



SATURDAY, November 28, 2009 VIGIL: First Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM ✠ Peter & Jane Price req by the Price family
✠ Lottie Matyszczyk req by Gloria Perreault

SUNDAY, November 29, 2009 First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM ✠ The People of the Parish
10:30 AM ✠ Celeste Roberge req by the Robert Fortunato Family

MONDAY, November 30, 2009

8:00 AM ✠ In Honor of the Holy Family For Prayers Answered

TUESDAY, December 1, 2009

8:00 AM ✠ For All Fr. Vern's Intentions req by Rita Gallagher

WEDNESDAY, December 2, 2009

8:00 AM ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory req by Rita Vadnais
✠ Claire Denault req by the family

THURSDAY, December 3, 2009

8:00 AM ✠ Claire Denault req by the family

FRIDAY, December 4, 2009 – First Friday

8:00 AM ✠ Margaret Broderick 4th ann req by the family

SATURDAY, December 5, 2009 VIGIL: Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM ✠ Souls in Purgatory req by Mary Yando
4:00 PM ✠ Kenneth S. Slate req by Gloria Slate

SUNDAY, December 6, 2009 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM ✠ Phil & Raymond Labrecque req by the family
10:30 AM ✠ People of the Parish



"Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

- Lk 21:36

Scripture Readings for December 5-6, 2009

Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6 (6)

Religious Vocations Corner – Be on the watch! Allow God to lead you in the ways of truth and justice. How is God calling you to serve? (Jer.33: 14-16). If you think God is calling you, call Fr. Gary Dailey at 413-452-0816 or E-Mail: g.dailey@diospringfield.org. Please take home our Vocation Cross, God will bless you.

The Pastor's Thoughts...

-With the celebration of Thanksgiving we are officially in the Holiday Season. This Tuesday evening at 7 PM, our K of C Council invites all the members of our parish to join with them in the blessing and lighting of our Christmas Manger Scene in front of the rectory. This annual event of blessing, readings and carols is quite popular with those who attend and I hope many more will choose to join with us this year. A reception will follow in the K of C Hall with hot chocolate and cookies.

-This Friday is the First Friday of the month and we will once again have our special hour of prayer for priests as we honor this special year for priests as requested by our Holy Father. Beginning at 7:00 PM in the church we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the recitation of the rosary, along with other special devotional prayers. There will be time for quiet reflection and prayer followed by Benediction. The service ends at 8PM. Please consider joining us.

-Last week, a replacement fence was erected between the rectory and our social center. The old fence just "fell apart" because of its age. The new one is vinyl and should serve us well for many years to come. The fence is necessary as there is a dangerous drop off to a lower level behind it. I am so grateful to Gerry Desilets and Bob Christ for handling this project and for all they do, along with Sam Joyal, to keep our property looking so well.

-Prayerful best wishes and congratulations to Laura Gosselin and Paul Pensonnault Jr. who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Christian Marriage on Saturday here at St. Francis. May the Lord bless their union with much happiness.

-In accordance with Diocesan directives, a copy of last year's financial report was mailed to every household. I hope you have taken the time to review and understand what our expenses are and how your weekly contributions are used to maintain this parish. These are very challenging times for us all as we see costs rising and incomes dropping. As pastor, I am so grateful to the dedicated help and assistance of Stan Wyman, our Finance Director and Pat Akins our secretary/accountant, as well as to all of the members of our Finance Council for keeping us sound and fiscally responsible. Similarly, I am so grateful to the one third of our membership who, week after week, contribute to the financial needs of this parish. It is because of you that we are here proclaiming and celebrating the love of God.

-If you have not already done so, please remember that my Christmas CD, NOEL, makes for great Christmas giving. How many parishioners in this Diocese can say that they can give their pastor as a Christmas present? All proceeds go to our Building Fund.

God Bless you! Fr. Vern



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*In Gratitude to God for His many gifts,
the members of this parish have returned
the following resources in support of the parish
and its ministries...*

The Sunday Collection for November 21-22 was \$6,092.65
Weekly Sunday Average 6,400.99
Weekly Sunday Goal 6,500.00
Mortgage & Expansion Collection for November 1-22 ... 5,969.00
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion Goal 6,000.00
Mortgage & Expansion November Shortfall 31.00
Campaign for Human Development 2,584.00

Mortgage & Expansion Collection

The Monthly Collection for the Mortgage & Expansion Fund will be a second collection at all masses next weekend December 5th & 6th. The loan payment is a monthly obligation which our parish must fulfill just as any family does. Our goal is \$6,000.00 per month and all contributions above the goal will be retained for mortgage and expansion needs.

