more than **144** coats to different people and places, these coats were donated by the St. Jude the Apostle **Knights of Columbus; Mrs. Danielle Cox** our school principal organized the children of **St. Jude the Apostle School** to collect gifts for the Giving Tree to help those who are less fortunate. The **Rosary Altar Society** also delivered more than **455** gifts to **Vanderheyden Hall** for their collection for the youth. **Chuck Ligato and Tom Zemanick** began to put up the Christmas trees and wreaths and garlands in church, **Carol Tenzyk** joined them working with the flowers to make sure everything looks beautiful for Christmas. **Carol** is preparing the poinsettias which were delivered as I was writing this letter of thanks. **Stephanie Safford** is putting the final touches on the liturgical schedule for the Christmas Masses by making sure the **Lectors** and **Eucharistic Ministers** along with the **Altar Servers** have signed up for the Christmas liturgies and **Deacon Warren Safford** is ready to assist for the Christmas masses, and **Fr. Zachary Chichester** is finishing his Homily preparing for Celebrating his First Christmas Mass. **Deacon Warren Safford** is planning the **rehearsals for the servers** to make sure they are ready and everything for the Masses are set. **Ernie Kern** our Head Usher is signing up ushers for all the masses and they will be busy helping people find seats. **Nicholas Ascioti** our Music Director is rehearsing all our Choirs to ready them for Christmas. The children are at School practicing for their Christmas Concerts, 1:00PM for the Pre-School and 7:00PM for K-6 grade on December 20, 2018. The **Children in St. Jude School** and **Faith Formation** have been rehearsing for the Christmas Pageant at the 4PM Children's Mass on Christmas Eve and we have a baby **Jesus Anna Marie Dalmata** to place in the manger. **Nick Ascioti** is busier than jolly old St. Nick this time of year, he also is rehearsing the **Junior Choir** for the 4PM Children's Mass the **Chancel Choir** musicians who are preparing for 6PM Christmas Vigil.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRAYERS

We will pray for those who are ill, hospitalized, recuperating and all those who are in need of prayers. If you know someone who could use prayers, please call the Parish Office and leave their name for inclusion in the bulletin. Please make sure you have their permission to do so. This week we pray for the following people:

Jacqueline Ackner, Anne Antdomi, Raymond Bagley, Carol Bennete, Colleen Bornhorst, Ann Burke, Bryce Chapman, Bob & Rose Davignon, Michelle Darcy, Chester DeBell Sr., Tina Demczar, Edward Doin, Edward Dworakowski, Ric Dworakowski, Theresa Dworakowski, Joseph Esposito, Thomas Esposito, Ralph Esposito, Donna Flinton, Brenda Flynn, Dick Galvin, Dave Grinko, Pat Harley, Tony Huneau, Mary Ellen Gibson, Lynn Gorman, Margaret Hoban, Debbie Hopkins, Monique Inyard, Dorothy Jones, Mary Keeley, Edward Kehn Jr., Tayla Kreiger, Lucy Langelier, Anthony Mainello, Craig Maloney, David Manning, Jimmy Margo, Charlie Martinec, Mary McMahan, Chuck Miorin, Debra Moulton, Anne McHugh, Morgan McEvelly, Stella Muzicka, Christine Pangburn, Dawn Perlmin, Mary Phibbs, Jack Reid, Bonnie Ritrovoto, Laney Robillard, David & Roni Ruppert, Christopher Russell, Jason Russell, Kirstin Shoemaker, Kenny Schroeder, Kaleb Schwartz, Derrick Senior, Margaret Shields, Mary Signorelli, Courtney Sims, Anne Stevens, John Sullivan, Shirley Talbot, Joseph Tenzyk, Leona Toniatti, Anthony Valenti, Ashley Valenti, Madeline Valenti, J. Van Amburgh, Holly Wait, Sharon Wiliking, Caoimhghin Williams, and Phyllis Ziobroski.

