

**DECEMBER 11, 2016
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday (December 11) Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 Pro Populo
 10:00 All Confirmation Candidates
Requested by: Priests of the Parish
 12:00 Jerry Jones
Requested by: The Jones Family
 7:00 Spanish Mass

Monday (December 12) Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 5:00 Spanish Mass
 7:00 Catherine Clemente
Requested by: Fatima and Family
 9:00 Diogo L. Fernandes
Requested by: Natalia Fernandes

Tuesday (December 13) Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

- 7:00 Michael Nardone, Jr.
Requested by: Robert Kelleher
 9:00 Sister Petra Zanghi
Requested by: Kathryn Vignini

Wednesday (December 14) Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor

- 7:00 William J. LoSasso
Requested by: Mr. and Mrs. Carmine DeLuca
 9:00 Michael Nardone, Jr.
Requested by: Priscilla Bianco

Thursday (December 15)

- 7:00 Baby Bosco Benvenga
Requested by: The Warn Family
 9:00 Jackie Salicco
Requested by: Cathy Bischoff
 7:30 Spanish Mass

Friday (December 16)

- 7:00 Carmen Hermina
Requested by: Daughter
 9:00 Michael Nardone, Jr.
Requested by: Louise Gallo

Saturday (December 17)

- 9:00 John E. Burns
Requested by: Family
 5:00 Hazel Vargo
Requested by: Her Friends from Keller Army Community Hospital

Sunday (December 18) Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 Giuseppe Pascetta
Requested by: Family
 10:00 All Expectant Mothers
Requested by: Priests of the Parish
 12:00 Pro Populo
 7:00 Spanish Mass

Please notify an usher if you would like to bring up the gifts during a Mass for your loved one.

MEMORIALIZATIONS

ALTAR CANDLES

In Memory of the Carey & Eible Families
Requested by: Family

ALTAR BREAD AND WINE

Rose Franceschini
Requested by: Fran and Ray Levesque



DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

December 11 3 pm Mt. St. Francis
 December 18 – No Holy Hour –
 December 25 – No Holy Hour –



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2016

Vigil Mass	Saturday, December 24	4:00 pm
	<i>In Spanish</i>	7:30 pm
Midnight Mass	Sunday, December 25	12:00 am
Christmas Day	Sunday, December 25	8:00 am
		10:00 am
		12:00 pm
	<i>In Spanish</i>	2:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Our Adult Choir will conduct a Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve starting at 3:30 pm.

Before Midnight Mass, everyone is invited to join in singing Christmas Carols, starting at 11:30 pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS COLLECTION

The Second Collection at the Masses next weekend (**Saturday, December 17** and **Sunday, December 18**) will help defray the significant cost of our beautiful Christmas flowers and decorations. Thanks to your generosity, our Church has always been resplendent at Christmastime. As in past years, donations may be made in memory of your beloved deceased family and friends; please type or print each name neatly, and kindly limit the number of names submitted. The names of those so memorialized will be printed in our Epiphany bulletin.

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

On **Monday, December 19**, our parish will once again participate in Advent Reconciliation, a day when all parishes in the Archdiocese, in preparation for Christmas, are offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4:00 pm through 8:00 pm. No matter how long it may have been since your last confession – weeks, years, even decades – there's no time like Advent to experience the mercy of God in the Sacrament of Penance. Seize this moment of grace!

TITHING REPORT

Second Sunday of Advent 2016 (Dec. 4).....\$10,304.25
(includes Parish Pay amount of \$781.25)
Second Collection (Retirement Fund).....\$2,872.00
Second Sunday of Advent 2015 (Dec. 6).....\$10,808.26
(includes Parish Pay amount of \$673.26)

If you would like to enroll in Parish Pay, please go to www.parishpay.com OR call the Rectory.

