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saint maurice

A TITHING PARISH

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Second Sunday of Advent • December 9, 2012

Good News!

December 9, 2012

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

Gn 3:9-15, 20 / Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 / Lk 1:26-38

The Isaian quote in today's Gospel about preparing the way of the Lord reminds me of what happens in a city when the president or the pope visits. Long-standing potholes are filled. Buildings in disrepair are spruced up and the "riff-raff" (aka homeless people) cleared away. Everything is smoothed out, fluffed up, and brightened to impress. The same happens at our workplaces—the CEO arrives, and desks are instantly clean and the office productive.

John the Baptist was the "voice of one crying out in the desert," challenging people to prepare the way of the Lord. But this preparation wasn't literally about smoothing roads and filling valleys. It was about repenting and preparing one's heart to welcome the Lord—which is exactly what Advent is about.

"Every valley shall be filled." What are the gaping valleys in our hearts? What do we need to be more full of? Trust? Hope? Generosity?

"Every mountain and hill shall be made low." What do we need less of? Pride? Selfishness? Anger?

"The winding roads shall be made straight." What paths have led us from God?

"The rough ways made smooth." What personality bumps need smoothing? A judgmental attitude? An intense need for control? The desire to be the center of attention?

We don't prepare our hearts for the Lord out of fear or to make a good impression (as we do for presidents and popes). We prepare them so God can live in us and transform us into the holy people we're called to be. As Saint Paul declares, "The one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it."

Prepare the way, and God will do the rest.

Janel Esker
sundaybulletins@liguori.org



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Prayer Line
Carol 860-643-2837 Mary Ann 860-649-5449

Director of Faith Formation
Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, S.D.S.
Assistant Director
Sharon Snuffer
860-643-4466 or saintmauricechurch@att.net

Organist and Choir Director
Don Benevides 860-871-0752

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

Sick/Shut-Ins
Patricia Cinea 860-646-0564

Fair and Workshops
Dorli Cloutier 860-649-6255 Beth Harney 860-649-1331
Kathy Prentice 860-742-7175

Rev. Wojciech Pelczarski, S.D.S., Administrator
Saint Maurice Church 860-643-4466
e-mail: saintmauricechurch@att.net
www.stmauricekofc.org
Website: saintmauricebolton.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 5:00 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.

THIS WEEK
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DEC. 8 – 9, 2012
Triple Play Café Breakfast and Mini Fair
USHERS GROUP II

SATURDAY, DEC. 8 –

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Mary Nicholson request of Dolores Lynch

SUNDAY, DEC. 9 –

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Agnes and +George Murphy request of Mary Anne Murphy

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

8:30 A.M. – Breakfast for Faith Formation

9:00 A.M. - Faith Formation

10:00 A.M. – Mass offered for +Armand Aubey, +John Frank request of Victoria & Helen Dzadek

6:00 P.M. Adult Faith Formation in the Parish Center

MONDAY, DEC. 10 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Levi Fournier request of Solange Fournier

5:00 P.M. – Parish BINGO – Food available from 5 P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M. Property Management Meeting

TUESDAY, DEC. 11 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Dan Salzgeber request of Phil and Jennifer Daly

7:00 P.M. Parish Council Meeting

7:15 P.M. – Adult Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Lillian Dufour request of Lou & Dorli Cloutier

3 to 7 P.M. – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THURSDAY, DEC. 13 – No Mass

7:00 P.M. Knights of Columbus Business Meeting

FRIDAY, DEC. 14 – No Mass

SATURDAY, DEC. 15 –

ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS

Last week's Offertory – December 2 – \$5,655
Last year's Offertory – December 4 – \$4,245

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (Philippians 1:9-10)

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God.

