

*The Roman Catholic Church of
Saint Ignatius of Antioch*

December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent



The Gift that Matters

We are in the heart of the gift purchasing season. I know some of you finished your Christmas shopping, but the rest of us, probably most of us, still have a long way to go. Now, it occurs to me that there are various categories of gifts that we buy. First of all, we buy gifts for those people whom we love deeply and whom we want to express this love to on Christmas. People in our immediate families certainly fit into this category, as well as those who have enriched our lives with their presence. Then there are those people whom we don't see all that much but who we care enough about to want to give them a token of our love. And then there are those people whom we feel obligated to give something to, there is more obligation than desire here. I think we all have those people on our gift lists.

I had gift giving on my mind when I read today's second reading from the first chapter of Paul's *Letter to the Philippians*. Paul's words were a wonderful gift to the fledgling Christian community at Philippi. Here the great Apostle Paul was writing to tell them how much he loved them and how much more, infinitely more, God loves them. Listen again to this message of Love:

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the Gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the One who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. 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, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

It is quite clear to me, that if we want to give someone a really great gift, what we should give them what Paul gave the Philippians, the love of Christ.

A while ago one of our mothers sent me some thoughts that her daughter had collected when the girl was in high school. She's not in high school now, nor is she one of our young adults in college, but what she wrote at about 15 years old is full of truth and full of love. Some of the thoughts are from St. Francis of Assisi, others from other spiritual writers, and I think a few were her own thoughts. It makes no difference, she made them her thoughts. Here they are:

- 1-Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.
- 2-If God can work through me, He can work through anyone.
- 3-There are always two choices, two paths to take. One is easy.
And it's only reward is that it is easy.
- 4-Although the world is full of suffering it is also full of the overcoming it.

And the final two:

- 5-The more we know the better we forgive.
- 6-Whoever feels deeply, feels for all who live.

It is easy to be hard and cold towards people, even at Christmas time. We can give gifts that say nothing more than, "I am fulfilling an obligation." We can stew in our anger and our upset over what has happened in the past. Or we can give the gift of the Lord's love. If we continue to love someone, even if that person has hurt us, even if that person does not respond to our love, we will give a lasting gift. Maybe the person will remain determined to refuse our love, but God's love is powerful. The person who has experienced the love of God cannot help but recognize it. This is how we are called to love. This is the gift we are called to give.

Perhaps, if we swallow our pride and allow ourselves to love others we can join the prophet Baruch of our first reading. He spoke to the Jews who were in exile in Babylon. These people knew that they had brought their suffering on themselves. Like Baruch we need to say to those who are hurting in the own self-inflicted pain: "Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever." Perhaps, if we set our anger aside we can join John the Baptist in preparing the way for the Lord into someone's heart.

There is nothing greater that we can give anyone than sincerely loving them as the Lord loves them.

The love of the Lord is selfless, sacrificial, and complete.

His love is selfless. It is difficult to love in this way, being selfless. This type of love demands that we ignore what the other person thinks about us. We all have people in our lives who respond to our being kind and caring with something like: "So, what got into you?" or "Don't think that I'm going to forget the past just because you are being nice today." It is really difficult to take ourselves and our feelings out of the equation and just allow God to love through us. But we are not important. He is.

The Love of the Lord is sacrificial. It is also difficult to love in a sacrificial way. It is difficult to put someone before ourselves, particularly when that person scorns us. But that is what Jesus did on the cross. He put everyone before Himself, including those people who mocked and attacked Him. He forgave those people who crucified Him, even the brutal executioners. When Jesus commanded us to take up our crosses and follow Him, He was telling us to love like He loved, even though this type of love, sacrificial love, carries a heavy cost.

And His love is complete. We cannot love partially or with conditions. We compromise our efforts to give the love of the Lord when we decide to qualify our love, to demand a response of love. For example, if we were to say to an adult child, "I really want you to join us on Christmas, provided you prove you want to be part of this family," we would be qualifying our love. Christ did not do that. He gave Himself completely.

We cannot find any of this sort of negativity in Paul's gift to the Philippians. He doesn't care what they think about him. He doesn't care what loving them cost him. Nor does he demand anything from them for his love. He simply tells them that he loves them, that God loves them, and that he prays that they will grow in the love of God every day of their lives.

What Paul writes to the Philippians, the Holy Spirit writes to us. We are loved by God who is working in our lives.

How can we give anything more at Christmas than to let people know that they also are loved? They are loved by us, and they are loved by God. What greater gift can we give to others than our prayers that they may grow in the love of the Lord every day of their lives?

