

FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. TOSI ---

Today - the Third Sunday of Advent - is traditionally known as GAUDETE SUNDAY. Gaudete is Latin for rejoice and today's liturgy sets a tone of joyful expectation of the Lord's Birth and Second Coming. The rose color of today's vestments (worn only two times a year) calls to mind the nearness of Christmas.



Third Sunday of Advent

Today the church presents the person of John the Baptist - one sent from God to testify to the Light; a voice crying out in the desert the cause of our joy - Jesus Christ.

Of all the many Christian virtues needed in the life of a Christian, joy holds a special place. For Christian joy is rooted in Christ and expresses a profound trust in the goodness of God and of the great things God has done for us in Christ. Joy is found in living with, in and through Christ. Joy is the Light that scatters the darkness of sin and evil. Joy sustains the Christian in times of trouble, worry and difficulty. Joy is not the absence of suffering but the sure and certain hope that we are not alone in our suffering; that God never abandons us and that God makes all things work for the good.

Yet so often we Christians seem so sad; so overwhelmed by the darkness; so afraid to smile; so possessed by fear and a sense of sin. Yet we are new creations in Christ - He has made all things new. Listen to the Midnight Mass reading from Isaiah:

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.
You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing."*

(Is. 9:1-6)

Looking for some Advent/Christmas reading? Try "Between Heaven and Mirth" subtitled "Why Joy, Humor, and Laughter are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life" by Father James Martin, S.F. Recommended by Archbishop Dolan this book will bring a much needed smile to our hearts while challenging us to new spiritual insight.

Rejoice in the Lord Always. Again I say Rejoice.
God bless.

Let us pray for one another,

Msgr. Tosi

And please support the parish Capital Campaign. Don't wait! Make your pledge now. Each pledge helps the parish *Serve the Present and Build the Future*. Any questions? Want to speak to me directly? Just give a call.

Thanks to your generosity our goal is now in sight - but we need your participation!

Msgr. Tosi

The Campaign Prayer

Memorare

Remember, O most compassionate Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your assistance, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we fly unto you, O Virgin of Virgins, our Mother; to you we come; before you we kneel sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your clemency hear and answer them. Amen.

SERVING THE PRESENT; BUILDING THE FUTURE
THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. LUKE CHURCH

God has poured out His love into our hearts.

- Romans 5:5

December 10th & 11th 2011

God's love has truly poured into the hearts of our parishioners. Our campaign is in its 9th week, and we are at 77% of our goal.

Campaign Statistics

Goal: \$3,000,000

Percent Reached: 77%

Current Amount Raised: \$2,315,015

The love and committed sacrifice of so many in our community have made it possible for us to reach this mark, and in the coming weeks this love will enable us to continue our journey and reach \$3,000,000 and beyond. This goal will make it possible for us to make the substantial repairs to our parish buildings that have deteriorated. If these needs are not addressed now, we are in danger of losing the use of our Church and School.

We thank everyone who has come forward to make a pledge. If you have not met with your campaign volunteer, please respond to their call, pray over your decision and search your heart and make a commitment. Please respond as soon as possible. Our sacrifices and pledges will make a significant difference to our entire parish.

Please pray for the continued success of our campaign and for the repair and renovation work that will begin in the spring.

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never
come to an end; they are new every morning..*

- Lamentations 3:22-

MISSION STATEMENT

As a community of believers in Jesus Christ and in Communion with the universal church, we strive to follow the Lord's command to love God and one another. Rooted in word and sacrament, we grow together as a Eucharistic community inviting all to the Good News of Jesus.

