

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

4843 Mile Stretch Drive ✘ Holiday FL 34690
www.svdpl.com 727-938-1974

Served by The Blessed Sacrament Congregation
Living the Eucharist in Loving Service

Mass Intentions for the Week

Thank you for worshipping with us.

Sanctuary Candle: John Wolosin+ (John & Cathy Wolosin)
Sunday December 6, 2020

- 7:30am Ed & MaryAnn Wood+ (The Family)
- 8:30am Parish Family
- 10:00am Francesco Sclafani+ (Lay Associates)
- Matthew Marion+ (Nancy Marion, mom)
- 11:30am Jose Van Der Henst+ (The Family)
- Josh Matz+ (Aunt Joann Stock & Family)

Monday December 7, 2020

- 8:30am Barbara Johnson+ (Richard & Loretta Gunberg)
- 4:00pm -Vigil** Int. of Pope Francis (Thomas Family)

Tuesday December 8, 2020 Immaculate Conception

- 8:30am Catherine Cerniglia+ (Grandchildren)
- Ann Stevens+ (Husband) Rosemary Nessler+ (Edward, husband)
- 8:00pm Art Morrill+ (Joe & Peggy)
- Debra Moncello (Loving Parents)

Wednesday December 9, 2020

- 8:30am Madelyn Napolitano+ (Camerieri Family)
- Blessed Sacrament Assoc. (Worhacz Family)

Thursday December 10, 2020

- 8:30am Jerry Thompson+ (Jeannie & Jackie)
- George Moore+ (Tarpon Springs Procurement Staff)

Friday December 11, 2020

- 8:30am Marti Knox+ (Richard, Husband)