ACTIVE, RESERVE AND NATIONAL GUARD PRAYER LIST

We would like to pray for all our military personnel in our Parish and we would like to include their names in the bulletin each week. We request that you assist us by submitting the names to the Parish Office so that these service members can be included in our prayers. **SFC. Michael Baker, Matthew S. Cannon, SRA Jordan Correll USAF, SRA Colton Correll USAF, Third Class Petty Officer Christopher Fox, USMC—CPL W (Mac) Harkin, AB Mary B. McDade, 1st Lieutenant Joe McMillen, First Sergeant Aime Moore, LCpl. Matthew T. Nero US Marines, Airman 1st Class Michael D. Jennings, Master Sergeant Richard Palasz, Specialist Joshua Abbott .**

DID YOU KNOW?

We bring Communion to those in our parish community who are homebound and cannot attend Mass. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion and a visit, please call the Parish Office at 283-1162.



We pray for our recently deceased parishioners and friends.

Virginia Merola, Mother of Frank Merola

May she and all our departed loved ones, friends, relatives, and parishioners enjoy forever the brightness of the eternal light.

SANCTUARY VOTIVE CANDLE

St. Jude the Apostle Church provides the opportunity for a sanctuary votive candle intention. This intention is the same cost as a mass intention. The sanctuary candle is in memory of a particular person. It will appear weekly at the top of the daily mass intention in the bulletin. If you would like to have a sanctuary votive light please call the Parish Office.

WELCOME

We welcome Fr. Zachary Chichester who will be celebrating Masses at St. Jude for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas. Fr. Zach was ordained this past June by Bishop Scharfenberger and once he completes his advanced Degree in Marriage and Family in May, he will be assigned to a parish in the Diocese by the Bishop.

THANK YOU

Thank you to a generous Parishioner who has donated 500 Copies of Matthew Kelly's new book *The Biggest lie in the history of Christianity* as Christmas Gifts. We will be giving this book out at all masses at Christmas, Please feel free to take as many copies as you would like.

SANCTUARY VOTIVE LIGHT

December 23, 2018 through December 29, 2018

Leo P. Pelletier, Winnie & Suzanne



CHRISTIAN SERVICE Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to our Giving Tree this year! Your generosity is greatly appreciated

2019 CALENDARS

The 2019 Church calendars are be available now. Get your calendars before we run out!



Mary, Mother of God

January 1, 2018

9AM

December 23, 2018

St. Jude The Apostle School



The faculty, staff and students of St. Jude the Apostle School wish each of you a blessed Christmas! Thank you for your continued support during the holidays and throughout the entire year! We are blessed that you continue to support the mission of SJS!

ADVENT SECOND COLLECTION

During the four weeks of Advent Season our Second Collection will be for the St. Jude the Apostle Church Christian Service Ministry and will be used to support the needs of local families during the Christmastime season. We thank you for your generosity in support of this weekly collection during Advent!

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

The Birthday of the Year is HERE! Let us enjoy every minute with our family and friends. Take time to thank the Lord for all the blessings we have. I would like to thank all who so generously contributed to all the families this year who were helped by the St. Jude Community. Your generosity can not go unnoticed. God Bless you all and MERRY CHRISTMAS!

PARISH OFFICE NEWS

The Parish Office will be Closed on December 24, 25, 26 we will reopen on limited hours on December 27, & 28th from 8:30AM until 12PM.

The Parish Office is closed on December 31, 2018, January 1, 2019 and January 2, 2019. We will reopen on January 3, 2019



CHILDREN'S
Liturgy of the Word

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

December 23, 2018

9:00AM NO SESSION

11:30AM NO SESSION

December 30, 2018

9:00AM NO SESSION

11:30AM NO SESSION

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held during the 9:00 a.m. & 11:30a.m. Mass. Children's Liturgy of the Word is for 3-8 years old.

K-6 FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR

December 30, 2019

No Class

January 6, 2019

Classes Resume at 10:30AM

January 13, 2019

Class at 10:30AM

January 20, 2019

No Class

January 27, 2019

No Class

TEAM PATHWAYS

December 30

No Class

January 6, 2019

7th & 8th Grade Class at 10:45AM
9th & 10th Grade Class at 10AM

January 13, 2019

7th & 8th Grade Class at 10:45AM
9th & 10th Grade Class at 10AM

January 13, 2019

7th & 8th Grade Class at 10:45AM
9th & 10th Grade Class at 10AM

January 20, 2019

No Class

January 27, 2019

No Class



FEED THE HUNGRY

DOORS OF HOPE

This is our local food pantry that aids our community members. The needs of those who are struggling never diminish. Please give generously to help our community pantry provide food and personal care items to those in need. Suggested items needed are: *canned vegetables, canned fruit, pasta, pasta sauce, and toilet paper and laundry soap.*

