

OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC PARISH

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Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 9am to 12noon and 1pm to 4pm

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Maurice Restivo CSB – *Pastor* Fr. Jim Stenberg CSB – *Parochial Vicar*

Kevin Mannara CSB – *Seminarian* Dcn. Paul Bezairé – *Deacon*

Fr. Matthew Durham CSB – *In Residence* Sr. Lise Jolie, SNJM – *Business Manager*

Sr. Connie Harrington, SNJM – *Youth Programs* Marilyn Morrison – *Bereavement Ministry*



Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 18th, 2016

From The Pastors Desk...

Well, even though the world outside doesn't know it, we're still in Advent! And in these final days of Advent, the Church focuses more on Jesus' birth than on his second coming. For some of you, this is the best (and busiest!) time of the year. For you, in the midst of Christmas parties and the busyness of gift buying and giving, of baking and cooking and hosting visitors, I invite you to find time for some quietness and reflection as to what we really celebrate: Our very God loves us so much that he has chosen to become part of our history! That gives a special dignity to all of creation, and especially to us human beings, created in the image and likeness of God.

I know that some of you have difficulties at this time of year. Relationships with others may be strained or broken. Sad memories come to mind. While others are in incredibly good spirits, you find this a time of loneliness and nostalgia. For you, I invite you, too, to reflect on the same truth: Our very God loves us so much that he has chosen to become part of our history! God is part of my life, of your life. None of us can really be alone, even though it may feel like it at times.

I don't think we can ever realize all that God does in our own lives and in the world without taking the time to sit and be quiet, to relax, and yes, to sleep. It is in the midst of his sleep that God comes to Joseph in this weekend's gospel passage. Just like the Old Testament Joseph, who interpreted Pharaoh's dream and saved God's people Israel, the New Testament Joseph saves the situation of Jesus' birth. Could you imagine if he *had* gone ahead with his plan to "dismiss her quietly"? In the culture of that day, both Mary and Jesus would have been marked forever, and most likely shunned. Instead, the message he received in a dream gave Joseph the confidence to "take Mary as his wife," thus giving Jesus legitimacy in society, and the lineage of David.

So my invitation to each of us—myself included—is to take time, to actually make time to *listen* to God, however he may choose to communicate to us. Who knows? We may once again be able to experience *God with us*, Emmanuel, in whatever disguise he chooses to use today.

J. Maurice

ROSARY CHAPEL CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 24th, 25th and 26th - Closed
December 27th to 30th - 8am to 8pm
Daily Mass - 8:00am ONLY

NO 12:10pm Mass Tuesday December 27th and
Thursday December 29th
NO 5:00pm Mass Wednesday December 28th.



THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED FROM
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD, 2016
AND WILL REOPEN
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 2017

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Liturgy Corner by Kevin Mannara

The **Advent wreath** is a popular devotional that was borrowed from the German Lutherans in the early 1500s. The wreath is a circle, which has no beginning or end: so we call to mind how our lives, here and now, participate in the eternity of God's plan of salvation and how we hope to share eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven. The wreath is made of fresh plant material (usually ever greens), because Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death, and resurrection. Three candles are purple, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice; the pink candle symbolizes the same but highlights the third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudete* Sunday, when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished.

The light represents Christ, who entered this world to scatter the darkness of evil and show us the way of righteousness. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord.

Quotable Pope Francis

(To young people) "Yours is a time of life which is full of amazing changes. Everything seems possible and impossible all at once. I repeat what I said to some of your friends: 'Remain steadfast in the journey of faith, with firm hope in the Lord. This is the secret of our journey! He gives us the courage to swim against the tide.'"

Reflection for the Week

Mary and Joseph demonstrated radical faith at the time of the Annunciation.

Where in your life today requires radical faith?

Christmas Mass Times At Assumption Parish

Christmas Eve

5:00pm

Christmas Carols at 4:30pm

7:30pm

Christmas Carols at 7:00pm

10:00pm

Christmas Day

10:00am

New Year's Eve

5:00pm

New Year's Day

9:00am

11:00am

7:30pm



Week at a Glance

Monday, December 19th

6:00pm Catechism program (McEwan Campus-Basement)

Tuesday, December 20th

7:00pm Latin Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

7:00pm Bereavement Group (Rosary Hall)

7:00pm Cenacle of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Rosary Chapel)

Wednesday, December 21st

7:00pm RCIA (McEwan Campus-Basement)