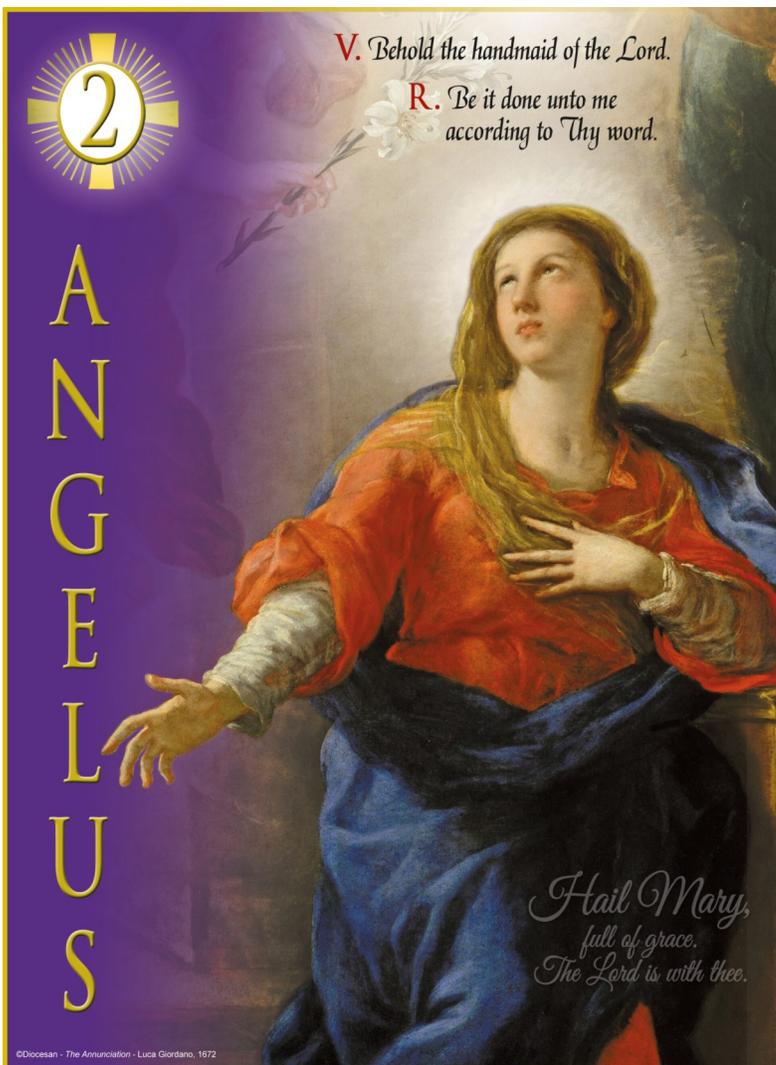
Saturday December 12, 2020

- 8:30am Elinor & William Fickel+ (Worhacz Family)
- Victor & Alan Rosamilia+ (Joan Rosamilia)
- 4:00pm Mark Sanborn+ (Lucille, Mother)
- John Wolosin+ (Cathy & John Wolosin, Parents)
- Luis, Pepe, Alba & Antonio Meceli+ (Mena Mecelli)

Ring Noel Concert! Today Dec 06, 4:00 – 5:00.

Holiday United Church of Christ, 4826 Bartelt Rd
Come celebrate the holiday season with **Suncoast Bronze Ringers** at our Ring Noel Concert Series!
Tickets are \$5.00 purchased at the door. Let us join our neighbors and share the joy of Christmas. Hope to see you there.

Second Sunday of Advent—Dec. 6, 2020
Masses Sat. 4:00 pm, Sunday, 7:30, 10:00, 11:30
Sun. 8:30 Vietnamese, Livestream Sat. 4 pm Mass



2

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word.

**A
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*Hail Mary,
full of grace.
The Lord is with thee.*

©Diocesan - The Annunciation - Luca Giordano, 1672



Advent

HOPE

© Diocesan Publications



Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation
Monday, Dec. 7 at 4:00 pm
Tuesday, Dec 8 at 8:30 am
Vietnamese at 8:00 pm

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Second Sunday in Advent

Second Sunday of Advent

Entrance: Ready the Way (#62)

"Ready the way of the Lord! Ready the way of the Lord!"
A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Ready the way of the Lord!"
"Let every valley be filled. Let every valley be filled.
Let every mountain be humbled; let every valley be filled."
Refrain:
Here is your God, coming with your vindication.
Look and behold the saving power of God.

Presentation: Alleluia, Hurry the Lord is Near (#52)

Refrain: Alleluia! Hurry, the Lord is near. Alleluia, alleluia! Hurry the Lord is near.
Verse 1: Sound the trumpet, the Lord is near; Hurry, the Lord is near; see he comes to save us all. Hurry, the Lord is near.
(Refrain)
Earth has longed for his approach: Hurry, the Lord is near;
straighten the road, smooth the path. Hurry, the Lord is near.

Communion: O Come Divine Messiah (10 AM Mass only)

Verse:
O come, divine Messiah. The world is longing for the day
when hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flies away.
Dear Savior come to tired earth and bring the grace of dawn.
Dispel the night with Thy face; Come, Messiah, come.
O come, divine Messiah, come. O come, divine Messiah, come.

Communion: The Whole World is Waiting for Love (#68)

Verse 1: We're waiting for Jesus like Mary, we're waiting for Jesus the Lord. (to Refrain)
Refrain: Come down, Lord Jesus! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!
The whole world is waiting for Love, the whole world is waiting for Love.
Verse 2: We're laying a manger for Mary, a manger for Jesus the Lord. (to Refrain)
Verse 3: We're making it lovely for Mary, so lovely for Jesus the Lord. (to Refrain)

Sending Forth: Every Valley (#72)

Refrain: Every valley shall be exalted and every hill made low.
And all God's people shall see together the glory of the Lord.
Verse: A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway, a highway for our God." (to Refrain)

Sending Forth: My Deliverer (10 AM Mass only)

Joseph took his wife and her child, and they went to Africa
to escape the rage of a deadly king.
There along the banks of the Nile, Jesus listened to the song
that the captive children used to sing. They were singing,

My Deliverer is coming, my Deliverer is standing by.
My Deliverer is coming, my Deliverer is standing by.
Verse 2:
He will never break his promise, he has written it upon the sky.
(to Refrain)



Have the courage to be the voice—“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” – Mark 1:2-3

Throughout salvation history, the Jews were awaiting the promised Messiah. Prophets foretold of the one that was to come. Often the people didn't recognize the signs, or simply didn't listen. Maybe they'd heard about this coming for many years, even centuries, and they just tuned it out. After you've heard the message a few times, it can become tired or ineffective.