RESPECT LIFE

Advent and Pregnancy. As we enter the second half of Advent, the liturgy focuses more specifically on the incarnation and birth of Jesus at the first Christmas. We think about Mary's initial fear and uncertainty in the face of her unexpected pregnancy. Then, in every Church in the world, believers spiritually rush to her side to eagerly await with her the birth of the Savior.



The best way for a parish to celebrate Christmas is to rush physically to the side of those in the community who, like Mary, are uncertain and afraid about their pregnancy. We are to accompany them through their pregnancy with support and encouragement and help them experience the fact that every birth reflects the joy of the birth of Christ. Pregnancy centers providing alternatives to abortion can be reached through the "Option Line" (1-800-712-HELP) or at www.pregnancycenters.org.

The next Respect Life Holy Hour – which is also the National Night of Prayer for the Unborn (SEE article below) – is Wednesday, December 28 at 7:00 pm.

NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN

December 28 marks the Feast of the Holy Innocents when, during the Octave of Christmas, we commemorate those infants slaughtered by King Herod. The United States Bishops ask Catholics on that date to remember the unborn. Accordingly, Assumption will host a bilingual night of prayer on **Wednesday, December 28** from 7:00 pm through midnight – five hours of Eucharistic Adoration, music, praying of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet, and other prayers for the protection of innocent human life in the womb and healing for all those who have had abortions. The Sacrament of Confession will also be available.

A BLESSING FOR MOTHERS-TO-BE

The Fourth Sunday of Advent finds the Church waiting with the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph in anxious and joyful hope for the birth of our Savior. Assumption invites all expectant Moms to attend the 10:00 am Mass next **Sunday, December 18** to receive a special blessing after Holy Communion as they, too, joyously await the birth of their infants.

ADVENT WREATH PRAYER – THE THIRD WEEK



We humbly beg Thee, O Lord, to listen to our prayers and, by the grace of Thy coming, bring light into our darkened minds. Who livest and reignest for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL



Gladys Latimer, Catherine Chesser, Janet Fortier, Linda McGarr, Andrew Muller, George Strumke, Cecilia Murphy, Mario Garziona, Catherine Gleba, James Brian Dolman, Suzi Jo Bondra, Sheila Fleitz, Tony DeMilio, Margaret Kang and Carli Hermina.

PRAY ALSO FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Audrey Dolores Desposito
John P. Leardi
Helen A. Mulligan
Thomas F. Fitzgerald, Jr.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

AN ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION

In this season of way too much to do, what better "gift" to give yourself – and your soul – than a day of retreat and reflection? Come to Assumption's "Day of Recollection" this **Saturday, December 17**. Led by Father Juniper Adams, with musical inspiration provided by The Rony Feliz-Veloz Band, the retreat will begin at 8:30 am in the Church with the recitation of the Rosary, followed by Mass at 9:00 am and continuing in Father Wilson Hall until 4:15 pm. Confessions will be available. The cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. If you would like to attend, please register by this **Monday (December 12)**. For more information, please call Ellen Bennett at (914) 486-8674.

DISCOVERING CHRIST 2017

Come and quench your thirst! Please join us on Monday evenings for "Discovering Christ," a seven-week series at Assumption beginning **Monday, January 23, 2017** and continuing through March 6 (with a life-changing retreat on Saturday, February 25). Share a meal, listen to a dynamic teaching and explore answers to questions about God and the meaning of life. As the group of participants is limited in size, reservations are required, and you must be at least 18 years of age. To reserve your place, please go to www.dcassumption.eventbrite.com OR you can e-mail discoveringchrist.assumption@gmail.com OR telephone (914) 402-4439.

"SMILE" – HOLIDAY SHOPPING NEEDN'T BE SO BAD!