Eucharistic Adoration and Visitation - The Adoration Info Line number is 323-6272 Extension 6. Please, always call just before coming in for your hour to see if Adoration has been closed due to extreme cold or bad weather. Hours of Adoration are 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. If you would like to be a part of our Adoration program, either as an assigned adorer or substitute, please call Pam at 323-7416. **The following hours are in need of an Adorer: Monday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM, Tuesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM, Wednesday 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM and Wednesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM.**

Liturgical Roles

Weekend of December 5-6, 2009

Lectors

4:00 PM Campbell
8:00 AM Forrest
10:30 AM C. Schmidt

Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Symaczyk, Yvon, Abraham, Pat A., Carney,
Couture, Vadnais
8:00 AM Ricardi, Dubois,, McGinnis, Miffitt, Tovet,, Lund,
Barrett
10:30 AM G. & L. Racicot, Adams, Belanger, Desilets, Fedora,
Groux

Altar Servers

4:00 PM A. Beaupre, M. & A.. Patel
8:00 AM John & Justine Holdsworth
10:30 AM W., J. & B. Kervick

Pro Life Corner – If you paid attention to the media, you would think that those who oppose embryonic stem cell research and a host of other laboratory-created life techniques are “anti-science.” But this is not a science debate. It’s a debate about ethics, morality and what is right and wrong. NRL News 6/08



Brick Corner – We would like to thank the following parishioners who have “purchased a brick” for our new church, either in their name or in the name of a loved one:

No bricks were purchased during this time period. Thank you for your support and please remind your friends that they, also, can “buy a brick”. They are only \$10.00 each.

Calling all Children! Come Celebrate—



Be part of St. Francis’ Children’s Christmas Pageant. Young people K through 12 are invited to be musicians, singers, Nativity characters, helpers, etc. Starting November 22, rehearsals are Saturdays, at 9:00, in the chapel. The Pageant will take place December 24th at the 6:00 liturgy and be broadcast on Channel 5 December 25th at 4:30. For more information, or to sign up, please, call Louise Christ: 323-8892.

Christmas Shoppers Specials – Shoppers will be offered an opportunity to purchase some unique gifts next weekend, December 5th and 6th after all Masses in the church gathering space and the Tovet Room. Many of the items are products of the Craft Workshop by parish ladies who have labored throughout the year to produce them. Plan to stop by after Mass on those dates and pick up some stocking stuffers or other attractive gifts. All proceeds will benefit the St. Francis Building Fund.



We would like to thank all of you who made food and monetary donations for our Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Once again, your generosity has allowed us to make Thanksgiving a very special holiday for the needy in our community! Without your generosity and the help of so many volunteers, this would not have been possible. Even though we present our families with these baskets year after year, they still express such deep appreciation for all that we do for them. Thank you all so very much!!

Angel Tree – The Angel Tree is set up in the back of St Francis Church. Please stop and take an envelope off of the tree to become a sponsor for someone special. The response to this year’s Angel Tree has been tremendous!

Our Lady of the Angels Secular Franciscan Order is pleased to announce that Barbara Chiappetta will be making her final profession to the Secular Franciscan Order on Saturday, December 12th, at St., Stanislaus Basilica, 566 Front St., Chicopee, at the 6:00 PM Mass. All are welcome to attend. There will be a reception afterwards. The SFO members wish to publicly congratulate Barbara on this special occasion.

Our Lady of the Angels SFO will meet on Wednesday, December 9th at 6:30 PM in the Tovet Room of the church. All are welcome. For those with questions, call Lynn at 323-5537 or Kathy at 323-9023.

NOVEMBER 29, 2009

Michael Sweeney Prayer Line

From November 16th through November 23rd, 2009 the following intentions were added to our already long list of requests for prayers. Won't you please join us in praying for them all.

Prayers are asked for Jesse, who is being shipped out to Afghanistan, for safety during his deployment there.

A safe and rewarding trip to Kansas City for our NCYC teens 11/18-11/22.

Continued prayers are asked for good medical results for LaValle G.

Successful surgery and healing for Theresa G.

Good recovery after surgery for Dan F.

That Dana Blood will get good results from rehab at Wingate at Wilbraham.

For Richard Morris, who is having medical problems.

A very special intention for a family crisis.

Continued healing for Mel Swank, who is at Health South.

Thanksgiving for the life of Fr. Frederick Heberle. Please pray for the repose of his soul, for his family and friends in their bereavement.

Thanksgiving for all God's Graces and His answers to the requests of the prayer line. If you would like to have the prayer line members pray for you or a loved one, please call Chris McGinnis, 323-6622, Louise Groux, 323-4046 or Marion Masse, 323-7169 or email cmcginnis6622@verizon.net.

Lighting of the Crèche December 1st – The St Francis K of C will sponsor a lighting of the crèche on the rectory lawn on Park St on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00 PM to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season. All parishioners, K of C members and their families are invited to participate. There will be a prayer service, singing and the lighting of the crèche. Refreshments of hot chocolate, coffee, tea and finger foods will be served to all participants after the ceremony in the K of C home at 11 Jabish St.

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast December 13th – The St. Francis Council of the Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Pancake Breakfast in the Pine Room of the St. Francis Social Center on Park Street from 8:30 to 11 AM. The menu is pancakes, sausages, juice, coffee, tea or milk. Donations are: adults \$5, children 5-12 \$3 and children under 5 are free. Tickets will be available after the weekend Masses December 5th and 6th or at the door.



Married Couples: Just as we celebrate Thanksgiving by gathering together with family, why not celebrate your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? It's a positive, simple, common sense, private experience between husband and wife that revitalizes your marriage. Make your reservation now! The next world wide Marriage Encounter Weekends in the New England area are December 4-6 and January 8-10. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our web page at www.wwmeMA.org.

St. Francis Food Pantry is in need of toilet paper, laundry and dish detergent. Your support and generosity is very much appreciated.

Build strong children OR repair broken adults.