

St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



©JPPC

Read the
Third Sunday in Advent Readings and Gospel: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121320.cfm>

Today's Readings — Reflections by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Reading I: Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11

The prophet signals that God's work among the people has reached a new phase. Darkness will soon be overcome by God's light, and true justice will be firmly established.

Reading II: I Thessalonians 5: 16-24

St. Paul offers exhortations for community living, including respect for authority, and the shunning of all evil. He also tells his community that it is God's work among them promoting their peace and sanctification.

The Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

This poetic section introduces John the Baptist as a "man sent by God." Meanwhile John carefully points out to his followers that he is definitely not the long expected Christ. He is rather "a voice crying out in the desert" to announce the Christ.

Pastor: Reverend Mark A. Kreder
Deacons: James Campbell; James Gillespie
Frederick C. Ebenau, Sr.;
Pastoral Associate: Deacon James Gillespie
Religious Education: Ellen Noble
Trustees: Jean Glynn, William Anderson
Director of Sacred Music: Angela Petti
Sacristan: Carol Lewandowski

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
(Offices Temporarily Closed, please leave message)
Monday ~ Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon and
1:15 PM to 4:00 PM; Friday 9:00AM-12:00 Noon
REGISTRATION: All are welcome! Sponsorship
letters for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation or
Matrimony will only be issued to registered
parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office to
register and please also notify the Parish Office of a
change of address or if you plan to move from the
parish so that we may keep our records updated

Masses For The Week



SUNDAY, December 13

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(8:00am; 10:00am; 12Noon)

Giovannina & Raffaele Padovano

Ursula Oleksy

Russell Pagano

Carol Hodge

Nichols Torre

Deceased of the Preziose & Najarian Families

MONDAY, December 14

St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:00am George Mosely
 Jamie Cioffi

TUESDAY, December 15

Advent Weekday

8:00am Angelica Bussani
 Deacon Richard Hauenstein

WEDNESDAY, December 16

Advent Weekday

8:00am Angelica Bussani
 Manuel P. Maldonado

THURSDAY, December 17

Late Advent Weekday

8:00am John P Smith
 Marie Louise Raymond

SATURDAY, December 19

Late Advent Weekday

5:00pm People of the Parish
 Robert Sharkey
 Joell Lanfrank

SUNDAY, December 20

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(8:00am; 10:00am; 12Noon)

Kolmansberger Family

Pasquale Cosentino

Stephen Seger, Sr.

Helen & Roy Larkin

Louise & Joseph Becht

Christina Johnson

Louis & Carmela Auriemma

Cosimo DiBrizzi



SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASSES

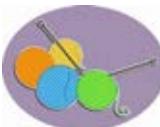
Christmas Eve December 24

**2:00 pm—(Mass in Church
and Parish Hall)
4:00 pm—(Mass in Church
and Parish Hall)
6:00 pm Church)
8:00 pm (Church)**

Christmas Day: December 25

8:00 am - 10:00 am - 12:00noon

December 8, With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from today, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.—Vatican News. Here is a link to our Trenton Monitor article from Bishop O'Connell:
<https://ourdiocesetoday.org/2020/12/pope-francis-announces-the-year-of-st-joseph/>



SHAWL MINISTRY NEWS

St. Justin's Shawl Ministry is in need of some talented hands to make lap blankets to distribute at Funeral Masses to family members of deceased parishioners. For more info please Contact Fran Baranowski: 848-241-3976 or 732-492-0329. Looking forward to speaking with you!