This is a wonderful time of year. More than any other time of year, we realize the great joy of Christianity. We live wrapped in the arms of our loving God, our God who calls us to join Him in loving His people.

Yours in Christ,



Advent Giving Tree

Helping those in need at Christmastime.



Each week of Advent, we collect unwrapped gifts for a specific organization.

Place gifts under the tree decorated by our Childhood Center in the Church's entrance.

Second Sunday of Advent: (Dec. 5th) - Clothes to Kids.

This organization gives to children living at poverty level or below.

Girls and Boys: Sizes 4 to 16, Junior Sizes 0 to 22, Young Men Sizes 18 to 44.

Accessories, back packs, socks and underwear, in unopened packages & shoes.

Third Sunday of Advent: (Dec. 12th) - Our Community Life Food Pantry.

Small/Easy Open Non Perishable items: canned meats, fruit, vegetables, beans, cereal, coffee, tea, rice, macaroni, instant potatoes, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter & jelly.

Financial donations welcome.



Fourth Sunday of Advent: (Dec. 19th) - Our Upper Pinellas Pregnancy Center.

Constant need: new or like new baby and toddler clothes, large diapers sizes 4-6, large size pull ups, new bottles, pacifiers, bibs, wipes, washcloths, receiving blankets for layettes, crib sheets, baby wash, and toiletries such as combs, brushes and nail clippers. Financial Donations welcomed for purchase of large items, such as cribs and mattresses.



Parish News



Masks are no longer required in Church & Parish buildings, however, we strongly encourage the wearing of masks for your protection as well as others.

Live Streaming of Masses

There is a dispensation for those within specific circumstances. Please go to our website for all the details.

For our Live-Streamed Masses...

go to www.st.ignatius.net and click on Live.
9 a.m. Weekdays, 4 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Saturdays
& 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m., & 6 p.m. Sundays



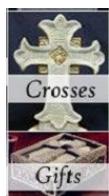
WeShare Giving Donor Match

For every *First Gift* from a **New Recurring Donor** that is added between *Now and December 31st*, WeShare will match that gift, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and first recurring gift must be transacted by December 31st. Go to our website for directions on how to sign up for WeShare Online Giving.



Newly Renovated Gift Shop

Check out our New Gift Shop!



New Items, New Place & New Times
Located in classroom 1 in Life Center

Sundays: 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Mondays: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m. to Noon

First Saturdays: 9 a.m. to Noon

Altar Christmas Decorations

You are invited to share in the enhancement of our Church at Christmas time as well as a memorial for your loved ones, both living and deceased, by donating towards our Christmas decorations.

Special flower envelopes are available on the Church's Courtesy Desk.



Msgr. Joseph A. Pellegrino, Pastor
715 E Orange Street
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Mass Schedule:

Saturday.....4:00 and 6:30 p.m.
(Fulfills Sunday Obligation)
Sunday.....7:00, 9:00, 11:30 a.m. and
6:00 p.m. Life Teen
Weekdays.....7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
Saturday.....9:00 a.m.

Confession Schedule:

Saturday.....3:00- 3:45 p.m.
and after the 6:30 p.m. Mass

Chapel Open for Prayer:

Monday through Friday...7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE 937-4050 Main Office ext. 201

Msgr. Joseph A. Pellegrino, Pastor
msgripellegrino@ignatius.net ext. 209
Rev. Joseph Paek, OSB
frjpaek@ignatius.net ext. 208
Rev. Joshua Bertrand
frjbertrand@ignatius.net ext. 207
Deacon Samuel Moschetto
Deacon Mike Waldron ext. 224
Ron Appel, Parish Manager ext. 224
Katherine Creamer, Office Manager ext. 215
Lorna Moffitt, Parish Mgr. Assistant ext. 201
Taylor Gunn, Parish Office Assistant ext. 203
Eldean Jenkins, Facilities Manager ext. 205
Brandon Vennink, Music Director ext. 201
Laura Margarella, Caritas ext. 206
ext. 221

FAITH FORMATION

Rev. Joshua Bertrand
frjbertrand@ignatius.net ext. 207
Fran Morin, Pre-K—8th Grade
Deacon Mike Waldron, Evangelization ext. 220
mike.waldron51@gmail.com ext. 224

YOUTH MINISTRY

Bart Kovacic, Life Teen
Samantha Trapp, Edge ext. 250
ext. 250

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Sharon Nease, Director ext. 225