CHRISTMAS 2011

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

*Confessions will be heard on
Saturday, December 17
2:30pm to 4:30pm*

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

*Saturday, December 24
4:30pm
6:00pm*

*The Mass at Midnight
Carol singing beginning at 11:30pm
Mass at Midnight*

CHRISTMAS DAY

*Sunday, December 25
7:30am
9:00am in Italian
10:30am
11:45am
1:00pm*

*There is NO 5:00pm Mass on
Christmas Day.*

*At all the Christmas Masses, the first
collection before the readings is for the
support of the parish. The second
collection at the Offertory of the Mass is
for Catholic Charities.*

NEW YEAR'S DAY

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

*NEW YEAR'S EVE
Saturday, December 31
Mass at 5:00pm*

NEW YEAR'S DAY

*Sunday, January 1
7:30am
9:00am in Italian
10:30am
11:45am
1:00pm*

*There is NO 5:00pm Mass on
New Year's Day.*



Lessons and Carols

Celebrate the joy of the Lord's Birth



with the
St Luke
Adult Choir
Folk Group
Italian Choir
Youth Choir

Jessica Tranzillo Smith
Director of Music

December 18, 2011
3:00 in the Afternoon

St. Luke Church
16-34 Clintonville St.
Whitestone, New York

(718) 746-3862 for more information

SUNDAY COLLECTION

<i>December 4</i>	<i>\$11,912</i>
<i>Amount Needed</i>	<i>\$13,425</i>
<i>Envelopes Mailed</i>	<i>1883</i>
<i>Envelopes Received</i>	<i>692</i>

2011 Annual Catholic Appeal

Thank you to all those parishioners (over 500) who supported the 2011 Annual Catholic Appeal that comes to a close on December 31st.

This past week we received a check from the Appeal in the amount of \$9,712 which enabled us to make our last payment to Rohlf's Stained and Leaded Glass Company for the restoration and repair of the church windows. Due to the generosity of the Appeal donors we were able to cover the entire cost of the restoration from the last two years of returns over goal from the Annual Catholic Appeal.

Thank you - Thank you.

One final request - please use the remaining days of December to fulfill your pledge already made.

God bless!

***One Bread --- One Body
One Vibrant Church***

**ATTENTION ALL EXTRAORDINARY
MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION &
LECTORS ---**

Please stop by the sacristy and pick up your copy of "The Little Blue Book" for Advent and Christmas Seasons. Put out by the Diocese of Saginaw, Michigan the book contains six-minute reflections for each day of the Advent and Christmas Season. A source of grace and meditation will bring new insights into these two seasons of the Liturgical Year.



ATTENTION --- ALL LECTORS

The new edition of the Workbook for Lectors which begins with the First Sunday of Advent, November 27 is now available in the sacristy. Please be sure to pick up your copy as soon as possible.

Thank you for your generous ministry to the parish.

THANK YOU ---

To all those who gave a donation for Christmas Flowers in their special offering envelopes last weekend. Through your generosity a total of **\$2,531** was given to help decorate our beautiful church with flowers for Christmas.



Thank you and God bless!

PLEASE NOTE ---

There will be **NO** meetings in December for the Golden Age Club. Please watch the bulletin for future announcements about meetings.



SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS ---

In addition to the many Masses celebrated and the many other acts of prayer and worship to our God, in the month of November we celebrated as a parish community:

15 Baptisms 14 Funerals 3 Marriages

We rejoice with those who rejoice and share the sorrow of those who mourn for we are one Body in Christ.

