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Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 18, 2011

Good News!

December 18, 2011

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16 /
Rom 16:25–27 Lk 1:26–38

My husband turns fifty this year, and his family traditionally expects a giant surprise party when each of the eleven siblings hits the big 5-0. However, I've already informed my in-laws that 1) my husband doesn't want a party and 2) I exhausted my party-planning abilities on our wedding reception: "I'll be incapable of throwing any more parties until 2075." After all, while the moment everyone jumps out and yells "Surprise!" is terrific, it takes a heck of a lot of coordination, work, and careful—often sneaky!—planning to get there.

I sometimes wonder if the angel Gabriel was accompanied by a heavenly chorus of angels shouting "Surprise!" to Mary. How shocked she must have been at this unexpected announcement. The Gospel tells us she was "greatly troubled"—she must have been confused and very afraid, not only at being chosen for such a profound mission, but also at the prospect of being an unmarried pregnant woman in a society that stoned such women to death.

Yet behind this "Surprise!" was God's magnificent plan. The surprise was on Mary and on us—that God would dare to become human to bring salvation to all people. Despite her initial shock and fear, Mary was open enough to trust God's plan and speak the yes that transformed the world.

Our preparations for this Great Surprise (better known as Christmas) are ending soon, yet we know the divine plan continues to unfold. God no doubt has plans to surprise us—with comfort in our pain, with a challenge for our growth, with a mission for us to undertake. Will we be open enough to say yes like Mary? And how might our yes transform ourselves, others, or even the world?

Janel Esker
sundaybulletins@liguori.org



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Prayer Line

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Mrs. Theresa Cison

Office Hours - Mon., Tues., & Fri. - 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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Saint Maurice Church 860-643-4466

e-mail: stmauricechurch@sbcglobal.net

www.stmauricekofc.org

Website: saintmauricebolton.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

ST. MAURICE CHURCH

B OLTON, CT. (4)

THIS WEEK

DECEMBER 17TH – 18TH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MAINTENANCE COLLECTION

CHRISTMAS FOOD & GIFT DISTRIBUTION

USHER'S GROUP III

SATURDAY, DEC. 17

4:00 p.m. Mass offered for Paul & Doris Gidius
Request of Richard, Gail & Terri Gidius

Children's choir rehearsal

SUNDAY, DEC. 18

7:30 a.m. Mass offered for +Mary and Steve
and Dave Caruso request of Charles &
Shirley Brown.

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

10:00 a.m. Mass offered for +Orlando Santana, Jr.
And +Kim Auger request of The Auger
family

Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Hours

MONDAY, DEC. 19 NO MASS

TUESDAY, DEC. 20

9:00 a.m. Mass offered for +The Maratta and
Quagliano Families request of Mr. & Mrs.
Maratta

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21

9:00 a.m. Mass offered for +Rolande & Clifford
Mishio request of The Fournier family

3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THURSDAY, DEC. 22 NO MASS

FRIDAY, DEC. 23 NO MASS



Wesoly Swiat Bozego Narodzenia

Felice Navidad

Buon Natale

Joyeux Noel

Frohliche Weihnachten

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



SATURDAY, DEC. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Marie Madore
request of her daughter

Altar Servers: Ben, Ryan, Nicholas Van Dine, Kaila Toce

Lector: Kyle Toce

Eucharistic Minister: Jennifer Carvalho

10:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Eva & John
Wachowski request of Irene Kehl

Altar Servers: Maria Cinea

Lector: Joel Cohan

Eucharistic Minister: Lou Cloutier

SUNDAY, DEC. 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Jean, Helen, and
Stefan Grybowicz request of The Auger
family

Altar Servers: Angelica & Alex Czercowy

Lector: Lynn Mancino

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Wiley

MONDAY, DEC. 26, NO MASS

TUESDAY, DEC. 27

9:00 a.m. Mass offered for Levi Fournier,
Request of The Fournier Family

NO CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28

9:00 a.m. Mass offered for a Special
Intention, request of Sima Guth

THERE WILL BE NO ADORATION TODAY

THURSDAY, DEC. 29 NO MASS

FRIDAY, DEC. 30 NO MASS

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

SATURDAY, DEC. 31 Rosary before Mass

4:00 p.m. Mass offered for Arthur Kehl, request
of Marty and Carol Zabielski

7:30 a.m. Mass offered for +Connie Morelli,
request of Gloria Holbrook

10:00a.m. Mass offered for Frank Murphy,
request of Mary Anne Murphy.

And a God filled New Year



TO ST. MAURICE PARISH

Just want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do for our Bolton Community. You all work tirelessly to help others, often unseen.

Your help to the hurting families will never be forgotten—you touch many lives with your kindness, love and hope! At some time we are all in the position where we need “help” and then we go on to help others.

Thank you for being the flow through for God’s blessing!

Praying for you continued strength and health and that of your families.....

The staff of the Guidance Office Bolton High School.

Last Week’s Offertory \$ 6,012
Last Year’s Offertory \$ 3,264

“Do not be afraid, Mary,” Lk 1:30

It can be a little scary to do as God asks – to give Him the first fruits of our time, talent and treasure. The comforting words the angel spoke to Mary can comfort us, too, when we strive to be good Christian stewards-- Do not be afraid.”

Once again I would like to thank you for the tremendous effort so many of you have shown in keeping your commitment to financially support this parish. Our income has increased significantly due to the large response from this caring, dedicated community. I realize this has been a sacrifice for many of you but such a financial commitment is helping us to address the many needs facing our parish today.

Fr. Wojciech +

Want Ad:

CASE WORKER ASSISTANT – BASIC NEEDS PROGRAM, CATHOLIC CHARITIES, WILLIMANTIC OFFICE: Position available, twenty-five hours/week. Requires a minimum of an A.A. in Human Services and/or experience. Individual will assist the case worker to implement service plans, provide case management, service coordination, advocacy, referrals, and direct relief. Computer skills required. Individual must demonstrate the ability to establish and maintain successful professional and working relationships with clients and colleagues within the community. Must possess sensitivity to diverse backgrounds, knowledge of community resources and competency in evaluating client’s needs. Bi-lingual a plus. Please send letter of interest and resume to Search Committee, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Norwich, 331 Main Street, Norwich CT 06360. Closing date: December 23.

Immaculata Retreat House, 289 Windham Rd. Willimantic, CT., will hold a Retreat for men beginning on Friday, January 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. and concluding on Sunday, January 8, 2012, with lunch. The theme of this retreat is from the Book of Samuel: “Speak, Lord, I am ready to listen.” As we begin a new year we invite you to take time out of your busy lives to “listen” to the Lord, who is always speaking to you. Give yourself the gift a weekend retreat. You will never regret this gift to yourself. Gift certificates make wonderful Christmas presents. Information is available at 860-423-8484 or e-mail: dmangum@omiusa.org

Readings for the Week of December 18, 2011

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38
Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
Saturday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
Next Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
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