



December 13, 2020 | 3rd Sunday of Advent

THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE

REV. LAWRENCE E POLANSKY, PASTOR

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

*“To bear witness to God the Father,
to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ,
and to be guided by the Holy Spirit.”*

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 9a at Nativity
Tuesday: 9a at Nativity
Wednesday: 9a at Nativity
Thursday: 9a at Nativity

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4p at Nativity
Sunday: 8a at Nativity
10:45a at Nativity

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 7p at Nativity
Holy Day: 9a & 7p at Nativity

*(Please confirm with
Mass Intention Schedule.)*

RECONCILIATION

*Due to COVID-19, by Appointment
Please call the Parish Office.*

OFFICE MANAGER

Fran Carder
PSMA.FranC@gmail.com

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com

PREP E-MAIL

religioussmap@gmail.com

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL REGIONAL SCHOOL

Philip J. Gianfortune, Principal
856-881-0067



NATIVITY: 2677 Delsea Dr, Franklinville **SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA:** 700 N Delsea Dr, Clayton

PARISH OFFICE: 49 W North St, Clayton, NJ 08312-1114 **PHONE:** 856-881-9155 **FAX:** 856-881-9166

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday: 10:00a-2:00p **Thursday:** 10:00a-12:30p *(or by appointment, please call the Office)*

SACRAMENT PREPARATION OR LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY: *Please contact the Parish Office.*

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Please take a look at our website or call to register

Please visit our website at <https://www.psmaj-nj.com>

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

4:00p (N) Ginny Hoffman by Matt & Marie Adgie

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00a (N) People of the Parish
10:45a (N) The Deceased Members of the Polansky Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

JOHN OF THE CROSS

9:00a (N) Mary Bottyanski by Her Granddaughter

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

9:00a (N) The Deceased Members of the Kuhns Family
 by The Seniff Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

9:00a (N) Gary Hanna & Robert Hanna, Jr.
 by Don & Mary Ellen Healy

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

9:00a (N) Earline Woods by The Wright Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

No Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

4:00p (N) Burnett Lacy by Fran Carder

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00a (N) Ginny Hoffman by Shannon Przelomiec
10:45a (N) The People of the Parish



SANCTUARY CANDLE

If you've been thinking about having the Sanctuary Candles burn in the memory of your loved one, envelopes are available in the Gathering Spaces of both the Nativity and Saint Catherine of Siena for your intentions and offering of \$10. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions at 856-881-9155.

The Sanctuary Candle in Saint Catherine of Siena

Burns in Memory of

Robert Sandelier

Requested by His Loving Family

The Sanctuary Candle in Nativity Church

Burns in Memory of

The Deceased Members of the Austin Family

Requested by Kathy O'Hara



Brenda Adams, George Bromwell, Rob Christian, Margaret Cloak, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Mary Alyce Hagelstein,

Matt Healy, Ernest Henry, Sherry Jeffries, Lorraine Kreiner, Pauline LoCicero, Steven Lord, John Henry Mathiesen, Rosemary McBride, Gerry McCloskey, Eileen Mulholland, Dot Myers, Jack Nelson, Michele Resavage, Bob & Barbara Stroh, Kathryn Tanner, Karen J. Viola, & Susan Webster

If you have a family member who you would like added to the Prayer List, please ask their permission (due to the HIPAA Privacy Act) and contact the Rectory by calling 856-881-9155 or e-mailing PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com. Thank you!



OUR MILITARY HERO PRAYER LIST

If you have a family member serving in one of the branches of the military, please send their name, rank, and branch of service to the Parish Office (PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com or 856-881-9155).

Please keep our brave service people in your prayers, Especially those suffering from the effects of war.

US Army

Cpl Austin Arledge, Specialist Bryan Jenkins, 1st Sgt Shane W. McLaughlin, MAJ Eric Miller, & CPT Graham Miller

US Navy

AWR Daniel Carr & EM2 William Little

US Marine Corps

Gy Sgt Brad Davis, Cpl Nate McAllister, & CPT James V. Tumolo

LT JG Dominic J. Tumolo, US Navy; US Army Medic



Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 & 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

STEWARDS REJOICE ALWAYS

*“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”
~ 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16 - 18 ~*

This Scripture reading sums up **Stewardship**. **“Rejoice always”** means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. **“Pray constantly”** means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. **“Give thanks in all circumstances”** means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

Beginning the weekend of **January 2 & 3, 2021**, our Mass Schedule will be changing. Masses will be: 4:00p on Saturday 8:00a & **10:00a** on Sunday.

Please take note of the coming changes!

