

St. Justin the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

975 Fischer Boulevard, Toms River, NJ 08753

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



©IPPC

**Read: the
Fourth Sunday in Advent Readings and Gospel:** <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/122020.cfm>

Reflections by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Reading I: 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-11, 16

David is told by Nathan that the Lord will build a “house” (dynasty) and that his line will be an everlasting one that will enable people to enjoy peace.

Reading II: Romans 16: 25-27

Paul makes known the divine plan, which is linked with Old Testament books. He recognizes that he is called to make the Gospel known to all the nations.

The Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

This section is the annunciation of Christ’s birth put in parallel with the annunciation of His cousin John the Baptist’s. Nazareth was an insignificant town never mentioned in the Old Testament. The angel Gabriel calls Mary “one who is enjoying God’s favor,” or “full of grace.”

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 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

MONDAY, December 21; Late Advent Weekday;
St. Peter Canisius Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:00am Barbara Pistilli
 Carmela Auriemma

TUESDAY, December 22; Late Advent Weekday

8:00am Filomena Angotti
 Jack Vasarkovy

WEDNESDAY, December 23; Late Advent Weekday;
St. John of Kenty, Priest

8:00am James Whelan, Jr.
 Joseph Sr., Lisa Ann, Joseph Jr. Paparazzo

THURSDAY, December 24; Late Advent Weekday
Please Note there is no 8:00am morning Mass today

2:00pm Laura Pisano
(church) Lewandowski Family Grandchildren
 Larson Family
2:00pm (hall) People of the Parish
4:00pm Rev. Robert O'Leary
(church) McDonald Family
 Petti Family
4:00pm (hall) People of the Parish
6:00pm Deacons of the Parish & their families
 Ritter Family
8:00pm Priests of the Diocese
 Jaynes Family

FRIDAY, December 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas)

8:00am Jason Carmen Danno
 Peterson Family
10:00am Murphy Family
 Muoio Family
12noon Lewis Family
 Haberl Family

SATURDAY, December 26

St. Stephen The First Martyr

5:00pm People of the Parish
 Bernard Gupko
 Carl & Hilda Stelz

SUNDAY, December 27

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

8:00am Laura Pisano
 Munoz & Duenzl Families
 Anna Marie Beiswinger
10:00am Marie Danno Sarkisian
 Donald Werder
 William Ruckstuhl
12noon Patricia Duffy (living)
 Sullivan & Sauer Families
 Noble & Skelton Families



The Altar Bread,

which will become the Body of Christ at
the Masses celebrated during the week

and

The Sanctuary Candle

which burns near the Tabernacle
in Church, the reminder of the Lord's
Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist,
is offered in loving memory of

Joseph & Louise Becht, and
Angelina & Andrew Petti



requested by the Petti & Pais Families

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

4th Sunday of Advent - B
December 20, 2020

WHO HAS NOT HAD A BLUE CHRISTMAS?

Anyone who has lost a loved one to death knows how 'blue' Christmas can be. The first Christmas without a beloved spouse or child, parent or grand-parent or close friend can be tough ... not that subsequent Christmases are often any easier. Our aching desire to be at table with, and enjoy the company of, those "who have gone before us with the sign of faith" [Roman Canon or Eucharistic Prayer I] is best soothed through prayer. No wonder the Church provides so many sets of orations for Masses offered for the dead, like those below: 'For Several Deceased Persons or For All The Dead - #6.' Until we join them in singing 'Silent Night' with the angelic choir, may we find comfort and peace in the Lord Jesus' promise of eternal life. **Merry Christmas!**

Collect - Several Deceased Persons/All the Dead-6

Grant perpetual mercy to your departed servants, we pray, O Lord, that the hope and faith they had in you may benefit them for all eternity.

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

PERPETUAL MERCY. As many orations for **Funeral Masses**, **Memorial Masses**, and the other **Rites** [Vigil, Transfer of the Body, Committal, etc.] that comprise the **Order of Christian Funerals** remind us: the bonds we forge in this life - with the Lord and with one another - do not unravel at death. And in this Collect, we are reminded that the faithful departed still have access - through our prayers - to God's '**perpetual mercy**' - a **Divine Mercy** that comes to us in many ways.

