



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, November 30 - St. Andrew

8:00 Sam Giordano *by wife and children*

Tuesday, December 1

8:00 Michael Kelly *by Neda Bordonaro and Laurie Mozee*

Wednesday, December 2

5:30 Maria Degaspero *by Excel Industries*

Thursday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier

8:00 Michael and Florence Zola *by family*

Friday, December 4 - St. John of Damascus

8:00 Nettie Charles *by Don and Virginia Roehling*

Saturday, December 5

9:00 Peter Miano - 10th Anniversary *by family*

4:30 Michael Abraham, Sr. *by wife and children*

Sunday, December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 John and Patricia Blasko *by family*

10:15 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ludwiczak *by Bradford and Elaine Hess*



## Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday - Romans 10:9-18;

Good News Matthew 4:18-22

Tuesday - Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday - Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday - Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday - Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday - Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday - Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6



## PASTORAL SHARINGS

The great gifts of revival, renewal and transformation that we read about in the lives of the saints are available to us through the life of the Church.

The great promises of God are not for some elite group somewhere on an island. They are for us but we can be asleep or blind to what God is ready to do in our life.

The first Sunday of Advent is the start of the new Church year. Maybe it is a good time to make some spiritual resolutions as we prepare for Christmas.

Maybe there is some bridge-building we need to do in our life; maybe there are important relationships in our life for which we need to show new respect; maybe our prayer life needs regularity and structure; maybe our Mass participation needs more preparation; maybe we need a more honest self-scrutiny as we prepare for our Christmas confession; maybe there are attachments in our life from which we need to separate ourselves; maybe there are sectors of our life that need more self-control.

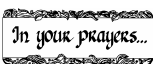
As we light the candles of the Advent wreath each week, and as their light becomes stronger each week of Advent, the light of Christ will become stronger in our life because Advent is not about the rebirth of Christ. The Lord was born once and for all in Bethlehem 2000 years ago and will not be born there again. Advent is about the rebirth of our faith, the rebirth of our commitment to Christ and His Church.

The Lord did tear open the heavens and come down. He remains with us now through Word and Sacrament. Now, we have only to receive Him into our life.

Do not let Him approach your life and catch you asleep. Advent calls us to watch for the movement of God in our life.

Father Joseph Krempa

**Our Special Prayer Request for the Week:** That the families of St. Teresa's will recommit themselves to daily prayer this Advent so they may grow in holiness of life with a greater love for the gift of Jesus; we pray to the Lord...



Please pray for the sick of the parish and their family members particularly; Thomas Brennan, Irene Michalak, Alexis Bruno, Sara Milani, Julie Conschafter, Loretta Varo, Julie Carlo, Dolores Totaro, Rita Matynka, Pamela Rodgers, Julie Robertson, William Suszka, Jr. Please also continue to pray for the troops who are serving our country in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world.



**Advent Penance Service in Preparation for Christmas** - St. Teresa's, Our Lady of Peace and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary parishes will participate in a joint Penance Service on Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00 pm at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Main Street at Harris Hill Road, Williamsville. Don't pass up this moment of grace!

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT \* SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2009



**Coming Soon - Mark your calendars!!! - Caroling and Cookies** - Saturday, December 12, 2008. All are invited (both young and old) to make our Annual Christmas Visit to the residents of the Erie County Home. We will leave the church parking lot at 1:15 pm and arrive back before 3:00 pm. We are looking for your help to make this event successful and bring the Christmas spirit to the residents of the Home. Encourage your youngsters to go to sing and join us yourselves if you can. We are also looking for cookies and help in distributing them while the children do their caroling. If you are unable to attend but can donate cookies, please leave them in the back of the church on Saturday morning.



Thank you to all of the adults and youth of our parish who helped with the Thanksgiving Basket Project by sorting food or delivering baskets last Sunday. Monetary donation and donations of turkeys and food items were also sincerely appreciated.



The Mitten Tree will arrive next weekend. Donations of handmade or store bought mittens, scarves and hats are sincerely appreciated. These gifts will not only warm the bodies of those who receive them, but also the hearts of those who donate them. The tree will remain until Sunday, December 13th.

**USCCB - Word of Life** - The teaching of the Catholic Church on human sexuality is profound and uplifting. Married love is meant to mirror the love within the Trinity - to be faithful, selfless, permanent, and life-giving. And isn't that what everyone really wants out of marriage? But rather than encouraging this kind of love, contraceptives have helped many people to engage in sexual relationships that are unfaithful, selfish, short-term, and altered to be sterile, not life giving. Such uncommitted relationships can not only damage our ability to love as we're meant to love, but very often lead to other problems - contributing to the 3 million unintended pregnancies, over one million abortions, and 19 million new cases of sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs) in the United States each year. *Susan Wills, "Contraception: The Final Print," Respect Life Program (2009-2010).*



**A Concert Featuring works by Handel, Haydn, Mozart and Saint-Saens** - The Villa Maria Chorale, under the direction of Ireneusz Lukaszewski, will perform at St. Mary Church, 5 Saxton Street, Lockport, on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 pm. The Chorale has participated in choral festivals in Italy, Poland, Lithuania, Ireland, Spain and Malta and is comprised of students, faculty and community members. To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the death of the great composer, F.J. Haydn, the choir will perform selections from his "Mass in Time of War." Admission is free!



A tough old retired rancher once told his grandson that the secret to long life was to sprinkle a little gunpowder on his oatmeal every morning. The grandson did this religiously and he lived to be 93. When he died, he left 14 children, 28 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren. . . And a 15-foot hole in the wall of the crematorium.

Copies of St. Teresa's Annual Report are available at the Rectory. Please call or stop by any weekday morning if you would like a copy!



- \* **Sunday, November 29 - No Religious Education Classes - Thanksgiving Holiday!**
- \* **Tuesday, December 1 - Women's Guild Christmas Party at Ivy Ridge - 6:00 pm**
- \* **Wednesday, December 2 - Religious Education Classes - 4:00 - 5:00 pm**
- \* **Saturday, December 5 - First Saturday - Rosary before the 9:00 am Mass and Confessions 8:15 - 8:45 am and 3:45 - 4:15 pm**
- \* **Sunday, December 6 - Religious Education Classes - 9:00 - 10:00 am, 11:15 am - 12:30 pm**

**Ministers for December**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:** 4:30 pm - Gloria Rembas; 8:00 am - Doug Whelan; 10:15 am - Patricia Buczek, Dan Roland or Jim Hayes; **Lectors:** 4:30 pm - Ann Sayers; 8:00 am - Wendy Bergman; 10:15 am - Mary Borden; **Altar Servers:** 4:30 pm - Emily, Chelsea and Simon Wulf; 8:00 am - Montana, Dakota and Skyler Earle; 10:15 am - Erin and Kellen Adderly, Jena and Alexis Kolo

**ALL SATURDAYS OF ADVENT CONFESSIONS:**  
8:15 - 8:45 am  
3:45 - 4:15 pm

BOTTOM LINE:

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams!  
Thoreau