NEXT WEEK
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DEC. 15 – 16, 2012
Maintenance Collection
Christmas Food & Gift Distribution
USHERS GROUP III

SATURDAY, DEC. 15 –

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Eva and +John Wachowski request of Irene Kehl

Altar Servers: Elena & Catherine Fiano

Lector: Barbara Fiano

Eucharistic Minister: Maureen Mozzer

SUNDAY, DEC. 16 –

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Richard Luccio request of Phil and Jennifer Daly

Altar Servers: Lynn mancino

Lector: Joel Cohan

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

8:30 A.M. – Breakfast for Faith Formation

9:00 A.M. - Faith Formation

10:00 A.M. – Mass offered for +William Miller request of Lou and Dorli Cloutier

Altar Servers: LeeAnn & Ben Snuffer

Lector: Rita Sheetz

Eucharistic Minister: Rita Sheetz

Pageant Rehearsal after the 10 A.M. Mass

6:00 P.M. Adult Faith Formation in the Parish Center

MONDAY, DEC. 17 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Ivan Dube request of Solange Fournier

5:00 P.M. – Parish BINGO – Food available from 5 P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, DEC. 18 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Roland and +Clifford Mishio request of Solange Fournier

7:15 P.M. – Adult Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19 –

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Deceased Member of the Maratta and Quagliano Families request of Mr. & Mrs. Silvio Maratta

3 to 7 P.M. – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 – No Mass

FRIDAY, DEC. 21 – No Mass

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 –

ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of December 9, 2012

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

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TOYS FOR KIDS:

For families attending Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, please encourage your child or children to bring a NEW UNWRAPPED toy to place under our parish Christmas tree in the sanctuary. Although we expect children to drop off toys during the Christmas Masses, adults can certainly contribute a gift. These toys will be transported to a parish in Hartford, where the Hispanic community will celebrate Three King's Day on January 6th. If you have any questions, please call Cliff Scorso at 860.646.1423. Thank you.

HELPING THE POOR IN CUSCO, PERU

If you are interested in helping the poor in Cusco, Peru, such as children in orphanages, children in clinics or hospitals, children abandoned on streets, or children in schools, or to construct new orphanages, etc., from June 30, July 9, 2013, please contact Fr. Michael Sequeira, a retired priest in the Diocese of Norwich, CT: punchamar@snet.net or call 860-304-4588. Cost and Conditions apply. This is the 7th group going to Cusco. Act now!

SAINT MAURICE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The annual Christmas Pageant is around the corner! All children who would like to be involved, regardless of age, are welcome. We present at the 4pm Christmas Eve Children's Mass. Rehearsal is Sunday, Dec. 16th, immediately following the 10am Mass for about an hour. Parts, any lines, and costuming will be resolved. For more info, contact Sharon VanDine at 860-803-4478.

RETRouvaille WEEKEND

Reaching for a lifeline for your troubled marriage? Serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is that lifeline. At a Retrouvaille weekend couples are given tools to heal, re-establish communication, work on their issues and gain new insights. A series of 6 post sessions follows the weekend phase. For information or to sign up for the next weekend on January 18-20 in Meriden call 413-525-1634. Website www.retrouvaille.org.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES

"God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage" offered by the Office of Family Life. To register for the 4 session class please call 860-889-8346 ext.283.
Date: Saturdays, Jan. 26, & Feb. 2, 9, 16, 2013
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Location: St. Joseph Church Hall, 11 Baltic Rd., Occum
Cost: \$50.00 per couple

RACHEL'S VINEYARD SPANISH RETREAT WEEKEND

If you are silently grieving after an abortion; then healing, forgiveness and peace can have a beginning with a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**. Retreats are for women and men who have been struggling emotionally and spiritually. **Spanish Retreat** Jan. 11-13 in Providence, RI. Call Carol at 401-421-7833 ext.118. www.rachelsvineyard.org "**Project Rachel**" is a Diocesan outreach for anyone in need of healing. Priests in "Project Rachel" can help you through healing and forgiveness. Call 860-889-8346 ext.283. All inquiries are confidential.

DO YOU HAVE A GAS BARBEQUE GRILL?

If anyone has a gas barbeque grill in decent condition that they would like to donate to the Church for use at the Parish Center, please contact the Church office at 860-643-4466 and we will pick it up.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

We must continue to fight for freedom of religion, as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. There has been no other time in our history, when the government has forced people to choose between violating Church teaching and breaking the law. We should not be forced to choose! If you haven't expressed your opposition to the federal healthcare mandate, please contact the White House at: www.whitehouse.gov/contact or call: 202-456-1111 or 202-456-1414.

Please Note:

Dishes or containers left from funeral receptions are in the Church basement kitchen. If you brought food, please pick up your dish/container as soon as possible. Thank you.

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