

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2009

THIS WEEK'S READINGS, FOR YOUR PERSONAL PRAYER

Sunday	Nov. 29	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Psalm 25	1 Thes. 3:12-4:2	Luke 21:25-28,34-36
Monday	Nov. 30	Romans 10:9-18	Psalm 19:8-11		Matthew 4:18-22
Tuesday	Dec. 1	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72		Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday	Dec. 2	Isaiah 25:6-10	Psalm 23:1-6		Matthew 15:29-37
Thursday	Dec. 3	Isaiah 26:1-6	Psalm 118		Matthew 7:21,24-27
Friday	Dec. 4	Isaiah 29:17-24	Psalm 27		Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday	Dec. 5	Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26	Psalm 147:1-6		Matthew 9:35-10:1,5-8
Sunday	Dec. 6	Baruch 5:1-9	Psalm 126:1-6	Phil. 1:4-6,8-11	Luke 3:1-6

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

Saturday, December 12th, is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. From December 9-12, 1531, Mary appeared to Juan Diego, a Native American convert, at the hill of Tepeyac in Mexico. Under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mary was declared Patroness of the Americas by Pope Pius XII. This feast is especially dear to Catholics of Central and South America. In fact, after Mary's apparitions, a great many other Native Americans converted to the Church. Mary showed her concern for the people of the Americas and continued her ministry of evangelization.

The Hispanic members of our community want us all to appreciate this feast and join the celebration in Mary's honor. **Therefore, the 7:00 PM Mass on Saturday, December 12th, will be a bilingual celebration.** At 6:30 PM, children in procession will sing songs to Our Lady of Guadalupe. At 7:00 PM, we will begin the bilingual Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent. The First Reading and Gospel will be proclaimed in Spanish, and a printed program will give the English texts. The homily and Eucharistic Prayer will be in English. After Mass, Spanish-speaking Confirmation Preparation students will present a play recounting Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearances. A reception will follow.

I hope many of our parishioners will come together for this festive celebration of the Patroness of the Americas.

Sincerely,

Fr. Dick

ADVENT SUNDAY EVENING EVENSONG begins this **Sunday, November 29th, 7:30 PM**, in the Church and will be held each Sunday evening during Advent.

LET US JOIN IN PRAYER THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN EMBRACED BY GOD IN A SPECIAL WAY:

In Baptism:

Zaria Megan Dunn, Child of Michael & Diane Dunn

Olivia C. Mayer, Child of Patrick & Leah Mayer

Madilyn Ann O'Donovan, Child of Gregory & Jane O'Donovan

Sophie Elizabeth Slifer, Child of Michael & Allison Slifer

THE NURSERY will not be available this **Sunday, November 29th.**

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: As has been our custom for many years, we invite parishioners to sign up to light the Advent Wreath at our Masses during Advent. The sign-up boards are posted in the back of the Church near the holy water fonts. Whether you are single, senior citizen, or parents and children, we welcome you to sign up for a particular Mass.

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK: Join the 50+ Group for a Christmas potluck, **Friday, December 11th, 6:00 PM**, in the Community Center cafeteria. Please bring a dish to share, a donation for the Food Bank, and your holiday joy. To RSVP, call Rosalie, 301-607-6355.

OUR ANNUAL Christmas Basket Program is in full swing! If you have not done so and would like to sponsor a family or senior citizen from St. Gregory the Great Parish in Baltimore, please contact Elizabeth List, 301-695-6135. You may also make a cash or check donation and volunteers will do the shopping. Make checks payable to "Christmas Basket" and place in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office. All items will be collected outside the H/F room below the Atrium on **Saturday, December 12th, 9:00 AM-12 Noon and Sunday, December 13th, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM.**

THE JESSE TREE is now located in the Atrium. Parishioners are asked to take an ornament and purchase a gift that corresponds to the need written on

the back of the ornament. Please use the ornament as a gift tag and then bring the **unwrapped gift** back to the Atrium. The tree will be available through Sunday, December 6th. **All packages need to be brought in by Monday, December 7th.** Sometime that week, Deacon Skip Manley will deliver the packages to Western Maryland for those families in need.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST! The Knights of Columbus will serve a Pancake Breakfast, **Sunday, December 13th, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM**, in the Community Center cafeteria. Proceeds will benefit the Birthright Center located here in Frederick. Birthright is there for every woman who calls for help and supports them in a range of services from simple pregnancy testing through delivery and beyond. See insert in today's bulletin. Your support of this very worthy program will be much appreciated by all.