Thursday, December 22nd

10:00am Card Games (McEwan Campus-Basement)

6:30pm Choir Practice (McEwan Campus-Church)

7:30pm Nar Anon (Rosary Hall)

Friday, December 23rd

9:00am SVDP Forgotten Harvest Produce (McEwan Campus)

3:00pm Divine Mercy Hour (Rosary Chapel)

6:30pm Confessions (Rosary Chapel)

7:00pm Apostolate of Fatima Mass & Rosary (Rosary Chapel)

Saturday, December 24th-CHRISTMAS EVE

9:00am SVDP-Meeting/Home Visits (McEwan Campus-Basement)

5:00pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

7:30pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

10:00pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

Sunday, December 25th-CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00am Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

ONE MASS ONLY ON THIS DAY



There will be a Christmas practice for the Altar Servers on

Wednesday, December 21st at 6:00pm

Snacks will be provided

There is a sign up sheet in the Sacristy please put your name down if you are available Sr. Connie

Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means 'rediscovery'.

The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is a not spiritual retreat, a sensitivity group, a seminar or a social gathering. You will never have to share your story with anyone else on the weekend.

For confidential information about or to register for the

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email: 1015@retrouvaille.org

visit the website www.retrouvaillewindsor.com

or join facebook.com/retrouvaillewindsor/essexcounty

Assumption Colouring Book

Special thanks to our parishioner Owen Swain for creating an Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Colouring Book entitled

I Love My Church.

Copies are available at the welcome desk as a Christmas present to our children, and anyone else who enjoys colouring!

Owen is the author-illustrator of *#tourdesketch Windsor*, an adult colouring book of Windsor sites.

Sunday Collection

PLEASE NOTE: SUNDAY COLLECTIONS WILL NOT BE RECORDED IN THE BULLETIN FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR, DUE TO PUBLICATION DEADLINES. THEY WILL BE PUT IN THE BULLETIN IN 2017.

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 19th

8:00am †Francesco Baldassarre by daughter Marisa
†Alexandra Di Ponio by Toni Laberi
For the Intentions of the Assumption Parish Staff by Emmanuel & Evangeline Franco

Tuesday, December 20th

8:00am †Suzanne Silva by Viriato Carreira
†Ebenezer Abbew by Eunice Dambatta
12:10pm †Gina & Loreto Malizia by Filamena Liburdi
†For the Souls in Purgatory by Toni Laberi & Family
†For the Living & Deceased Members of the Laberi, Buzzeo & Socci Families by Toni Laberi & Family

Wednesday, December 21st

8:00am †Maria & Cesidio Tullio by Louise & Leo Tullio
†Fr. Daniel Chui CSB 2nd Anniversary by Diane Aversa
†Elizabeth Masse by Norm & Karen Nantais

5:00pm †Rob Morneau by John & Karen Dollar

Thursday, December 22nd

8:00am †Gerardo DeRubeis by Maria Tatti & Family
†Roger Lebert by Sr. Connie Harrington
For the Intentions of Kevin & Sally McQuaid's 40th Wedding Anniversary

Friday, December 23rd

8:00am †Maria DeRubeis by Louise & Leo Tullio
†Cyril Halmo by the Family
†Alexandra Di Ponio by Santina Pasqualitto

Saturday, December 24th—McEwan Campus CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00pm For the Intentions of the Assumption Parish Parishioners
7:30pm For the Intentions of the Assumption Parish Parishioners
10:00pm For the Intentions of the Assumption Parish Parishioners

Sunday, December 25th—McEwan Campus CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00am For the intentions of the Assumption Parish Parishioners

Sanctuary Light Memorial

For the week of December 18th

Rosary Chapel

For the Living and Deceased Members of the Franco & Salas Families

Assumption Parish-McEwan Campus

†For the Deceased Members of the Nardone Family



Christmas in Heaven – Candlelight Prayer Service for those grieving the loss of a loved one during this Christmas season.

Wednesday, December 28th, 2016,

At 7:00pm

St. Francis Mausoleum

Heavenly Rest Cemetery

President: Fr. Chris Bourdeau

Music: Songbird **Pastoral Minister:** Mary Heath

Candles are provided.

Mary's Garden and the surrounding grounds at Assumption Church have been lit up throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons for the past six years by an anonymous donor.

This has allowed countless people who drive through the area to celebrate the season and enjoy the beautiful lighting. Assumption Parish and the Windsor community express our gratitude to this kind benefactor who fully funds and supports the lighting each year.

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