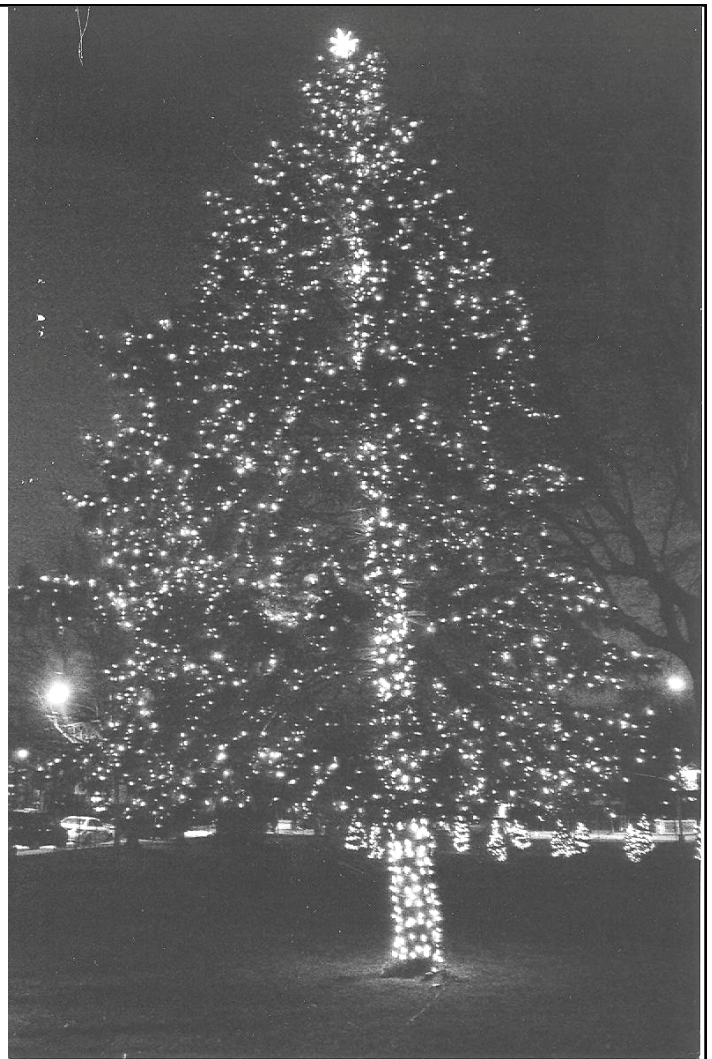
My Christmas Gift to the Church ---

The annual Christmas Gift to the Church collection will be taken up at all the Masses this weekend, December 10th & 11th.

Your Constant generosity to this Christmas Gift collection is so very much appreciated and so well reflects your love and gratitude for the parish and the important place it holds in your heart. On a more practical side, your Christmas Gift to the Church helps the parish cover many outstanding bills.

All me to encourage your generosity and thank you in advance for it.

Msgr. Tosi



OUTDOOR LIGHTS AND STEPS ---

Due to the electrical problems in the lower church and danger of fire as a result the electrical service to that areas of the church has been closed. Unfortunately, the electric service to the lower church controls some of the outside lights as well. As a result please use caution when walking in the dark, especially on the steps. The lack of lights is not due to neglect but part of the bigger problem of much needed interior and exterior work.

Hopefully, we will be able to address all these issues with the success of our Capital campaign. Please make your pledge today.

SACRED CHRISTMAS CHORAL MUSIC ---

The Brooklyn Diocesan Choir under the direction of Emanuel Bologna and Jessica Tranzillo-Smith will present a concert of Sacred Christmas Choral Music on Friday, December 16th at 7:30pm at Resurrection-Ascension Church in Rego Park. The choir, consisting of singers from around the diocese will perform the Gloria by Antonio Vivaldi as well as other Christmas favorites. For ticket information and to purchase tickets contact Jessica Tranzillo-Smith in the Music Office at 718-746-3862.

DON'T FORGET OUR FAMILY MASS ---

Sunday, December 18th at the 11:45am Mass

Bring the family to this special Mass in preparation for the Christmas feast.

Families will prepare the Nativity Scene during Mass. This Christmas tradition first prepared by St. Francis of Assisi reminds us of the true meaning for the season.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. VINCENT ---

Join Father Vincent in a Scripture Study called "Jesus of Scripture". We will learn about the different portraits of Jesus in the Gospels. The next session will be held on Friday, December 16th at 7:30pm in the rectory basement. All are welcome.

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**PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP ---**

The next meeting of the Padre Pio Prayer Group will take place on **MONDAY, December 12** at 7:30pm in the church. All are welcome!

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PRE-JORDAN PROGRAM ---

If you are planning a Baptism, please note the following dates:

<u>Baptism Sunday</u>	<u>Baptism Class</u>
	Dec. 19
Jan. 8 & 22	Jan. 9
Feb. 12 & 26	Feb. 13

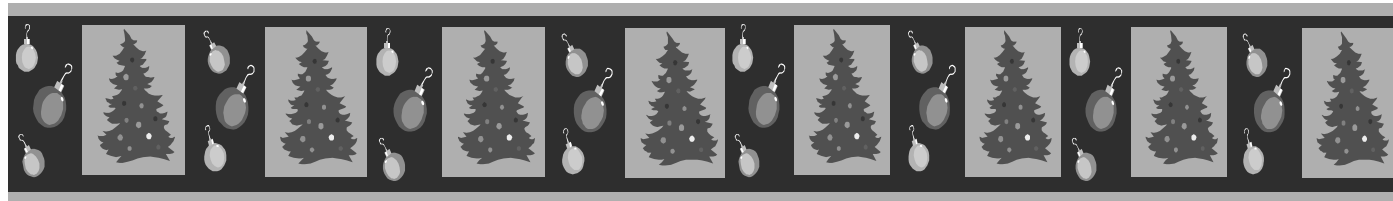
For more information, please call Sister Catherine T. Reilly at (718) 746-8531.