GUARDIAN ANGELS SCHOOL

Mary Stalzer, Principal 799-6724

UPPER PINELLAS PREGNANCY CENTER

Mary Caesar 937-4304

PARISH OFFICE FAX 727-943-0676
OFFICE EMAIL kcreamer@ignatius.net

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office

Marriage: Please call the Parish Office

Holy Orders: Please call
Rev. Chuck Dornquast at 345-3338

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Thursdays after 9 a.m. Mass until 10:15 a.m.
First Friday of the Month 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Stay Informed:

Website: www.st.ignatius.net

Facebook: [Facebook.com/stiggy/](https://www.facebook.com/stiggy/)

Instagram: [st_ignatius_tarpon](https://www.instagram.com/st_ignatius_tarpon)

myparishapp: simply text APP to 88202

YouTube: St Ignatius Tarpon Springs

FlockNote: text IgnatiusUpdates to 84576

Upcoming Events

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass - Tuesday, Dec. 7th at 4 p.m.

Solemnity Masses - Tuesday, Dec. 8th at 7, 9, & 7 p.m.



Retirement Fund for our Religious



December 11th & 12th is our Diocese's Annual Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Aging religious need your help. This appeal assists 31,000 Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who ministered for years for little to no pay.

Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for our elderly religious.

Extra envelopes can be found on the Courtesy Desk.

Christmas Choir Concert

'Risen with Healing in His Wings'

Mark your Calendars! Friday, December 17th at 7 p.m. in the Church.



Journeying Together—Synod on Synodality

"Every encounter calls for openness, courage, and a willingness to let ourselves be challenged by the presence and the stories of others. -Pope Francis

Visit www.JourneyingTogether.org



Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come



The last book of the Bible has been long discussed, evaluated and misunderstood. Jeff Cavins will present, on video, the Catholic understanding of this intriguing work of John the Evangelist.

"*Revelation, The Kingdom Yet to Come*" shows how the kingdom established by Christ in His Church is intimately connected with the kingdom in heaven.

This ten-week study with Deacon Sam begins in January.

The class will meet once a week on Thursdays beginning at 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Study workbooks are required and can be ordered from Ascension Press.

Early registration for those needing a study book is appreciated.

The cost of the book is \$30 each and will be collected when you receive your study guide.

REGISTRATION FORM: *Revelation, "The Kingdom Yet to Come"*

Name: _____ Need a Study Book? Yes/No (please circle)

Submit registration forms to the Parish Office or place in collection basket at Mass.

This Week's Events

Please Share A Pint! The Bloodmobile
will be here This Sunday, Dec. 5th from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.



Sunday Donuts



Donuts and Coffee will be offered
in the hall Sunday 9 a.m.—11 a.m.
Sponsored by our Knights of Columbus.

Rosary Makers

All are welcome to join!
Monday mornings from
9:30 a.m. - noon in the hall.



Rejoice

Fr. Joshua's spiritual journey continues
this Monday at 10 a.m. and
Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in rooms 2,3,4.



RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
will meet this Tuesday
at 7 p.m. in room 2 .
For more information contact
Deacon Mike at
mike.waldron51@gmail.com



That Man is You

All men of the parish are invited for
coffee and Catholic teaching
to strengthen families.
Wednesdays at 6 a.m. in the hall.
For more info contact Jim at
12345678wow@gmail.com



Cookies with Mrs. Claus

Join us For A Special Evening...
Thursday, Dec. 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the hall
Come out with your entire family for an
evening of Festive Family Fun!
*Cookie decorating table *Christmas crafts
*Write a letter to Santa * Reindeer Food Station



Adult Choir



Adult Choir meets this Thursday
at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.

Come and See

Do you seek the face of God?
Our Lady Queen of Carmel
-Lay Carmelite Community-
warmly invite you to visit
our next meeting
this Saturday, December 11th
after the 9 a.m. Mass in room 4.
All are invited!



Divine Mercy Cenacle

Join us Saturday, December 11th
and every second Saturday
of each month at 9:45 a.m. in rooms 2-4.
We invite ALL on our faith journey.



Please Pray for Our Recently Deceased



Lord, grant eternal rest
to the souls of
our dearly departed,
especially for

**ALL WHO HAVE DIED
FROM CORONAVIRUS**

plus
JOSEPH CASTELLANO

and for all those we hold in our hearts
who have died,
may they rest in the arms of God.

Youth Activities

Faith Formation



Pre-K– 5th Grade

This Sunday at 10:15 a.m.

Confirmation Classes

This Sunday at 4:30 p.m.