As sacred Scripture assures us: when the Lord revealed His glory to Moses, "**the LORD passed before him and proclaimed:** The LORD, the LORD, a God gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love and fidelity." [Exodus 34:6] As the images of the **Sacred Heart** and **Divine Mercy** remind us, Jesus is THE source of perpetual mercy - as is the **Holy Spirit**, who gives us the spiritual gift of mercy. And we rightfully call the **Blessed Virgin Mary** our '**Mother of Mercy**' since she played - and still plays - a unique role in reflecting her merciful Son's presence into our sins and sorrows.

Prayer over/Offerings - Several Deceased/All the Dead-6

In this sacrifice, O Lord, your Son, though innocent, was slain for us and took away all the sins of the world; grant, we pray, that it may set your servants (**N. and N.**) free from every failing of the human condition. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

'HE CAME DOWN THAT WE MAY HAVE LIFE.' As a very catchy children's Christmas carol from the Central African country of Cameroon chants:

"He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life;
Hallelujah, forevermore!"

And in each subsequent verse, the word 'life' becomes 'love' - 'hope' - 'peace' - 'joy' - etc. Could there be a better summary of why Christ came to earth, was born like one of us, loved and suffered like one of us, lived and died like one like us? While Christ came to redeem and ransom us from sin, to reopen the heavenly gates closed by Adam and Eve's 'Original Sin,' and to show us how to live, He also came to destroy death.

As an ancient anonymous author wrote, Jesus was born from a **virgin womb**, with God as His Father; He rode into Jerusalem on a **virgin donkey** who had never been used before; and He was buried in a **virgin tomb** intended for the man who 'donated' it to **Jesus**: Joseph of Arimathea. These images made their way into a French carol, '**The Rose Tree Carol**', which highlights the **snow-white, fresh new start** Jesus made possible for all who need to be freed "**from every failing of the human condition.**"

Prayer after Communion - Several Deceased/All the Dead-6

May your departed servants and all who sleep in Christ inherit eternal light, we pray,
O Lord, for while still in this life they received this, your holy Sacrament.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

'SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE.' As we sing or hear these words at **Christmas**, remember that they apply to the **Christ Child** in the **manger** - and all those in their tombs. **May they sleep in peace!**

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..."

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

Danielle Pavano & Victor Manuel Silva

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

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.



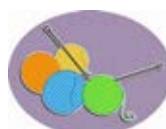
St. Justin's Giving Tree Ministry wishes to express their heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our parish family who have always been so generous to the needy recipients' of our Giving Tree. This year our parish family has been exceptionally generous.

May God bless you all abundantly!!

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!



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/>

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!



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 20 2020

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40



Father Mark our Deacons & Staff wish everyone a Very Blessed & Joyful Christmas! please visit our parish website for all Advent & Christmas information

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

In Memory of: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Env. No: _____

Amount: _____

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

December 20, 2020

WATCH

CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY

Nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like Rome. This Christmas, marvel at the Holy City's festive celebration of the coming of the child Jesus in Bethlehem.

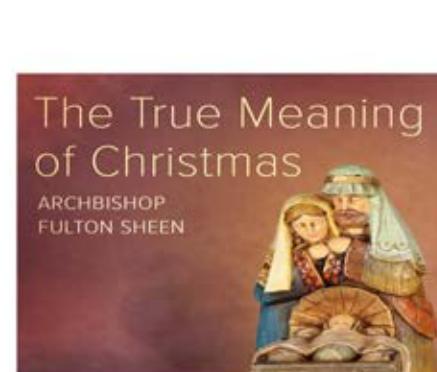


LISTEN

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS BY FULTON SHEEN

This presentation combines recordings of Fulton Sheen's timeless reflections on the meaning of Christmas, mixed with Gregorian chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!

LEARN



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