St. Vincent DePaul Society—Food Donations CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED at this time of any kind until the government lifts all bans and clears the state of restrictions from the virus, if you would like to help, monetary donations would be greatly appreciated, and can be dropped off in the poor box located in the narthex just before the doors to the church.
Please contact the St. Vincent dePaul Society for any questions: 732-929-1119

PARISH OFFICE: 732-270-3980

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 732-270-3797

(Offices are temporarily closed until further notice)

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stjustin.org

MASS SCHEDULE: (See Directives on Parish Website)

WEEKEND: Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:00PM

Sunday: 8:00AM; 10:00AM; 12Noon

WEEKDAY: Monday-Thursday:8:00AM

Holy Days: Announced

BAPTISM: Parents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. Godparents/Sponsors are invited and strongly encouraged to attend. Please call the Parish Office as early as possible to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays: 3:30pm **READ NEW DIRECTIVES FOR PROCEDURE BEFORE YOU COME: www.stjustin.org**

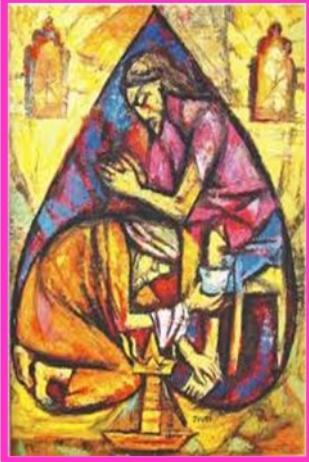
INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Adult R.C.I.A. program: Contact Parish Office

Children R.C.I.A. program: Contact Religious Education

MARRIAGE: The Sacrament of Marriage requires a time of spiritual preparation. According to the Common Policy adopted by the Bishops of New Jersey, this preparation requires attendance at a marriage preparation program (Pre-Cana) as well as sessions with the parish deacon or priest. Therefore, couples should make arrangements at the Parish Office one year before the planned wedding date and before finalizing any social plans.

MISSION STATEMENT: The goal of Saint Justin the Martyr Parish is that each member grow in the Grace through Jesus Christ, and in so doing cooperate with the Holy Spirit in giving glory to God, in experiencing the salvation of their soul, and in building up the Body of Christ.



From the Pastor
December 13, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent - B

REJOICE IN AND PRAY FOR ALL OUR MINISTERS. What a great way to celebrate the annual **rose-colored Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday:** thanking and praying for all Parish ministers. The Church even has a set of orations that intercede for all who accept God's call to ministry. May the Lord bless all who serve in our Parish's administrative, catechetical, liturgical, and social ministries. May more people join them by using their God-given gifts and talents in service to the Church.

Collect - For Ministers of the Church

O God, who have taught the ministers of your Church to seek not to be served, but to serve their brothers and sisters, grant, we pray, that they may be effective in action, gentle in ministry, and constant in prayer.

Through our Lord Jesus ... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

TO SERVE, NOT TO BE SERVED. Just as every host is overjoyed to hear the words, "**What can I do to help?**", so are Priests, especially those of us who serve as Pastors. At our Ordination, we solemnly promise to follow the example of the Master who "**did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life.**" [Cf. Matthew 20:28] However, **ALL** baptized Christians are called to serve the Lord, through His Church, in her various ministries. In imitation of the **Lord Jesus**, each of us must make the time to discover and develop our unique gifts; then we must be open to each opportunity to put our graces into action. As the Gospels attest, **Jesus** often changed His plans, and even gave up His well-earned 'rest time,' to serve others. Is there someone through whom God is calling you to put your faith into action? May we always be selfless in our service!

Prayer over/Offerings - For Ministers of the Church

Holy Father, whose Son chose to wash the disciples' feet and so set us an example, accept, we pray, the oblations of our service, and grant that, offering ourselves as a spiritual sacrifice, we may be filled with a spirit of humility and zeal. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HUMBLE SERVANTS. Most Priests, like me, were - and still are - awed by the reality of being called by God into service. Like many clergy, I can vividly recall how inferior I felt as I began my seminary formation, plagued by doubts that I could ever do all I had to do. Those fearful feelings were renewed at every 'first:' my first Baptism and Wedding; my First Mass; my first Confession and Anointing; the first time I heard another Priest's confession; my first year as Pastor, to name a few 'fearful firsts.' And while I'm honored to be affirmed and appreciated, cherished and gifted, praised and prayed for by so many people, it's also quite humbling. And, as for most clergy, all this ironically leads my deep sense of my unworthiness!