3rd-8th Grade

This Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Life Teen



Bart Kovacic—Life Teen Director

727-251-2476 or ignatiuslifeteen@tampabay.rr.com

Life Teen Nights:

Every Sunday our Life Teen group meets for a night filled with food & friends. We explore our Faith, Life, and being the Sons and Daughters of God. Come to our 6 p.m. Life Teen Mass and join us afterwards in the hall.



Life Teen Bible Café
Wednesday, December 8th
at the Youth House
from 6-8 p.m.

Children's Choir



Our Children's Choir rehearsals...

Monday Group ... from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Group... from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

& Saturday Group...from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Saturdays Group will meet in the hall this week.

Want to join?

Contact Brandon Vennink at ext. 206.

Edge

Our 6-8 grade ministry, known as **EDGE**, is a dynamic middle school youth ministry.

Edge provides an opportunity to grow in faith by developing a relationship with Jesus through social activities.

It is all about making a difference in their hearts and empowering them to seek Christ.

All Middle School Youth are invited
Thursday, December 9th
in the Youth House
at 6:30 p.m.



Samantha Trapp—Edge Director
727-251-2476 or strapp@ignatius.net

Scouts



Our Scouts meet
Friday, December 3rd

6:30 p.m. - Girl Scouts in room 6
7 p.m. - Cub Scouts in rooms 9-12

Polish School

Polish School
does not meet this week.



Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

11x17 Posters

Original Design & Original Slogan

Three Age Groups:

Ages 5 -7, Ages 8 -10, Ages 11- 14

Cash Awards for winning poster of each age group.

Supplies will be provided.

Sponsored by our Knights of Columbus!

Please contact Tony at tampaterp@yahoo.com for more specific rules, eligibility and other information.



Ministry News:

Nativity Silhouette



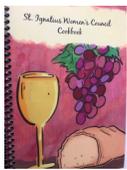
View the Knights of Columbus Nativity Silhouettes in the Church this weekend.

New additions include the Camels & Donkey.

Proclaim "The Good News"-Mark 16:15 with these bright, white Nativity Silhouettes of the Manger scene. Made of all-weather, fade-resistant, white PVC. Go to our Knight's website to order. Items can be purchased individually. Visit: www.kocignatius.org to place an order or for more information.

Parish Cookbooks

The St. Ignatius Women's Council fundraiser cookbook has arrived just in time for Christmas gifting! All recipes were generously donated by members of our Women's Council and our parish, including Msgr. Joe and



Fr. Gregory. Cost is \$15 and can be purchased in the parish gift shop, church office and at 'Donuts in the hall' on Sundays. Questions? Call Pauline at 201 953 3781 or Bonnie at 270 579 2598.

Kindergarten Roundup

Guardian Angels Catholic School is hosting a Kindergarten Roundup on Sunday, December 12th from 1 p.m.- 3 p.m. Pony rides, a petting zoo, kindergarten classroom visits, crafts and snacks are planned for this fun event! All families with prospective kindergartners are welcome to attend. Spread the news to friends and family and come experience what your parish school has to offer!



Stay Informed...

Website... www.st.ignatius.net

Facebook: [Facebook.com/stiggys/](https://www.facebook.com/stiggys/)

Instagram: [st_ignatius_tarpon](https://www.instagram.com/st_ignatius_tarpon)

myparishapp: simply text APP to 88202

Schools & Events

Mom's Morning Out



Need
a Break?

Join us in December on
Wednesdays & Thursdays
from 9:30-11:30 a.m.
\$10 per visit or 6 for \$50.

Ages 1 and walking
to 36 months.

Please check
in at the ECC Office.



Early Childhood Center

**A Catholic school for 2, 3
and 4 year olds.**

We are dedicated to the goal
of providing developmentally appropriate
programs aimed at the total child.

Contact Sharon Nease
at (727) 937-5427 or snease@ignatius.net
to schedule a tour and see
what makes our center outstanding!

Guardian Angels School

2270 Evans Road, Clearwater

A STREAM Certified School

K-Grade 8

Contact Mary Stalzer
to schedule your tour today!