**HOLY NIGHT BRIGHT STAR
SPONSORED TREES 2011**

1. In memory of the DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GALLO & BALLERAS FAMILY
Sponsored by Alfred, Maria & Lucia Gallo
2. In memory of MARY ANN DEMMET
Sponsored by Ronald Demmett
3. In memory of EILEEN C. MURPHY
Sponsored by Your Loving Family
4. In memory of THOMAS J. SNEE
Sponsored by Midge Snee
5. In memory of JOHN PURICH
Sponsored by Kay & David Purich
6. In memory of ROBERT & MARIE RAPERTO
Sponsored by Bernice Raperto
7. In memory of THE PETRETTI FAMILY
Sponsored by Lucy Petretti
8. In memory of JASON VECCHIONE
Sponsored by The Vecchione Family
9. In memory of ANGELA D'AMBROSE
Sponsored by Victoria, Alex & Elaine Mastronardi-Kurz
10. In memory of JOHN CARR
Sponsored by Helen Livlanich
11. In memory of THE SANTORELLI FAMILY & THE TERI FAMILY
Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Teri
12. In memory of PATRICK LYNCH
Sponsored by The Lynch Family



13. In memory of ENRICO & LUCY TOSI
Sponsored by Msgr. John C. Tosi
14. In memory of ROSE MARIE MUSCHITIELLO
Sponsored by The Blascovic and The Lynch Families
15. In honor of ST. LUKE'S FACULTY
Sponsored by Faculty
16. In memory of KATHY BATEMAN
Sponsored by Al & Joan Bateman & Family
17. In honor of ALL VOLUNTEERS - PAST & PRESENT
Sponsored by the St. Luke's Athletic Association
18. In memory of ANA SOFIA ARANGO
Sponsored by The Arango-Gomez Family
19. In memory of NICOLO CEGLIAN
Sponsored by Chiara Ceglian
20. In memory of LUCILLE REIMAN
Sponsored by Robert Reiman
21. In memory of GEORGE & MARIE LEONARD
Sponsored by D'Ambrosio Studios
22. In honor of KEVIN FREILE & FELLOW SEMINARIANS
Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Freile
23. In memory of JOSEPH TROTTA
Sponsored by The Trotta & Balsamo Families
24. In memory of RICHARD ANTHONY COLLETTI
Sponsored by The Colletti Family



**HOLY NIGHT BRIGHT STAR
SPONSORED TREES 2011
(continued)**

25. In memory of PIETRO & MADDALENA ZUCCARELLO
Sponsored by Giuseppe & Louis Zuccarello & Family
26. In memory of ROSA ROMANO & SON, JOSEPH ROMANO
Sponsored by Giuseppe & Louis Zuccarello & Family
27. In memory of JOHN & ANNE CHIARELLI
Sponsored by John Chiarelli
28. In memory of VITO BULLARO
Sponsored by Peter Zuccarello
29. In memory of MARIE DANIELE
Sponsored by Sabato Daniele





Advent
AT ST. LUKE CHURCH

1. ***Sunday celebration of the Eucharist and lighting of the Advent Wreath.***

The Sunday Eucharist with its Scripture Readings is at the heart of the Advent Season. The traditional lighting of the Advent Candles recalls the longing for Christ, true light of the world.

2. ***Family Mass, Sunday, December 18th at the 11:45am Mass.***

Bring the family to this special Mass in preparation for the Christmas feast. Families will prepare the Nativity Scene during Mass. This Christmas tradition first prepared by St. Francis of Assisi reminds us of the true reason for the season.