If you've been putting off holiday shopping because the very thought of making your way to an overheated, overcrowded mall on a weekend in December makes you hyperventilate, not to mention your chances of coming across an empty parking space once you get there are about on par with your coming across a unicorn, relax. Breathe deep. There's a kinder, gentler way to get your shopping done – and benefit Assumption Church at the same time. Just settle in at home and order from Amazon, through its "AmazonSmile" program, which donates one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the price of eligible purchases to your charity of choice. If you've yet to register your choice, please go to smile.amazon.com, choose "Church of the Assumption, Peekskill, NY" when prompted, then shop to your heart's content for your nearest and dearest!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT ASSUMPTION

It takes many people to see to it that a parish runs smoothly. In our continuing series highlighting parish employees and volunteers, we focus this week on Maria Agudelo, who keeps everything spick-and-span around here.



"Hello, my name is Maria Agudelo. I was born in Colombia and have been a parishioner of Assumption Church since moving to Peekskill in 1986.

Back then, I was among the first members of the Spanish community at Assumption. I have many fond memories of the beginning of many of the current ministries in this great parish.

My husband and I have two children, both of whom attended and graduated from Assumption School. When they started school in 1999, I began volunteering in the School and, soon after that, began working at the Rectory.

Fast forward to today: My daughter is a graduate of Penn State, and my son is currently in college. I am so very proud of them and their achievements.

Assumption has truly been my "spiritual house." Everyone from our late, great Monsignor Ansbro, to Father Clark, to Deacon Carlos and our current pastor, Father Higgins, and vicar, Father Vincent, have worked very hard to make everyone feel so welcome here.

I hope that, by contributing my part in helping with the upkeep of our Church and Rectory, I have made people feel just as comfortable here as I have all these years."

"COMMITMENT WEEKEND" RECAP



Congratulations to Assumption and a hearty "Thank You" to all our parishioners who have made or are considering making a pledge to the "Renew + Rebuild" campaign. Last weekend ("Commitment Weekend"), more than half a million dollars was pledged toward the important work we have to do, bringing us to 94% of our goal. Please see the breakdown below:

Saturday

5:00 pm (English Mass)	\$44,400
7:00 pm (Goan Mass*)	8,400
7:00 pm (Spanish Mass**)	68,400

* (in the Church, Annual Feast of St. Francis Xavier)

** (at Mt. St. Francis Convent)

Sunday

8:00 am (English Mass)	\$43,400
10:00 am (English Mass)	64,500
12:00 pm (English Mass)	123,740
7:00 pm (Spanish Mass)	171,400

Total from Commitment Weekend: \$524,240

Previous amount pledged: \$520,400

Grand Total (to date) \$1,044,640

We're just \$70,860 shy of our goal of \$1,115,500! If anyone still wishes to contribute, please use the pledge form enclosed with this bulletin and return it to the Rectory.

NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

The Entrance Antiphon for the Fourth Sunday of Advent paraphrases Isaiah 45:8: *"Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior."*

In the full text, the first three verses of this prayer for mercy plead and lament, *"Thy wrath, O Lord, withhold from us and no longer remember all our transgressions. Lo, the city of the Lord has become a desert: Sion is now a forsaken land."*

The Lord responds in the fourth verse, *"Be ye comforted, O my People... I come to save, do not be fearful... I am Thy Lord and Thy God, Redeemer of Israel."*

The second Eucharistic Prayer echoes this theme: *"Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down Your Spirit upon them like the dewfall..."*

With Christmas on the horizon, the Son of God, the "Sun of Justice," is about to rise. The First Reading signals the dawn of His coming, *"[Behold,] the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel."* The main figures in the drama of salvation begin to take their places with Mary in the spotlight.

The Gospel of Matthew also brings center stage a figure waiting in the wings: St. Joseph. *"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid... For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her... [H]e will save his people from their sins."*

Choir Mass music for the Fourth Sunday of Advent will include the Gregorian RORATE COELI (*translation: "Drop down dew from Heaven"*), mournfully inserting itself into the fever pitch of the frenzied secular holiday season. The cry of a tired humanity longing for redemption, it will be chanted during the incensing of the gifts.