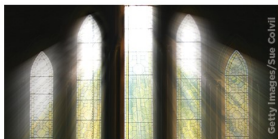


*“God loves a Cheerful Giver”
~ 2 Corinthians 9:7 ~*

Would you like to donate to our parish food pantry during this holiday season? Nonperishable items may be placed in the shopping cart located in the Gathering Space of Nativity Church or, if you prefer, you may bring them directly to the pantry at the O’Meara Conference Center **from 10:15 to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings**. Since we cannot allow you inside the pantry at this time, there will be a bench outside the entrance on which you may leave your donations. We will periodically come outside and retrieve the items, but feel free to honk your horn before driving away if you wish to alert us of your presence.

Don’t know what to give? The best idea is to give what you would like to receive! The only necessity is that the items be nonperishable. Here are some suggestions: **1 or 2 pound bags or boxes of rice, canned yams/sweet potatoes, gravy, stuffing (such as Stove Top), pasta, canned fruit, applesauce, ramen noodles, canned vegetables, tuna, canned chicken, pancake mix, cereal, and, especially, SOUPS OF ALL KINDS.**

*Prefer not to shop?
Monetary donations are always welcome.*



December 13, 2020 | Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2A, 10-11 | 1 Thes 5:16-24 | Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

*Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE*

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

The prophet’s words in the Book of Isaiah are bursting with hope: “The Lord ... has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord.” As we enter the third week of Advent, these words may resonate more deeply for many of us as we look back on 2020. We know that for many of the world’s people, struggle can be an everyday reality; however, after this year marked by pandemic, mourning, racial injustice, and mounting unemployment, the prophet’s hope-filled words may hit home more acutely. Regardless of what 2020 has been like for us, Advent is a reminder that we have reason for hope: in Emmanuel, God with us. Let us prepare our hearts and our minds for Christ’s coming through prayer, confident that the Lord will fulfill the promises of the prophet.

WITNESS Last week we focused on making God’s kindness visible through our words and actions toward the people with whom we live and interact regularly; this week, let our witness focus on testifying to the light in our digital presence and encounters. Make your words be those that foster hope and promise rather than incite division.


GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Light! Here in the Midwest in December we don’t see nearly enough of it. Every year I consider purchasing a “happy lamp” and vow to “up” my Vitamin D intake. Perhaps that’s why I was taken by the line in today’s Gospel describing John the Baptist: “He came ... to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.” As predicted by John the Baptist and the prophet, Christ came to dwell among us, and remains within us through the Eucharist and the working of the Holy Spirit. We, like John the Baptist, can “testify to the light” by sharing Christ’s presence through our witness to others.



Pastor's Corner



Dear Parishioners,

I read in an article once that parents know the different cries of their baby ... whether it's a cry of discomfort, or hunger, or anger. I read that the very sound of a baby's cry includes something of the baby's experience and need. Though not able to speak words yet, the child is quite capable of communicating and good parents are ever attuned to this constant and revealing self-information that helps them to give comfort and security to their little bundle of love. Advent calls us to be ever more attuned to the cries around us that testify to the Light coming into our midst and that cries that challenge us to encounter Christ in such a way that we cannot hold within ourselves our own cries of recognition and commitment.

After saying clearly who he is not ("Christ," Elijah," or "the Prophet"), John does say who he is. *"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert."* "Voice" ... the audible revelation of self. "Crying out" ... testifying to core convictions. "Desert" ... place of barrenness and desolation as well as a place of testing and of growth. **So, who is John?** ... The one who in his very being recognizes the Christ who has come to lead the people into the fullness of light and Life.

Testifying with conviction to the light of Christ must be more than speaking words. The conviction is conveyed – cried out – by the way we choose to live each day. We are to do good works (*"bring glad tidings to the poor," "heal the broken-hearted,"* etc. [First Reading]). Testifying with conviction also means that we must constantly grow in our relationship to Christ and learn to recognize Him even where we might not expect to find Him. Yes, sometimes we are like the people in the Gospel in that we seek the Messiah but often do not recognize His Presence in our midst. The work of Advent is to intensify our good works so that we become attuned to recognizing Christ here and now. Even more, it is the work of our whole Christian lives. As we near the celebration of Christmas, we ourselves must take up John's conviction, John's cry.

Testifying with conviction comes to greater fullness when we have been tried in the various "deserts" of our daily living. Testing confronts us with choices and making good choices attunes us to Christ's Presence in so many ways. This testing brings us growth and liveliness. It helps us to see in new ways and to cry out with ever greater urgency. What is at stake is recognition of the Messiah-Christ among us.

It's easy and comfortable to recognize Christ in the expected places and ways we're accustomed to. When we enter the peace of a church, for example, we expect to find God. When we sit and pray in our homes, we expect to find God and to have our prayers answered. All of this is good. However, living the Paschal Mystery means that we take up the mission of Christ ourselves, that we ourselves are to be Christ for others. Especially during these final days before Christmas when everyone is so busy, we can forget that our mission is like John's ... to testify to the Light by crying out its Presence in our midst. We do this by how we respond to those around us ... take time to listen to the one that's hurting ... visit those who might be forgotten ... do with a little less ourselves so others might have more ... take time to pray ... remember to give thanks ... offer a helping hand ... reorganize our priorities ... praise the God in others.