So, when we encourage you to act on what you [or I] perceive as God's call to serve in a ministry, and you protest: "**I can't do that!**" - "**I'm not worthy!**" - we chuckle. For that sense of being useless or unworthy is exactly what God needs from those through whom He can do what they themselves could never do - without His grace!

Prayer after Communion - For Ministers of the Church

Grant, O Lord, to your servants, whom you have replenished with heavenly food and drink, that, for the sake of your glory and the salvation of believers, they may be found faithful as ministers of the Gospel, of the Sacraments and of charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

RECEIVE SO YOU CAN GIVE. One of the first things those who sense they are being called to a ministry should do is: '**stoke the fire**' with the Gift of **Eucharist**. For the more we listen to and understand God's word in sacred Scripture, and the more often we welcome **Jesus** to enter into us through **His Sacred Body** and **Precious Blood**, the more easily we can imitate the biblical heroes of old and become what, or rather, **Who**, we receive. This is one reason why **Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper**, which we could not celebrate last April due to the Coronavirus (Chinese Communist Party) virus, is so special to me: for almost every Parish minister comes to that one Mass! Into what ministry may the Lord be calling to YOU to serve?

In Christ,

Father Mark

**To everything there is a season and a time to
every purpose under heaven**

Ecclesiastes 3:11

"...a time to be born..."

Sienna Marie DeMola, Stefania Rae Powell

"...a time to love..."

... "and a time to be born to Eternal Life..."

George G. Kelly

Those who have died in the Service of our Country.

"...and a time for peace in all the world..."

pray for our servicemen and women at home and abroad,

Cody Fisher, Jason Howie, Daniel Robert Costello, Mark Caruso, Rick DiSanti, A.J. Elbert, Ryan Buckley, Eric P. Fenske, Louis Graffeo, Michael Griffing, Alexandria Del'Romero Hughes,

Audrey Hughes, Antoni Jedra, Charles Jones, Ian Krong,

Walter Reed, Tyler Brandon Sansone, Trevor Smida, Christopher Sylvester, Nick Roma, Nick Panzara, Greg Hermack,

John DiMicelli, John M. Budenas, Autumn Hale

Joey Colosimo, Michael Anthony DeAnni, Kieran Murphy, Colin Berrios, Kevin Kreder, Christopher Wright, Jordan Thomas

**And for our President and
elected Leaders of our Country.**



Mark Your Calendar for Sunday, December 20th

Christmas will be here sooner than we think!

We will start decorating the church and narthex at 1:15pm We need volunteers of all skills and levels of expertise. If you would like to participate in decorating you can sign up on the parish website under News/Events (drop down menu labeled Christmas Decorating) or private message our parish Facebook Page, St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church, or call the Parish Office. Social Distancing will be observed and masks will be required, we will call you with time slot for the area you will be helping.



GIVING TREE

If you, or anyone you know, is in need of help for Christmas (registered parishioners only) please call Betty at 732-270-1972.

To do our part in keeping our parish safe and healthy on the giving and receiving side, only gift cards will be distributed this year (Visa, Mastercard, Shop Rite, or gift card of your choice) We presented this idea to Father Mark and he gave his approval.

Please drop off your gift card/check at the church in the box provided marked "Giving Tree". The deadline is December 15th. If you prefer you may mail a check to the parish office with "Attention: Giving Tree" 975 Fischer Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08753. Thank you for your generosity.

Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

We ask our parish family to please visit our Religious Education Corner on our parish website www.stjustin.org; it is located under the religious education section.

We are putting up some enrichments for families and we also remind you to visit FORMED and Faith At Home for further enrichments. We hope everyone has an ADVANTAGEOUS ADVENT SEASON!



