



December 23, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 22 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent/Vigil
 5:30 PM Julio Polli, Vincent Rodenwold

Sunday, December 23 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent
 9:30 AM James Predmore, Sylvia Maliga

Monday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
 9:00 AM Ona Morrison
 5:30 PM Erin & Ronnie
 10:00 PM Alan Texter, Marie Texter, William & Paula Zahn

Tuesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day
 9:00 AM Amos Lust

Wednesday, December 26 ~ NO MASS

Friday, December 28
 9:00 AM

Saturday, December 29 ~ Vigil Mass/The Holy Family
 5:30 PM Stiano Family

Sunday, December 30 ~ The Holy Family
 9:30 AM

ALTAR SERVERS

Monday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
 5:30 PM Trevor Zupetz, Colby Zupetz
 10:00 PM Volunteers

Tuesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day
 9:00 AM Paul Kura

Saturday, December 29 ~ Vigil Mass/The Holy Family
 5:30 PM Robert DeBeauvernet

Sunday, December 30 ~ The Holy Family
 9:30 AM Paris Cook

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Monday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
 5:30 PM Jennifer Zupetz
 10:00 PM Joe Herschel

Tuesday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day
 9:00 AM John Drumm

Saturday, December 29 ~ Vigil Mass/The Holy Family
 5:30 PM Lisa DeBeauvernet

Sunday, December 30 ~ The Holy Family
 9:30 AM Alice Cross

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Monday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
 5:30 PM Jennifer Zupetz, Mary Donnelly,
 *Volunteer

10:00 PM Ann Clouse, Barbara Ceriale,
 *Volunteer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS cont.

Saturday, December 29 ~ Vigil Mass/The Holy Family
 5:30 PM Lisa DeBeauvernet

Sunday, December 30 ~ The Holy Family
 9:30 AM Alice Cross

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY



Lt. JG Alexandria Baker (Navy)
 Lt. JG Dylan Bonitz (Navy)
 Chase Bowen (Navy)
 Sarah Bowen (Navy) Juan Gonzalez (Navy)
 Kaila McGowan (Marines)
 David Nguyen (Marines) Joseph Ruize (Navy)
 Warrant Officer 3 Elliott Weidel (Marines)

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Hank Bodendorf, Sr. Margaret Ellen Burke, S.C.,
 Mary Ann Costa, Bob Cross, Brian Cross,
 Kevin Crowley, Lucy D'Amato, Michael DiMare,
 Helen Ryan Felice, Anna Gallo, Michael Gallo,
 Maggie Horne, Johanna Luciano, Paul Milazzo,
 Stephen Morrow, Agnes Poole, Corey Rometo,
 Frank Rometo, Helen Ryan, Sadie, Frances Salewski,
 Pam Sibley, Chris Strobl, Tommy Waterman,
 Katylynn Auer Weidel, Ann Marie Willard

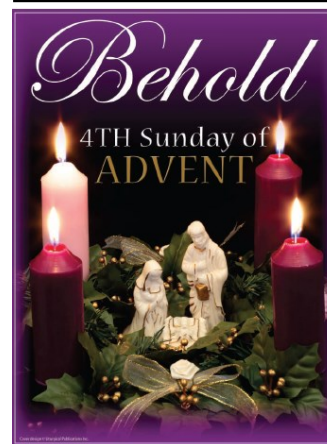
PRAY FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES

Fr. Raymond Bagdonis, O.Carm., Rosella McKane,
 Dorothy Forni Rusch, Virginia Steinbeck, Robert Wise

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve
 9:00 AM ~ Daily Mass in the Chapel
 5:30 PM ~ Children's Mass
 & Christmas Pageant
 10:00 PM ~ Christmas Mass

Tuesday, Dec. 25 ~ Christmas Day
 9:00 AM ~ Christmas Mass



Today's Scripture

Micah 5:1-4a
 Hebrews 10:5-10
 Luke 1:39-45

God took on our flesh and came to dwell among us.

This consecrates all that we are and all that we do, for it means that we do not have to reject our humanity to be God-like. Rather, we must be like Jesus who embraced humanity and made it a full expression of God's love.

We call upon God to visit us and protect us. He is the only one who can truly save us. With his strength, we can change our ways and walk in God's love.

Mass Attendance & Receipts

December 15 & 16, 2018

Mass Attendance: 174 Weekend Collection: \$1,911.00

Healing Mass

The monthly Healing Mass with Anointing will take place this Thursday, December 27, at 7:00 PM at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown. Take an hour out of a busy holiday schedule and spend it in prayer, song, and quiet worship with Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Twelve Hidden Meanings

Many of us remember a favorite Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas", and can even name most, if not all, 12 verses. Though many of us can quote the lyrics, however, far fewer people are likely to know the meaning behind the 12 days.



To begin, the 12 days of Christmas have to do with the differences in the days various cultures celebrate the

birth of Jesus Christ. Though many assume the 12 days refers to the days prior December 25 (when those in the Western hemisphere celebrate Christmas), it actually refers to the days between December 25 and the beginning of Epiphany on January 6. The Epiphany (also known as "Little Christmas") is recognized as the day the Three Magi arrived with gift for Baby Jesus.

As for each individual day and what gift symbolizes, the cryptic connotation of each gift dates back to the times when Catholics were not allowed to openly or even privately celebrate their religion in England. Therefore, as a means to both celebrate and pass on their religious beliefs to their children, Catholics began singing "The 12 Days of Christmas" with each gift bearing some religious significance.

Assorting to Catholic Online, a website devoted to providing Catholics with information pertaining to the origins, practices and issues regarding their faith, the song is a reflection of the love between Catholics and God, with "my true love" referring to God and "me" being all practicing, baptized Catholics. The rest of the song, Catholic history suggests, can be interpreted as follows:

- ♦ **A Partridge in a Pear Tree** ~ Jesus Christ, the Son of God
- ♦ **Two Turtle Doves** ~ the Old and New Testaments
- ♦ **Three French Horns** ~ the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity
- ♦ **Four Calling Birds** ~ the four Gospels
- ♦ **Five Golden Rings** ~ the Pentateuch, or the first five books of the Old Testaments, all of which dealt with man's fall from grace
- ♦ **Six Geese A-laying** ~ the six days of creation
- ♦ **Seven Swans A-swimming** ~ the seven Sacraments
- ♦ **Eight Maids A-milking** ~ the eight Beautitudes
- ♦ **Nine Ladies Dancing** ~ the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
- ♦ **Ten Lords A-Leaping** ~ the Ten Commandments
- ♦ **Eleven Pipers Piping** ~ the 11 faithful apostles (excluding Judas)
- ♦ **Twelve Drummers Drumming** ~ the 12 points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed



But, for those who prefer to continue looking at the song as just a quirky holiday hit, enjoy your rousing chorus of "Five Golden Rings"!

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