Phone: 727-799-6724

or email:

mstalzer@gacsfl.com



Science - Technology - Religion - Upgrading - Arts - Math

**"Catholic Schools:
Where Faith and Knowledge Meet"**
*Learn more about and Keep posted on
Events and Changes in our schools:*

ECC Website:

<https://www.stignatiusecc.org/>

Guardian Angels Website:

<https://www.gacsfl.com/>

DATE	MASS INTENTIONS	EVENTS
Saturday, Dec. 4th	4:00 p.m. Special Intentions of the St. Ignatius Women's Council 6:30 p.m. + Rosa Scarola	Confessions 3 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. and after the 6:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday, Dec. 5th <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Baruch 5:1-9</i> <i>Philippians 1:4-11</i> <i>Luke 3:1-6</i>	7:00 a.m. For All Life, Conception to Natural Death 9:00 a.m. For the People of Our Parish 11:30 a.m. + Paul A. Carey 6:00 p.m. + Mate Grgas	BLOODMOBILE 8 a.m.—12 p.m. 8:30 a.m. Bethany Shop til 11:30 a.m.-room 1 9:00 a.m. Donuts-hall 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Classes 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Classes 7:30 p.m. Life Teen Night after Mass-hall
Monday, Dec. 6th <i>St. Nicholas</i> <i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i> <i>Luke 5:17-26</i>	7:00 a.m. + Leslie Dowling 9:00 a.m. + William & Catherine Zarakas	Pray in the Chapel 7:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m. Rosary Makers-hall 9:45 a.m. Rejoice with Fr. Joshua-rooms 2,3,4 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir-Church 6:00 p.m. Bethany Shop til 8 p.m.-room 1 6:30 p.m. RCIA-Evangelization Office 6:30 p.m. Grades 3-8th Faith Formation Class
Tuesday, Dec. 7th <i>St. Ambrose</i> <i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i> <i>Matthew 18:12-14</i>	7:00 a.m. Special Intentions of Brian & Theresa Werthmiller 9:00 a.m. + Deceased Members of the Bousquet & Moschetto Families 10:30 a.m. + Rita Quinn Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m. + Leonard Kasper	Pray in the Chapel 7:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m. Bethany Shop til noon-room 1 6:30 p.m. RCIA in Evangelization Office 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Leader Meeting-hall
Wednesday, Dec. 8th <i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> <i>Genesis 3:9-20</i> <i>Ephesians 1:3-12</i> <i>Luke 1:26-38</i>	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses 7:00 a.m. + Shari Bovill 9:00 a.m. + Reverend Michael Hannon 7:00 p.m. For the People of Our Parish	6:00 a.m. That Man is You - hall Pray in the Chapel 7:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m. Mom's Morning Out-check in at ECC 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir-Church 6:00 p.m. Life Teen Bible Café-Youth House
Thursday, Dec. 9th <i>St. Juan Diego</i> <i>Cuaubtlatoatzin</i> <i>Isaiah 41:13-20</i> <i>Matthew 11:11-15</i>	7:00 a.m. + Waetaw Sulkowski 9:00 a.m. + William Pfeil Sr.	Pray in the Chapel 7:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 9:30 a.m. Mom's Morning Out-check in at ECC 6:00 p.m. Cookies with Mrs Claus-hall 6:30 p.m. Edge-Youth House 6:30 p.m. Rejoice with Fr. Joshua-rooms 2,3,4 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir-Church
Friday, Dec. 10th <i>Isaiah 48:17-19</i> <i>Matthew 11:16-19</i>	7:00 a.m. + Michael Beecher 9:00 a.m. + Evelyn Kitzul	Pray in the Chapel 7:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts-room 6 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts-rooms 9-12,hall 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts-rooms 2,3,4
Saturday, Dec. 11th <i>St. Damasus I</i> <i>Sirach 48:1-11</i> <i>Matthew 17:9-13</i>	9:00 a.m. + Elizabeth Bernice Reinen	Pray in the Chapel 9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Polish School-rooms 7-12 9:30 a.m. Lay Carmelite Community-room 4 9:45 a.m. Divine Mercy-rooms 2,3 12:00 p.m. Children's Choir-Church 12:00 p.m. Girl Scouts-hall
Saturday, Dec. 11th	4:00 p.m. + Theresa Vasta 6:30 p.m. + Ninfa Prince	Confessions 3 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. and after the 6:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday, Dec. 12th <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Zep 3:14-18</i> <i>Philippians 4:4-7</i> <i>Luke 3:10-18</i>	7:00 a.m. + Santo & Teresa Detoni 9:00 a.m. For the People of Our Parish 11:30 a.m. + Salvatore & Loretta Gruppuso 6:00 p.m. Special Intentions of Marylee Rogan	8:30 a.m. Bethany Shop til 11:30 a.m.-room 1 9:00 a.m. Donuts-hall 10:15 a.m. Faith Formation Classes 7:30 p.m. Life Teen Night after Mass-hall