3. ***Family Mass & the Blessing of Expectant Mothers.***

On Sunday, December 18 the Family Mass will celebrate the coming feast of Christmas with two special events:

1. The preparation of the church Nativity Set with a living Nativity Scene (a live baby Jesus included!)
2. A special blessing of expectant mothers - fathers too!
Expecting a baby? Come receive God's blessing for a safe delivery and a healthy baby. No registration needed.

4. ***Holy Night/Bright Star - Saturday, December 10 at 6:00pm.***

Make the night radiate with the Light of Christ.

Join the community in lighting the parish Christmas Tree on the Great Lawn; sing Christmas Carols as the Nativity Scene is blessed; join in the lighting of the "Trees of Lights" in memory of or in honor of our loved ones. The 5:00pm Mass will be celebrated for their intentions.



Advent
AT ST. LUKE CHURCH

5. **Lessons & Carols - Sunday, December 18 at 3:00pm.**

Celebrating the birth of Jesus, Nine Lessons and Carols is a service of Worship which traditionally occurs during the Advent and Christmas Season. The story of the fall of Adam, the promise of the Messiah, And the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Scripture Readings, interspersed With the singing of carols and hymns. This year our Choirs, Adult, Folk, Italian and Youth will lead us in the singing of Advent hymns and anthems to help us prepare for the Birth of the Savior.

6. **Advent Bible Study**

Join Father Vincent in a Scripture Study called “Jesus of Scripture”. Study will focus on different portraits of Jesus in the Gospels. The two sessions will be held in the rectory basement at 7:30pm on Wednesday, November 30th and Friday, December 16th.

7. **Giving Tree**

An opportunity for people to share their blessings at Christmas With those less fortunate.

8. **Christmas at Saint Luke**

Celebrate the joy of Christ’s birth here at Saint Luke Church. Please consult the December issue of the PAX for the Christmas Schedule of Masses.

***Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence in Catholic Education
1910–2010***



ADVENT WREATHS

In preparation for Advent, Ms. Fagnoli's Class 3-1 created their own Good Deed Advent wreaths. Students thought of 24 good deeds, one deed for every day in Advent, that they could perform to help someone. Even something as simple as helping Mom set the table or assisting a younger brother or sister in making their bed helps to make someone else's day a little brighter. Students also put Advent candles on their wreath with bendable "flames" so that they can light a candle on every Sunday in Advent as we anxiously await the birth of Jesus!

EIGHTH GRADERS CELEBRATE!

The TACHS Exam is often the source of much anxiety for an eighth grade student. For most of the students, the last several months have been spent taking prep classes, completing endless pages of practice worksheets and attending high school open houses.

The entire process can be a bit overwhelming.

On Saturday, November 5th, the eighth graders took the highly anticipated TACHS Exam. Its completion meant that they were one step closer to high school.

It is a great accomplishment and a reason to celebrate.

Mrs. Conlon and Ms. Vecchione took the eighth grade students to Dave and Buster's in Westbury for a day of great food and loads of fun and games.

The students had an awesome time. It was the perfect way to unwind and relax!

We congratulate our 8th grade students on this accomplishment and keep them in our prayers as they await their high school acceptances.





ST. LUKE SCHOOL
WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET
718-746-3833 www.slswhitestone.org

*All are invited to the
St. Luke School Christmas Fair!*



Wednesday, December 14th

8:30am to 12:30pm

Hosted by our 8th Grade Students & Parents



*Come walk through our
Christmas Wonderland*

*where you can purchase gifts for
family and friends.*

*Stop by Santa's Kitchen for some delicious
home baked goods, and cakes for sale.*



**Raffle
Tickets**

3 for \$1.00

*Handmade Crafts
Free Gift Wrapping*

*Raffle tickets will be sold
at the fair only.*

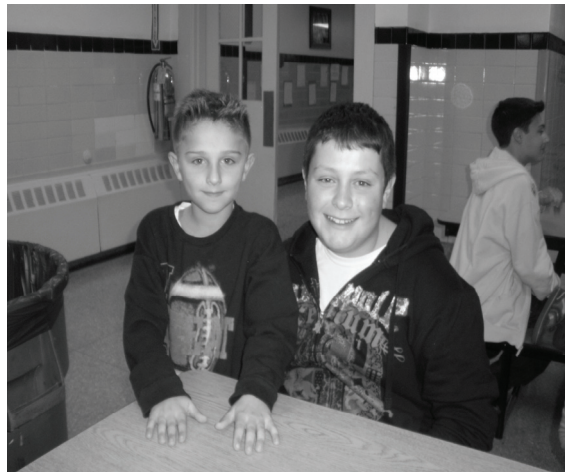
**SUPER
RAFFLE
\$1.00 each**
~
**X-Box System
Kindle
SLAA Gift
Certificate**