May Saint Michael the Archangel defend, guide, protect, and intercede for us always! May you and your families be well and safe! Have a great week!

~ Fr. Larry



This year, things will be a little different if you are able to join us for one of the Masses of Christmas. For your health and well-being, current guidelines allow for 30% capacity at each Mass (about 120 people, depending on the number of groups versus the number of individual persons), masks are required, the Chapel / Cry Area is not in use, every other pew is taped off, and there is no standing allowed in the church or Gathering Space during Mass to help promote social distancing. Because our seating is limited, reservations for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are needed.

Our Mass times for Christmas are **Thursday, December 24th (Christmas Eve) at 3:00p, 5:00p, 7:30p, and 10:00p.** Mass will be celebrated on **December 25th (Christmas Day) at 10:00a.** **Please try to arrive at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the beginning of Mass.** Due to COVID-19 and Homeland Security Guidelines, the doors of the church will be closed and locked at the beginning of each Mass.

Beginning December 7th, to make a reservation, please call the Parish Office at 856-881-9155 and press “7” when you hear the auto attendant. **Reservations will be accepted through Friday, December 18th.** After pressing “7” you will hear a series of beeps and another message. You can leave your reservation after the tone. Please leave your name, the number of individuals attending with you, the time of the Mass you’ll be attending, your e-mail address and a good phone number where you can be reached to confirm your reservation. Please understand that seating will be assigned.

We hope and pray that we will be able to proceed with the Christmas Masses as planned. We encourage you to visit our Parish website, www.psmaj-nj.com or call 856-881-9155 and press “1” for up-to-date information regarding schedules, events, and any changes we may be forced to make.

Something to consider ...

The “deserts” of our own lives are opportunities testing us and leading us to deeper conviction about who Christ is. For example, the “desert” of a long, debilitating illness tests our trust in God’s Presence and care. The “desert” of a failed relationship tests our understanding of love and fidelity, and our willingness to forgive. The “desert” of unemployment and financial stress tests our convictions, helps us encounter Christ in our daily living, and enables us to testify to Him with greater authenticity.



Catholic Charities Vehicle Donation Program & Tax Deduction for 2020

It is now close to the end of 2020, and Catholic Charities is asking you to check your garage, yard or other areas around your house for old vehicles. Please donate your vehicle(s) to the Catholic Charities (Diocese of Camden) Charitable Auto Resources for Services (CARS) vehicle donation program. The CARS program accepts any type of vehicle, running or non-running, including cars, vans, SUVs, trucks, boats, mobile homes, motorcycles, golf carts, scooters, etc.

Free towing and an IRS tax deduction form will be provided for your vehicle donation. To donate your vehicle, call toll free: 1-877-586-9227, and PLEASE MENTION YOU ARE DONATING YOUR VEHICLE TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF CAMDEN, NJ. You can also donate your used vehicle online at: <http://catholiccharitiescamden.careasy.org/HOME.html>

There is still time for you to receive a tax deduction on your 2020 tax return, if you donate your unused vehicle to Catholic Charities by December 31, 2020. All proceeds from the Catholic Charities CARS program benefit needy individuals and families in parishes, and throughout the six counties of South Jersey. Thank you very much for helping those who are most vulnerable in our Diocese.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact Kevin Hickey, Executive Director at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden:
856-342-4104 | Kevin.Hickey@CamdenDiocese.org

Please Note.....
 If you handle any bulletins, literature, prayer cards, etc., please take whatever you touched home with you. Doing so will decrease the spread of germs through contact. ©JPPC
**Thank you**

WEAR IT CORRECTLY
 TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS



Completely cover the nose and mouth with the face covering. Be sure it fits snugly against the side of the face.
















Nose & mouth are not covered.



Nose is not covered.



Mask is too loose.

Chance of Transmission	Asymptomatic COVID-19 Carrier	Uninfected Person
Very high		
High		
Medium		
Low		
Very low		
	6+ feet	
Virtually none		


DIOCESE OF CAMDEN
Coronavirus Prayer

Lord Jesus, you heal the sick.
 We pray that the coronavirus that has affected so many in our world can be contained, controlled, and cured.

We lift up to your mercy all those affected, all those working hard to study and cure this illness, and all health care professionals and emergency management teams that are working day and night to keep us safe.


Help us, Lord, to trust in your merciful care.

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.
 Amen.



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN
Prayer for Spiritual Communion
 BY SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

MY JESUS,
 I BELIEVE YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT.
 I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL.
 SINCE I CANNOT NOW RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY,
 COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART.
 I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE, AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU.
 NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU.
 AMEN.



LIVE 
STREAMING

Please check out <https://www.camdendiocese.org/live-stream-mass/> for Parishes in the Diocese and sites throughout the country that are live-streaming the Mass. If you are unable to attend Mass, but would like to continue watch it, this is for you!