This weekend we read in the first verses of Mark's Gospel of a very interesting man named John the Baptist. He was dressed in clothing made out of camel's hair and ate locusts and wild honey. John was the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah, who proclaimed, “Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; A voice crying out in the desert, ‘prepare the way of the Lord.’”

John was living in the wilderness and preaching to those who he encountered or anyone that would listen for that matter. He didn't have to go out looking for people. The scripture tells that they came to see him from the Judean countryside and from Jerusalem. John was a larger than life figure in his day. His message was the need for repentance and that one greater than him is coming – one who would baptize the people with the Holy Spirit.

Why would he appear like this – in the desert? After all, wouldn't he have been more effective in reaching a larger audience in town and with a more normal looking appearance? Maybe because God didn't want it that way. In today's world, we can get lost by the many messages on social and electronic media. Maybe this is God calling us to cut through all the misinformation and just listen to Him. The prophets foretold what was to come, and yet most didn't listen, and many today still don't.

We may not be dressed like John the Baptist or eat his diet, but we can be that voice crying out in today's wilderness and inviting others to know the Lord. Have the courage to proclaim the good news at home, work, school, and in the community.” **Bishop Gregory Parkes**

Parish Giving

Parish Mass Offering November 29, 2020

Sunday Offertory—\$5,422.00—Mass Count 478

Last year Offertory—\$9,583.00.—Mass Count 709

On line Giving—\$2,147.47 / Thanksgiving \$850.00

Candle Money \$122./ You can follow the Mass on Facebook live streaming the Sat. 4:00 Mass for the week.

Thank you for keeping your eye on this page. We are here for you. The work of the parish continues, so call or stop in 9:00 to 2:00.

Visit www.svdpfl.com to sign up for online giving!

Consider coming to weekday Mass at 8:30 to receive Holy Communion or spend some quiet time in prayer. Open from 8 am to 8 pm.

THE JOURNEY. A WAY TO DEEPEN YOUR EXPERIENCE OF JESUS, THE GIVER OF GRACE

The idea that you are called to respond to God's revelation is a challenge in this day and time, just as it was for Philip and the other disciples.

Set aside some time each day to read and pray with the Gospels, getting to know God more intimately through the dramatic life encounters and stories of Jesus and what he asks of you. Find your favorite Scripture, write it down, and reflect upon what it means.



Second Week of Advent

Today, we hold a special collection for retired religious. Pray for these dedicated servants of Christ as you light the second violet candle on your Advent wreath. Finish with saying this pray:

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Christmas Season Grand Opening!

On Saturday, December 12, the church celebrates the vigil of **Gaudete Sunday**. "Rejoice the Lord is near."

New from Covid-19 is the practice of holding a drive-thru. You may not be able to come to church, but we hope you



will hop in your car and join a procession of cars at 5 pm following Mass to see the Christmas lights and decorations on the church property.

The day before, on Friday and Saturday we hope families will set up their nativities on the front lawn. To register for a spot to decorate please call the parish office to give your family name and the time you plan to set up your display. Decorating will begin on December 11 and must be completed prior to 4 pm Mass on December 12th. The nativities will be blessed by Fr. Bill. Entries will be judged and the winner will receive a \$50 Amazon gift card after the 4 pm Mass on December 24.

You can drive through the parish grounds and enjoy the decorations. The children will decorate the front of the Education Building and Fr Farrell Hall. Fr. Dominic and the Vietnamese Community will assemble the nativity in front of the Church.

As you drive in there will be a station set up to drop off dry or can food for the St. Vincent de Paul Society for Christmas and/or unwrapped gifts purchased for the Giving Tree. Enjoy Christmas music and return to your home to welcome the Christ child with your nativity as we all celebrate the Blessed birth of our Savior.