Action Needed to Oppose the NJ Reproductive Freedom Act (S3030/A4848)

The Reproductive Freedom Act would remove restrictions protecting unborn babies and allow medical professionals who are not doctors to perform abortions.

To view the entire bill go to:

[New Jersey Right to Life \(njrtl.org\)](http://New Jersey Right to Life (njrtl.org))

Please call the sponsors of these bills and tell them to remove their sponsorship and vote NO on these bills.

Senator Loretta Weinberg and Senator Linda Greenstein. VOTE NO ON BILL S 3030.

SEN. Weinberg 201-928-0100

SEN. Greenstein 609-395-9911

Assemblywoman Valerie Huttle: VOTE NO ON BILL A 4848. Telephone: 201-541-1118

Also call, email and mail letters via postal mail to Senate President Stephen Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin urging them NOT to post S3030/A4848. Their address and phone numbers are listed below:

Senator Stephen Sweeney

935 Kings Highway, Ste. 400, West Deptford, NJ 08086
Phone: 856 251-9801; Email: SenSweeney@njleg.org

Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin

569 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Phone: (732) 855-7441; Email:

AsmCoughlin@njleg.org

ADVENT CONFESSIONS FRIDAY DECEMBER 18TH

4:00PM TO 6:00PM

In lieu of an Advent Penance Service, an examination of conscience is provided on our website www.stjustin.org

Several Priests will be available in safe-distanced, private places from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Friday, December 18. This is your best and last opportunity to go to Confession before Christmas. Remember to keep a safe distance as you wait on the line for this great Sacrament of Healing.

Dear Parishioners, if you wish to submit names for **Christmas Flower Offerings** print out the form or simply write the information down, place in an envelope with your offering, and either mail in or drop off the envelope to the parish hall in the Collection Boxes.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| <i>In Memory of:</i> | |
| | |
| | |
| <i>Name:</i> | |
| | |
| <i>Address:</i> | |
| <i>Env. No:</i> | <i>Amount:</i> |



Collections are vital to our existence as a Parish. If your circumstances permit, please consider donating to the parish at this time. *Donations can be mailed to the church: St. Justin the Martyr, 975 Fischer Blvd. Toms River, NJ 08753. *There are also collection hoppers located in the parish hall when you enter or exit for Mass. *Also, consider making your online offertory for our parish thru the Diocese, that has now created a "Pass the Basket" "Emergency Fund." If you wish to make your weekly donation to our parish thru this method, please visit our parish website: www.stjustin.org. Under the News/Events tab, select the On-Line Giving tab. When the Diocese page opens, scroll down to the "Pass the Basket" option, select St. Justin the Martyr Parish. These are challenging times for all of us. I am most grateful to all who have continued to mail in their weekly offerings, or donated on line, so we can pay all bills on time. Fr. Mark

Readings for the Week of December 13 2020

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18B-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Since we are not able to distribute printed bulletins at this time due to COVID restrictions, our Advent Calendar and all the information regarding Advent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation times, our Christmas Mass Schedule can be found on our parish website: www.stjustin.org

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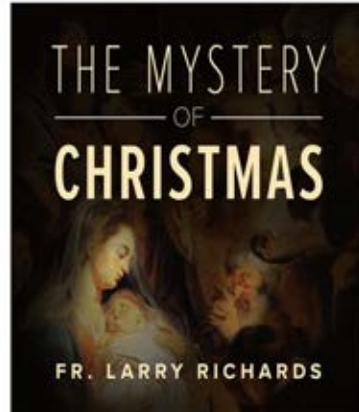
PICK OF THE WEEK

December 13, 2020

LISSTEN

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS BY FR. LARRY RICHARDS

In this talk, Fr. Larry Richards reminds us that in the mystery of Christmas, God gives humanity his greatest gift—the gift of his Son to the world.



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