

Weekly Update December 10, 2017

Reflection for the 2nd Sunday in Advent: John the Baptist is a “major player” during the Advent season. He always makes an appearance in the Gospel reading for the second Sunday of Advent, proclaiming the imminent arrival of Christ and telling the people how to prepare. His message offers a most appropriate hinge connecting our twofold Advent anticipation: awaiting the coming of Jesus as the Messiah who walked the dusty roads of Israel two thousand years ago, and awaiting his triumphant return as Lord of all at the end of time. John the Baptist tells us how to prepare for both arrivals.

John speaks of “a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Mark 1:4). This baptism of John was not the same type of baptism that we participate in as Christians. (For Christians, baptism is also a participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus). But it was deeply meaningful and appropriate preparation for the coming of a Savior. To repent was to have a change of heart, to change one’s ways. Certainly repentance includes sorrow for sin, and the Gospels tell us that John’s baptism forgave the sins of the people, who came out in droves to acknowledge their sins and be baptized by John.

Ask Yourself: What does *repentance* mean to me? What does it mean to have a change of heart? How can I nurture a spirit of repentance in my life and ready my heart for the coming of Christ?

Pray: John the Baptist, pray for me, that I may prepare the way of the Lord in my life, my relationships, my work, and my world.

Live the Gospel: This week, every morning, repeat the words of the prophet Isaiah, describing the ministry of John the Baptist: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” How can you prepare the way for the coming of Jesus into our world?

Classes

The Sacrament Preparation for grades 7 and 8 will be Sunday, December 17th. 6:00 Mass at the Worship Center followed by sacrament preparation at Holy Angels Catholic School.

DISMISSAL WILL BE AT 8:30 PM.

Home Schooling and Summer Session: Will meet on Sunday, December 17th at the 9:30 Mass followed by meeting at Holy Angels Catholic School.

No classes on Sunday, December 24th and Sunday, December 31st. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7th.

Youth Group: Will meet on Sunday, January 7, 2018. Contact Alli at asanders@holyangelsnj.org for more info.

Retreat

8th grade Retreat: Will be on Sunday, January 14th from 3:00-7:00 pm. Confirmandi and Sponsors are expected to attend.

7th grade Retreat: Will be on Sunday, January 21st from 3:00-7:00 pm. Families are invited to attend the 6:00 Mass with the Confirmandi. The Confirmandi will be receiving The Creed at the Mass as they official enter into the Confirmation Program.

Service

Peanut Butter and Jelly Club will meet on Wednesday, December 13th at the Holy Angels Catholic School cafeteria from 6:30-7:30. **We are in need of bread, peanut butter, and jelly.** If you're a planning to attend kindly bring a loaf of bread. Thank You!

St. Joseph's House of Camden is a non-profit shelter dedicated to caring for the homeless. The shelter is in need of casseroles. Contact Jerry Campbell at 856-435-0509 or email at ccusato1@comcast.net or Irene Clark at iclark@holyangelsnj.org or bring them to Family Faith Formation also Holy Angels Catholic School. (Students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation who are using casseroles for service need to make 4 casseroles.) List the ingredients used and tape it to the container. **Casseroles will be picked up on Monday, January 7, 2018.**

Handy Helpers Weekend of Service: volunteers are needed on the second Saturday of each month. Volunteers provide help to senior citizens, disabled persons and single-parent families with small jobs done around the home. You meet at the Presbyterian Church, Broad and Centre Streets in Woodbury. Contact Jean and Jerry Washko at 856-845-6944 or jerry.washko@verizon.net.

Share the warmth Coat Drive: is being sponsored by McGuinness Funeral Home who is supporting Angels of God Closet and Veterans of America. Bring the outgrown coats, jackets and suits to McGuinness Funeral Home 573 Egg Harbor Road, Sewell, NJ 08080 by December 15th. Call them at 856-582-3800 with any questions.

Christmas Toy Drive for C.H.O.P: **Holy Angels FFF and Holy Angels Catholic School are joining together for 1 Christmas Toy Drive for the children. Check the attachment for more info. Unwrapped toys are due by Thursday, December 14th for delivery. See attached flyer.**

DAY OF SERVICE: Monday, January 15th, Martin Luther King Day from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Great opportunity for Confirmation students to do service with a family member or sponsor or just to spend the day and do service. Forms will be sent out for sign ups.

A Call For Altar Servers

Holy angels Parish is looking for boys and girls in grades 3-8 to the ministry of Altar Servers. Being a server allows you to experience Mass in a new way and provides an invaluable service to the parish and to classmates. Please prayerfully consider this ministry from which blessings will be bestowed upon both the server and their family.

Training will begin in mid-November. If interested please e-mail Deacon Vince at dvlatini@outlook.com or call at 609-932-6170 with child's name, grade, school, parent's name, email address, phone number and home address.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Mass on Sunday morning, December 24th is a Holy Day of Obligation for Sunday Mass. Christmas Eve Mass beginning with the 4:00 is the Christmas Liturgy.

Mass on Christmas Eve are: 4:00 at all sites. Worship Center will be the children Mass.

5:30 WC

6:00 SMC

8:00 SPC

Midnight at SPC

Christmas Day: 9:00 am at SPC, 9:30 am at SMC, and 11:00 am at SPC.

Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated: December 12-22 at 9:30 at SPC.

December 22nd at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm at SPC and December 23rd 3:00 pm at WC and 4:30 pm at SMC.

New Year Mass Schedule

Mass on Sunday morning, December 31st is a Holy Day of Obligation for Sunday Mass. New Year's Eve Mass which is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God will be 4:00 pm at the WC and 5:30 pm at SMC. Monday, January 1, 2018 will be 9:00 am and 11:00 am at SPC. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.