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Good News

December 20, 2015 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

Mi 5:1-4 / Heb 10:5-10 / Lk 1:39-45

Not long ago, I had the great opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Israel with a group of people. We began our journey each day in prayer. We visited many holy sites; we walked where Jesus walked. Each day our chaplain celebrated liturgy in one of the many churches that mark the location of significant stories in the Bible: where Jesus was born, where he died, where he celebrated his first miracle, at Cana. The prayer was profound, and the members of the group quickly became friends. We still greet each other with gladness and affection.

One of the more moving experiences was a visit to the Church of the Visitation. Located at the top of a small hill, the church welcomes visitors with a wide plaza and a wrought-iron entryway. Immediately to the right of the courtyard is a tall bronze statue of Mary and Elizabeth greeting each other. The figures are slender and visibly pregnant. The artist captured their joy with a slight arch in their backs, their arms beginning to ascend, and their heads lifted up as though laughing in delight. The statue made us smile.

I think about that statue now and believe this is how we should always greet the Lord—with delight, joy, and an understanding that we are pregnant with his grace and presence. We are called to reveal that presence to the whole world. In these last few days before Christmas, reflect on the ways you will show your joy in the Lord's coming.

Mary Katharine Deeley

sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 20, 2015

Prayer Line

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

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

Organist and Choir Director

Don Benevides 860-871-0752

Secretary

Mrs. Theresa Ciscon Office Hours - Mon., Tues., & Fri. - 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Telephone: 860-643-4466 e-mail: saintmauricechurch@att.net

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

Website

www.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.

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 Pas-

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

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 19 — DECEMBER 20, 2015 USHERS GROUP IV

2ND COLLECTION — ST. MAURICE FUEL FUND

SATURDAY, DEC 19

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †William & †Marion Miller

request of the Family

Altar Servers: Maria Cinea Lectors: Bert Flynn

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Wiley

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, DEC 20

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

Altar Servers: Shirley Warbeck

Lector: Joel Cohan

Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR in the Church

9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for Deceased members of the

†Maratta and †Quagliano Families request of Josephine and Silvio Maratta

Altar Servers: Lee Ann & Ben Snuffer

Lector: Paul Brown

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Smythe

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

11:00 A.M. CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE in the Church FOOD & GIFT DISTRIBUTION in the Parish Center

MONDAY, DEC 21

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Samuel Gugliemino

TUESDAY, DEC 22

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

7:15 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, DEC 23

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

THURSDAY, DEC 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE)

2ND COLLECTION — POOR & NEEDY

4:00 P.M. <u>Mass offered for †William & †Jessie Rosewell</u>

request of the Snuffer Family

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

10:00 P.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

FRIDAY, DEC 25 (CHRISTMAS - HOLY DAY)

2ND COLLECTION — POOR & NEEDY

10:00 A.M. <u>Mass offered for Lois Dunham</u> request of Linda Wiley

SATURDAY, DEC 26

3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS

STEWARDSHIP

Last week's Offertory: December 13 — \$3,642

Projected Amount needed \$3,370

The just man's sacrifice is most pleasing, nor will it ever be forgotten. In generous spirit pay homage to the LORD, be not sparing of freewill gifts. With each contribution show a cheerful countenance, and pay your tithes in a spirit of joy. Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means. For the LORD is one who always repays, and he will give back to you sevenfold. (Sirach 35:9-13)

NEXT WEEK

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

<u>DECEMBER 26 — DECEMBER 27, 2015</u> *USHERS GROUP I*

SATURDAY, DEC 26

4:00 P.M. Mass offered for †Eva & †John Wachowski

request of Irene Kehl

Altar Servers: Maria Cinea Lectors: Georgette Pelletier Eucharistic Minister: Bert Flynn

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

SUNDAY, DEC 27

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino Lector: Lynn Mancino Eucharistic Minister: Arlene Giglio

8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR in the Church NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for a Special Intention for Angelica &

Alex Czercowy request of their Parents

Altar Servers: Alex Czercowy Lector: Jessica Merry

Eucharistic Minister: Betty Aitkin

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

COFFEE SOCIAL after Mass in the Church Basement

MONDAY, DEC 28

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

TUESDAY, DEC 29

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for †Samuel Gugliemino

7:15 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, DEC 30

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for All Parishioners

of St. Maurice Church

THURSDAY, DEC 31 (VIGIL, MARY MOTHER OF GOD)

6:00 P.M. <u>Mass offered for All Parishioners</u>

of St. Maurice Church

FRIDAY, JAN 1 (MARY, MOTHER OF GOD - HOLY DAY)

10:00 A.M. <u>Mass offered for All Parishioners</u> of St. Maurice Church

SATURDAY, JAN 2

3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of December 20, 2015

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45 Monday: Sg 4:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

 Wednesday:
 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

 Thursday:
 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16/Ps 89:2-3,4-5,27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

 Christmas Vigil:
 Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-25/Mt 1:1-25

 Christmas Day:
 Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

 Saturday:
 Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59/Ps 31:3-4, 6-8, 16-17/Mt 10:17-22

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FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH



ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE

Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line, especially the new requests for this week.

Thank you. Carol and MaryAnn.

ANNUAL THREE KINGS TOY DRIVE

As the Christmas season continues, remember the children of St. Anne's/Immaculate Conception Parish in Hartford. They are the recipents of St. Maurice's annual toy drive. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child of any age to place under the tree during all the Christmas Eve and Christmas day masses. (If your toy requires batteries, kindly provide these too, as even batteries can be a difficult expense for these families.) All gifts will be delivered in time for Three Kings Day, a Hispanic celebration which remembers the day the three kings brought their gifts to the infant Jesus. For further information, please email Sharon at sfhtheatre@comcast.net. Thank you for the continued generosity of our parish family.

To all of our parish family that helped with the **Christmas Fair**

we give you our thanks for the job well done. Along many other contributors thank you to Georgina's Restaurant for the pizza, The Deerburgers for apples and Larry

Pesce for baskets.



CHRISTMAS FOOD

Food for the Christmas holiday will be delivered to local families in need this Sunday, December 20 starting at 11:00 from the Parish Center. We need food and we need drivers to help with the gifts to be delivered at the same time. To volunteer to drive contact: tmanning818@sbcglobal.net

Christmas Pageant

On Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th, at the



4:00 pm mass we will be having our Christmas Pageant! There will be a practice on Sunday, December 20th at 11:00am. If you would like to take part in the pageant please let Sharon VanDine or Sherry Snuffer know as soon as possible.

ALL YOUTH

are invited to join the new choir. Practices are Sunday mornings from 8:30 - 8:50 in the church. Come when you can, all voices are welcome!

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

A nation always gets the kind of politicians it deserves. If a time ever comes when the religious Jews, Protestants and Catholics ever have to suffer under a totalitarian state, which would deny to them the right to worship God according to the light of their conscience, it will be because for years they thought it made no difference what people represented them in kind of Congress, and because they abandoned the spiritual in the realm of the temporal.

- Fulton J. Sheen

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Defending Our Religious Liberty

The Catholic Church is asking that the U.S. Supreme Court safeguard the rights afforded to us in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, so that we will have the freedom to serve the needy without violating our moral principles and without being penalized with fines.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.



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