ST. LUKE SCHOOL
WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET
718-746-3833 www.slswhitestone.org

DATE NIGHT AT SAINT LUKE SCHOOL

Who says you have to be an adult to enjoy date night?
On Saturday, November 19th, Mrs. Conlon and Ms. Marchese hosted a special evening for our kindergarten and first grade students. The children were invited to come have dinner, watch a spectacular magic show and decorate cupcakes with an 8th grade “buddy”. This would give the parents of our younger students the opportunity to have a much deserved evening out. Each child was paired with an 8th grade volunteer for the evening. It was terrific to see the bond that quickly formed between the 8th graders and their “little buddies”. It was clear that everyone had a *magical* time. A special thank you to our 8th grade volunteers who readily gave of their time to help out that evening. We couldn’t have done it without you.





ST. LUKE SCHOOL
WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET
718-746-3833 www.slswhitestone.org

Mommy and Me Christmas Party!

Tuesday, December 13 at 9:30AM

St. Luke School Gym

Price per child: \$8.00

2 Siblings \$15.00

Santa will be visiting...so don't forget your cameras!!

Plus...50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

All babies, toddlers, and their caregivers are welcome!

No need to register ahead of time.



All Aboard Holiday Train Show

The Make-A-Wish Foundation
of Metro New York

MAKE-A-WISH
FOUNDATION

Dec. 10-11 &
Dec. 17-18, 2011
10 am to 8 pm

Church of St. Mel
154-24 26th Avenue
(Entrance on 26th Ave.)
Flushing, NY 11354

Discounts available
from Dec. 12th to 16th
for Private Groups & Schools

Call: 646-515-2015

All donations will go directly to
The Make-A-Wish Foundation
of Metro New York

Visit with Santa (bring your camera)

TOYS FOR TOTS | FREE REFRESHMENTS | RAFFLES
www.metro.ny.wish.org

Adults

\$10 pp

Children ages 2-12

\$5 pp

Children under 2 years

Free

Church of St. Leo

104-05 49 Avenue Corona, New York 11368 718-592-7569 - Fax 718-271-6726
Rev. William M. Hoppe, Pastor - Rev. Carlos Agudelo / Rev. Diego Villegas, Parochial Vicars

November 28, 2011

Reverend Msgr. John C. Tosi
St. Luke Church
16-34 Clintonville Street
Whitestone, NY 11357

Dear Monsignor ^{John}Tosi:

As you and I know, Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for blessings received. I am writing to thank you, and your parishioners, for the wonderful spirit of Christian charity exhibited in your recent donation of food to our St. Leo Food Pantry.

Your thoughtful and virtuous action has made it possible to open our Pantry this coming Wednesday, as opposed to an indeterminate time in the future (since we had literally run out of food).

Please pass along my gratitude to your parishioners for their wonderful gift. May God bless them for it, and may God bless our two parishes as we serve God's people.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



William M. Hoppe
Pastor

Copies: Fr. Agudelo, Mrs. Blaine

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. - Zec 2:14-17; Lk 1:26-38
Tues.- Zep 3:1-2,9-13; Mt 25:1-13
Wed. - Is 45:6b-8,18,21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23
Thurs. - Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30
Fri. - Is 56:1-3a,6-8; Jn 5:33-36
Sat. - Gn 49;2,8-10; Mt 1:1-17

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:

JOSETTE TANZOLA
JENNIE ROMANO
MARYANN (IZZO) GERMINO
SUSANNA WINSHIP
LENNY KALLU
BARBARA SATALINO
ARTOURAS JAOUTAKAS

AND FOR THE DECEASED:
MAUREEN MOONEY

MEMORIALS

The Altar Breads are given in memory of **MARIO & ELEONOR TENAGLIA** requested by Carmelia Tenaglia & Family.