12 bags were received and brought to Doors of Hope last week. Thank you for your generosity.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Announced Masses

Saturday, December 22

4:00PM Carol P. Maloney, *Husband*
 Harold Cannon, *David & Anne Cannon*
 Mathew LaBounty, *Aunt Janice*
 Martha Farrell, *Sister Maureen*
 Nancy Hannigan, *Husband*

Sunday, December 23

9:00AM Sr. Mary Immaculate Heart,
Sister Norma
 Dan Keating, *Wife Norma*
 Mary & Michael Higgins,
Niece Mary McDade
 Francis Geise, *Andrew Maloney*

11:30AM Joseph Frost, *Patti Mugrace*
 Alma Verleger, *Family*
 Jarid Valente, *Mom*
 Elizabeth Brisbois, *Zappone Family*

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00PM Deceased Parishioners of St. Jude
6:00PM Deceased Parishioners of St. Jude

Tuesday, December 25

10:00AM Deceased Parishioners of St. Jude

Wednesday, December 26

8:00AM No Mass

Thursday, December 27

Eugene Flinton, *Knight of Columbus*

Friday, December 28

8:00AM Cosmo Patriarca, *Tim & Tina Haskins*

Saturday, December 29

4:00PM Marion Kalbus, *Peg Dessinger*
 Anna Passonno, *TJ & Jan Jackson*
 Joe Elligott, *Mary Ann Grace*
 Nancy Hannigan, *Mary Ann Grace*

Sunday, December 30

9:00AM Anthony "Stretch" Valente,
Jennie & Family
 MaryAnn Catman, *Mary McDade*
 Wally Foskett,
Dcn Warren & Stephanie Safford
 Ann Marie McNall,
John & Hollis McEvilly

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Weekend of December 29th & 30th, 2018

	<u>4PM</u>	<u>9AM</u>	<u>11AM</u>
Lectors	1. J. Flanigan 2. L. Owens	M. McDade L. Terry	C. Harris S. Flagg
Ministers	H. C. Tenzyk 1. B. Dedrick 2. P. Caruso 3. K. Caruso 4. K. Harriman	Dcn. Warren B. Cronin E. Cronin E. Dugrenier A. Maloney C.	J. Behan S. Bonanni B. Harris
Servers	1. A. Short 2. M. Fresyssinier 3. A. Hein	M. McDade N. Clemenzi J. Hepp	M. Decker A. Decker J. Kellar

Readings for the week of December 23, 2018

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-18 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
 Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
 Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
 Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Stewardship

Offertory support of our Parish Community week of December 16, 2018 \$7,705.00
***Includes Electronic Giving \$1,768.00**
 Total accumulated offertory for the current year to date beginning July 1, 2017 is \$144,203.00
 Total Offertory budget for the current year beginning July 1, 2017 \$324,450.00
 Offertory support of our Parish Community for the same week in 2016-2017 was \$5,768.00
 Total accumulated offertory for the same period year to date in 2016-2017 \$146,853.00
 2nd Collection Christian Service \$588.00

December 23, 2018 Team #6 Tanya Halse
December 30, 2018 Team #7 Rose Galipeau
January 6, 2019 Team #1 Mary Ellen Hunt
January 13, 2019 Team #2 Peter McMillen
January 20, 2019 Team #3 Bob Myron
January 27, 2019 Team #4 John Waterbury
February 3, 2019 Team #5 Cherie Aaronsen
February 10, 2019 Team #6 Tanya Halse

Mass Schedule for our Local Catholic Community

Sacred Heart Sat. 4P M, Sun. 8:30AM & 10:30AM
 Weekday Mon.-Fri. 9AM

St. Jude Sat. 4PM, Sun. 9AM & 11:30AM
 Weekday Mon.-Fri. 8AM

St. Michael Sat. 5:15, Sun. 7:30AM & 10:15AM
 Weekday Mon-Thru. 12:10PM

Van Rensselaer Manor Tuesdays at 1:45PM