Readings for the Week of December 6, 2020

Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
Monday	Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday	Immaculate Conception Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday	Saint Juan Diego Cuahtlatatzin Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday	Our Lady of Loreto Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
Friday	Saint Damasus I, Pope Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, Lk 1:26-38
Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1--11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Second Sunday in Advent

Advent Activities and Ideas

- * Light two candles and pray the Advent Wreath.
- * Celebrate St. Nicholas day Dec 6 Learn who he was and why he was so special.
- * Attend Mass on the Feast of Immaculate Conception, and pray for all who now live in a womb
- * Celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec 12 with Mass and having Mexican food for dinner.
- * Celebrate St. Lucia's Feast day by making easy Saffron buns (see recipe below).
- * Put up your nativity set.
- * Attend Confession as a family.

Easy St. Lucia's Bread

Take 2 cans cinnamon rolls and braid them into a crown and bake according to directions. Drizzle with white icing and insert white birthday candles. Light the birthday candles. St. Lucy is the patroness of the blind, so say a prayer to her to open the eyes of the spiritually blind. Then blow out the candles.



Finance Corner

WORD OF APPRECIATION

This past week we paid bills including: Electric \$3900.35, Lawn Maintenance \$550, Postage \$25.90, Altar Supplies \$111.52 and Computer Maintenance \$500.

On our Christmas gift list we are asking for:

- Cameras and system to livestream \$7,000.
- Music Licensing to livestream \$ 675.

These gifts will be helpful so that the homebound and parishioners who do not feel safe returning to Mass yet can receive high quality livestreaming. This technology will continue long term to help us bring the message of the liturgy and to share other activities in the parish.

Thank you for your support by giving to the **Annual Pastoral Appeal**. Our goal is \$89,275 and we have pledges of \$69,607. To date \$64,240.16. have been paid. From our 617 registered families 241 have made pledges, with the average pledge being \$285. Now is a good time to make your pledge. Show your appreciation for work of the Diocese with a generous gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal. Help us reach our goal.

We appreciate all who cannot make it to church and still send your contributions to help meet our costs and carry out our ministries . Thank you and God Bless you!

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and said, "you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matt. 1:21.

Times to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas: Private times for Confession: Wed. Dec. 9 and 16, at 3:00—on, 7:00—on. And on Saturday, Dec. 19, 5:00—on. Three priests available in confessionals. Call the office if you need a separate time for your confession. There will be Communal Penance Service due to



Giving Tree

***Our** Giving Tree is set up in the Church Social Hall. Please take a gift tag and return the unwrapped gift and tag to the Social Hall by the tree before Dec. 16.*



The Christmas Gift program is in the hands of Charlene Vassalli and a group of volunteers. Thank you for your support of this program. If you know of any family in need of help, please call office at 727-938-1974.

Tune into Catholic Planner Series on [youtube.com/diocesefstpete](https://www.youtube.com/diocesefstpete) with Father Connor Penn to live Advent.

Sunday—6th

Second Week of Advent
Faith Formation Class 11 am
Youth Group 12:30 pm

Monday—7th

Arts and Crafts 10 am
Share the Word 10 am
Divine Mercy/Journey 1 pm
Divine Will 3 pm
Immaculate Conception 4 pm
Knights of Columbus 5 pm

Tuesday - 8th

Immaculate Conception 8:30 am
OLG Christmas Luncheon 11 am
Immaculate Conception 8 pm

Wednesday—9th

The Journey 9:30 am
Social Concerns/Respect Life 11:30 am
Associate Cenacle 11 am
The Journey 2 pm



Our Lady's Guild meets on **Tuesday, December 8** from 11:30 to 2:00. We are celebrating with a luncheon and some Christmas fun as well as business. Come join us. Membership is open to Christian men and women for only \$5.00.

Arts and Crafts is working hard to prepare for **the December 4th and 5th** Arts

and Crafts/Bake Sale. Thank you to all of you who have donated homemade items for our sale. Additional homemade donations may be dropped off in our "Arts and Crafts" bin in the social hall. In addition, please donate any old costume jewelry or any small nick knock items you no longer want. We will use those in the St. Nick Workshop sale which will be on **December 13**. We are inviting parishioners to help us run the **St. Nick Workshop** for the children of our parish. The workshop is in the Media room of the Education building. Children shop for items for family members. We need helpers to sit at the tables to help the children, someone to collect the money and others to wrap the gifts for the children. Guild members will also be there to help. The event is really cute and the children are so excited about the treasures they buy in order to give. We ask that you give of your time for a worthwhile ministry for our youth. We would need your help from 11:30-1:00. If you can give even one hour of your time, your help is very much appreciated. Please call Robin Emmons at 630-740-2730 or Ellen Shadle at 407-908-5339 and let us know how you can help.