A PILIPINO COMMUNITY is forming here at St. John's. Please join us for a "Get Together & Getting to Know You" afternoon with a Christmas theme. Parishioners are invited to join this International Food Potluck, **Sunday, December 13th, 3:00-6:00 PM**, in the Community Center cafeteria. Please see insert in today's bulletin for full details.

CHOCOLATE RETREAT! A women's retreat is planned for **January 15th & 16th** at the Bishop Claggett Center in Buckeystown. Join us as we connect the extravagance of chocolate with the extravagance of God's love and grace. There are still a few spaces available. If you would like to give the gift of a Chocolate Retreat to a special woman in your life, contact Amy Spessard for details and gift certificates, 301-662-8288 x1102. The registration forms with full details are available at the parish office or on our website, www.stjohn-frederick.org. Contact Amy Spessard, 301-662-8288 x1102.

SAVE THE DATE: Candlelight Tour of the Historic Houses of Worship, **Monday, December 28th, 4:00-9:00 PM**.

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:

Do You Wish to Pray at the local abortion site? We meet every Friday morning at 9:00 AM to pray the Rosary on behalf of those women who are contemplating having an abortion and on behalf of the innocent life they carry within them. Call Joanne, 301-662-0471 for more details.

Are You Pregnant and in need of help? Call the Gabriel Network, 1-800-ANGEL-OK or Birthright, 301-663-0111.

Suffering Post-Abortion Syndrome? Call Project Rachel, 1-800-286-4224.

STAND CERTIFICATION FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS: The Archdiocese of Baltimore and St. John's Parish are committed to providing a safe environment for children at our parish. **All volunteer ministers** who work with or around families and children must be STAND certified. STAND training is available on line. Please visit www.stjohn-frederick.org and click on STAND Training. Contact Erica May, 301-662-8288 x1105 for more info.

SCOUTING: Are You Interested in having your child in a Catholic Scouting Unit? St. John's has Catholic Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts (Elementary boys), and Boy Scouts (Middle & High School). For more info, contact Julie St. Croix, 301-662-8288 x1103 (Girl Scouts), Bill Desmond, 301-662-4151 (Cub Scouts), or Nelson Spessard, 301-846-4217 (Boy Scouts).

Troop 1274 is looking for a burn barrel to be used for flag retiring ceremonies and on camp-outs. If you can help, please contact Amy Spessard, 301-662-8288 x1102.

The Boy Scouts would like to thank the parish for their support with the last fundraiser!

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS' NEWS:

Enjoy the City Books: it is not too late to order the coupon books. They make a great gift for you and others. Cost is \$20. Save \$\$\$ on eating out, entertainment, and services. Proceeds will be used to benefit St. John Youth Ministry. Call Pat, 301-845-6115 or Regent Bonnie at 301-865-3725

Wolfgang Candy, Wrapping Paper, & Candles: Last order date is **December 7th**, just in time for Christmas. Proceeds from this fundraiser will support our charitable giving. Call Joanne to place your order, 301-663-5655.

College Student Project: Don't forget to give the Catholic Daughters the name and address of your college students so we can keep in touch with them at exam time and through the year. Drop off their information at the Parish Office and put in the CDA mailbox, or mail to St. John the Evangelist, 112 E. Second St., Frederick, MD 21701.

SPONSOR COUPLES NEEDED: St. John's is looking for Sponsor Couples to help prepare engaged couples for marriage. If you feel called as a couple to share the gift of your Sacrament of Marriage, please contact Amy Spessard for details, 301-662-8288 x1102.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Bishop McNamara Council 1622 is once again sponsoring the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. The contest is open to all students in both public and parochial schools, in religious education programs, and to home-schooled students. Children in 1st through 8th grade are eligible. Category 1, grades 1 through 3; Category 2, grades 4 through 6; Category 3, grades 7 and 8. All posters must express the theme "Keep Christ in Christmas" and be on poster board or paper measuring about 12"x8". Students may use watercolors, crayon, ink, or any combination thereof. May use glitter, and can attach things, e.g., cotton balls, to give 3-D effect. NO computer graphics or pictures from magazines; no collages can be used. **Posters are due back to the Council by November 30th.** For more info, call Bob Ordonio, 301-524-6295.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY is looking for more members! If you would like to become a part of this ministry, please contact Nancy, 301-371-9045.

There will be NO Blood Pressure Screenings in December. Next Screenings January 9th & 10th, 2010.