The Altar Wine is given in memory of **MARIO & ELEONOR TENAGLIA** requested by Carmelia Tenaglia & Family.

The Sanctuary Lamp is given in memory of **MARIO & ELEONOR TENAGLIA** requested by Carmelia Tenaglia & Family.

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2011

Monday, December 12
7:00 Dominick & Rosemarie Pugliese
12:00 Desmond McDonagh

Tuesday, December 13
8:30 Nunzio DePalma (29th Ann.)
12:00 Deceased Members of the Colombo Family

Wednesday, December 14
7:00 Virginia Lee & Deceased Family Members
12:00 Aniela Latkowski (17th Ann.)

Thursday, December 15
8:30 Thomas, Ellen & Francis McNicholas
12:00 The Gargano Family

Friday, December 16
7:00 Joseph Albuio
12:00 Giuseppe Matrullo

Saturday, December 17
8:30 Deceased Members of the Cataldo & Iracondo Families

Collective Intentions Mass ---

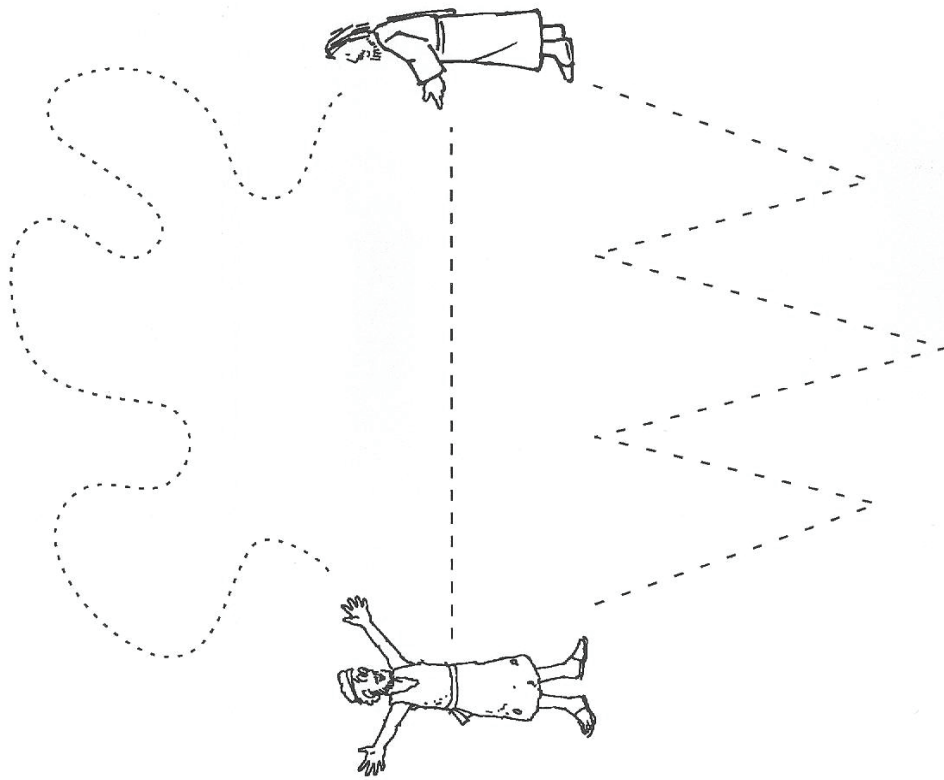
The next Collective Intentions Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, December 18th at the 11:45am Mass.

At this Mass we pray for:

MSGR. EDWARD CONNORS
GERALD T. RYAN

John answered, "I am the voice of one calling in the desert, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

Trace the straight path.



Children's Worship Bulletin

Ages 3-6

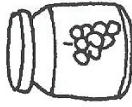




December 11, 2011 • John 1:6-8, 19-28

Make Straight the Way of the Lord



There was a man sent from God. His name was John.

Write the beginning sounds for each picture.

John told about Jesus.



John and



Jesus and circle them.



People asked John if he was
Elijah or a prophet.

Draw a ? inside the  s.