The December 4th and 5th Craft sale will be held on **Friday from 9-2 and 4-7 and on Saturday from 9-2**. You can shop before or after you eat at the Knights sponsored Friday night dinner, and on Saturday the 5th our sale will run in conjunction with the breakfast that will be held in Father Farrell Hall! If you have any questions, call Robin Emmons at 630-740-2730 or Ellen Shadle at (407)908-5339.

Rosary Makers meets the first Wednesday of each month. Their next meeting is on **December 2**. They have made over 7,000 rosaries that are distributed throughout the world to spread the love of Jesus and our Mother Mary. Rosary making is easy and fun. It is a very friendly group who will teach you!

Help the Retirement Fund for Religious Orders Care for Their Elderly Members Collection on Dec. 12-13

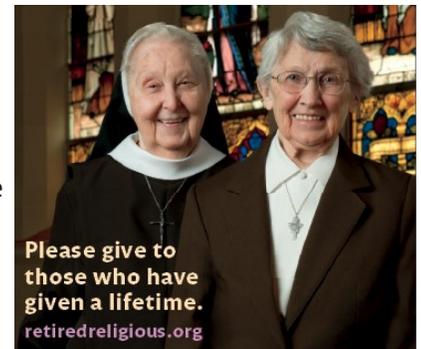
The priests and brothers of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament are unable to meet the cost of care for our elderly members. We would be lost if we did not have the help we receive from NRRO.

Changing demographics:

During the early and mid-twentieth centuries, the Catholic Church in the United States experienced a surge in vocations to religious life, with numbers peaking in the mid-1960s. Care for elderly members was provided largely by younger ones. Over time, however, the number of vocations decreased while lifespans increased. The result is far fewer younger members available to support the retirement and eldercare needs of senior members. Currently, 72 percent of the religious communities providing data have a median age of 70 or older.

Rising costs

Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare. Currently, the average annual cost of care for women and men religious past age 70 is nearly \$47,000 per person. Of 531 commu-



nities providing data to the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), only 29 are adequately funded for retirement. Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—received small stipends that just met the needs of the day. Any surplus funds were reinvested in ministry and the education of younger members. As a result, hundreds of US religious communities lack adequate retirement savings.

At the same time, the income available to support older religious is decreasing. Currently, earnings from the ministries of younger religious cover a significant portion of eldercare expenses, but the number of religious able to serve in compensated ministry is rapidly diminishing.

Thursday—10th
The Journey 1pm
SVdP Food Pantry 1 pm
Confession 3 pm
Contemplative Prayer 4 pm
Confession 7 pm

Friday 11th
K of C Coffee Social 8 am
Friday Night Dinner 4:30 pm
Set Up Nativities front lawn

Saturday - 12th
Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3 pm
Set Up Nativities front Lawn
Drive thru of Campus 5 pm

Sunday—13th
Third Week of Advent
Faith Formation Class 11 am

Second Sunday in Advent



The Knights of Columbus Friday night dinners Father Farrell Hall December 11. The Knights will have their monthly General Meeting on Monday December 21, at 7:00 pm. All the Knights are welcome and encouraged to come. Face masks will be worn and social distancing held.

The Ladies Auxiliary will have their monthly card party on Monday, December 28, from 11 to 3pm in Father Farrell Hall.

There will be a hot lunch served at noon for your enjoyment. The cost for the card party is \$7.00. There will be social distancing and face mask worn for your safety. The next monthly meeting is on Monday, December 21, at 7:00pm, in Father Farrell Hall. Ladies if you would like to come and see what we do and how we go about doing things with the Knights, you are more than welcome to come and join us. Face masks will be worn and social distancing will be in effect.