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION will be held **Saturday, December 5th, 10:00 AM**, in the Church.

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES and NO HSYM or MSYH, this Sunday or Monday, November 29th & 30th! We wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

CONFIRMATION: PARENTS, Please contact Erica May, 301-662-8288 x1105, to schedule your Confirmation interview. **STUDENTS**, Please check out www.stjohne.com for ideas on choosing a Confirmation saint's name and service project ideas.

WINTER LOCK-IN: There will be a Lock-In on **Saturday, December 5th**, here at St. John's. We will start with Mass at 7:00 PM in the Church, followed by dinner in the cafeteria, leading into an awesome night of games with the Wii, a love band, movies, and our ever-popular game, *Ghost in the Graveyard*, at midnight. Cost is \$5 per student. **Permission slips** are available on www.stjohne.com and need to be **turned in by December 3rd** to the Office of Youth Ministry.

PASSION: We are bringing back an old tradition with a new face to St. John the Evangelist. **Passion** will be a traditional musical performance of the last hours of the life of Christ performed by the adolescents of our community. **Auditions will be held February 14th in the afternoon; performances will be on March 25th & 26th, 7:00 PM, and March 27th, 10:00 AM.** Adult volunteers are needed to help support this production. Please contact Patrice Sabatano, 301-524-8067 or email pmsabatano@aol.com.

WE ARE LOOKING for a few adults who would like to join our Middle or High School Core Team. If you have been reading this for the last few weeks and thought, "Gee, this could be fun!" – then why have you not called the Youth Ministry Office? Jesus wants to radically rock your world through Youth Ministry. Contact Joe, 301-662-8288 x1104 or joe.mele@stjohn-frederick.org.

SPANISH COMMUNITY

Legion de Maria Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz. Junta semanal todos los Jueves a las 7:00 PM. Necesitamos mas miembros que se quieran unir al grupo. Trabajemos juntos en union a nuestra Madre Maria. Para mas informacion contactar a: Nitza Rivas - 240-409-1998, Myriam Rullan 240-422-1718.

ST. JOHN REGIONAL SCHOOL

APPLICATIONS are now being accepted for Pre-K – 8th grade for the 2010-2011 school year. For more details or to schedule a tour of the school, call Admissions, 301-695-9358 or visit www.sjrsc.org. Tours are conducted daily from 9:00-11:00 AM.

BEYOND THE PARISH

THE VISITATION ACADEMY will host their **Christmas Boutique, Saturday, December 5th, 10:00AM-4:00 PM.** The event is free and open to the public. Many unique boutique items are available for everyone on your holiday list (complimentary gift wrapping available). Chick-Fil-A will be available for lunch. See flyers posted on the bulletin boards at the exits of the Church.

The Visitation will also present their first **Art Auction, Saturday, December 5th, 6:30-9:00 PM**, featuring the works of regional artists, including well-known local Frederick artisans. Admission is complimentary, but limited to people 21 and older. Light refreshments will be served.

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PREP, High School Placement Test, **Saturday, December 12th, 8:30 AM Registration, 9:00 AM Testing.** Testing fee is \$30. Please call the school at 301-662-4210. School is located 889 Butterfly Lane, Frederick, MD.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCES: 11-22-2009

Because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, this bulletin had to be printed early. The finances for the weekend of November 22, 2009 will appear in the bulletin for December 6, 2009.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

"SP" = Mass in Spanish

Monday November 30	6:30 AM 8:00 AM	Special Intention Poor Souls
Tuesday December 1	6:30 AM 8:00 AM	J. Harry Grove Ints. Carmen Maltbie & Amber Mattingly
Wednesday December 2	6:30 AM 8:00 AM Northampton 6:30 PM (SP)	Luis Pierce Danny Kelleher Larry Sullivan Ints. John McGowan & Family
Thursday December 3	6:30 AM 8:30 AM	Rose Marie Iserman James Michael Murphy
Friday December 4	6:30 AM 8:00 AM	Harry J. Grove (Birthday) Mr. & Mrs. William Moyer
Saturday December 5	8:00 AM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM (SP) 7:00 PM	James Dowell (Anniv.) Cathy Gardner DeSabato Amy Novak Lenhart Anna F. Grove
Sunday December 6	7:30 AM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM Ch 11:00 AM Hall 1:00 PM 5:00 PM (SP)	People of the Parish Nicholas B. Jarvis Betty Caricchio Bernice M. Obarowski James Grove Special Intention