Family Faith Formation



Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. (v. 8)

Good morning, boys and girls! Today we're going to talk about time. Clocks are very important to us. They let us know what time it is so that we know when it's time to sleep, time to wake up, time to eat, and time to go places and do things. Clocks can be digital, with just a few lit-up numbers, or they can be circles with twelve numbers and two hands. Clocks that have twelve numbers and hands are called "analog" clocks.

Have you heard someone -- maybe your parents or teachers -- say things like "we're late"? What happens when you are late for something? In our culture, we organize our lives by clocks. Calendars and timepieces are extremely important for us. We can get in big trouble if we show up to an appointment on the wrong day or at the wrong time! It's important for us to always have a clock nearby -- in fact, many people wear wrist-watches so that the time is always with them.

Although our own lives are busy with keeping appointments and checking the time, there is someone who is free from the rushing and hurrying that we experience with clocks. That person is God. Our reading today tells us that time doesn't exist for God in the same way it exists for me and you.

The Bible says, "With the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day." God doesn't have a clock. God doesn't have appointments and meetings and special things to do at certain times. This is great news for us because that means God has focused all his attention on us. He doesn't have to keep glancing at a watch. He doesn't have somewhere else to be. God can spend all of his time carefully watching over each and every one of us. He loves us and no clock will stand in the way of his being there for you and me. Amen.

JOIN our S.V.de P. Society Wish List This Week: We are still in need of the regular items we pass out such as cereal, soup, canned meat, peanut butter, pancake mix and syrup.



In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord." We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

With a growing number at our door we are in need of both cash donations and food. Cash donations can be put in an envelope marked SVDP Society and placed in the offertory basket or dropped off at the office.

Thank you for your support, the SVdP Society is made possible by your participation in serving this ministry.

Youth Ministry News! Youth Activity Gathering

Our primary concern for our families is to have a safe and enjoyable place for our youth gather. We observe the requirement of social distancing, refraining from touching and wearing a face covering. There are still many ways to have fun and enjoy friendships.



**January 10th from 12:30—2:30,
Pray Together Play Together**

Advent begins a new Liturgical Year and the time to change out our hymnal. Due to the pandemic and the requirement to sanitize our worship space, we are required to remove the hymnal shared among parishioners. We missed our hymnals and found a solution that will keep us free from infection.

Richard Mucha provided a great service to our parish in overseeing the cost of the hymnals. You are

asked to pick up your personal copy to take home with you and bring it with you to Mass.

Please put your name and phone # on the inside cover. We can no longer leave hymnals in

church. You may also want to prepare the Sunday readings at home or on the way to church. Thank you for your participation in our Sunday and week-day worship.



Year-End Giving

Please take a moment to consider charitable contribution as the year's end is quickly approaching. We wanted to remind you that there is still time to make a gift to your faith home this season. All gifts postmarked, dropped to the parish office, or made online by December 31st count for the 2020 Tax season.

Any time you give to support the work of Christ in our parish, you are investing in the mission of living the gospel and making present the generosity of God who cares for us. With a little year-end planning, you can optimize your impact with a gift by December 31!

Give Smart, give stock: Donate appreciated stock, pay no capital gains and your charitable deduction is at the full, fair market value of the stock. Make the gift that pays you back: Set up a charitable gift annuity or remainder trust and transfer assets before December 31 to help lower estate taxes.

Contact the parish office to learn more about how to make your year-end gift. You are a gift to us, your faith family. With a heart full of gratitude, we wish you a Merry Christmas and blessed New Year!

CONFRATERNITY OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR LIFE.

Please visit: www.cealservants.com, to sign up or use the enrollment link: <http://bit.ly/CEAL> Enrollment. The Confraternity consists of Lay Faithful, Religious and Clerics from around the world who pledge to spend some number of hours a year in Eucharistic Adoration in their parishes and institutes to pray for the objectives of the Confraternity such as: Protection of life in the womb from Abortion. Protection of children and youth from Human Trafficking. Protection of the elderly from euthanasia. Protection of the troubled from suicide. Members share in the indulgences attached to Eucharistic Adoration. Father Robert G. Romaine