THE CHERRY TREE CAROL will celebrate the role of the puzzled, yet faithful, husband of Mary.

In conclusion, since the days of December 17 – 23 feature the O ANTIPHONS in the Church's daily liturgy, CHRIST, CIRCLE ROUND US (#55) will encore as the Antiphons take their place in the cast of characters setting the stage for the arrival of the protagonist, the Prince of Peace.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – patroness of the Americas and of the Unborn – is this **Monday, December 12**. In addition to our regular 7:00 am and 9:00 am Masses that day, our Spanish community will celebrate with Mañanitas beginning at 4:00 am in the Church, followed by a

Spanish Mass at 5:00 am.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR 2017

As you leave the Church this weekend, you'll receive – compliments of the Dorsey-Carlone Funeral Home – a beautiful Catholic liturgical calendar for 2017, each month illustrated with an inspiring image of Christian art. May the Lord fill you and your family with many blessings each day of the new year!

ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL



RENOVAR + RECONSTRUIR

Mi nombre es Elizabeth Recinos, soy guatemalteca y hace 14 años emigré de mi país para formar una familia. El haber estado lejos de mi familia por 13 años y de no haber podido compartir con ellos fue uno de los momentos más dolorosos en mi vida. Y muchos de ustedes se identificarían conmigo. En el 2003, fue cuando por primera vez visite la Iglesia de la Asunción, a partir de ese momento he sido parte de esta Iglesia y la Iglesia a sido la familia que yo extrañaba y necesitaba, fui recibida y acogida con mucho amor desde el primer momento. Aquí he encontrado personas que he adoptado como mi familia, que me han brindado amor y apoyo en los momentos felices y difíciles en mi vida. He tenido la oportunidad de servir en diferentes ministerios a lo largo de estos años. Ministerio bautismal, Lectorado y ahora en la sacristía, en ella hemos recibido los sacramentos mi familia y yo, en Ella recibí el milagro de vida para mi hijo. Estoy muy agradecida porque he tenido la oportunidad de que mi fe vaya creciendo y fortaleciéndose espiritualmente a través de los años. El día de hoy quiero hacer un llamado especial y tocar sus generosos corazones para que se comprometan por 5 años a dar soporte económico a nuestra parroquia en esta campaña que se llama Renovar + Reconstruir. Yo le pregunto ... Usted ama a su iglesia? Yo amo a mi Iglesia, la Iglesia de la Asunción y le soy Fiel ... y por eso ya me comprometí. Y soy parte De esta campaña. Todos nosotros formamos la Iglesia. Todos contribuimos a su edificación y todos somos responsables de la misma. Nuestra Iglesia es pobre de medios materiales, pero es rica en esperanza, en mensaje... porque lleva en su seno el Evangelio, lleva en su seno a Jesucristo y para poder cumplir con su misión necesita de medios materiales y sin la ayuda de sus fieles, de todos nosotros; es imposible avanzar y atender todas las necesidades que la Iglesia tiene. Apoyemos a nuestra parroquia económicamente, todos sabemos el costo de mantener una casa. La Iglesia enfrenta costos aún mayores y sólo depende de sus fieles para financiarlos. Nuestra parroquia sobrevive con lo que usted y yo colocamos en el canasto al momento de las ofrendas ...seamos generosos con ella, demostrémosle cuanto la amamos y nos preocupamos por mantener su edificación. Esta campaña se centra en nuestra Iglesia, especialmente en las necesidades que tiene. Recordemos que en la parroquia vivimos los sacramentos, la eucaristía, toda nuestra vida espiritual, la catequesis, la caridad con los necesitados, en ella nos sentimos acompañados y a través de ella vivimos nuestra vida cristiana. Si ayúdanos a nuestra parroquia, ganamos todos. Es la mejor herencia que podemos dejarle a nuestros hijos ...nuestra Fe. Y que las futuras generaciones puedan ser parte y gozar de esta hermosa comunidad, que somos una sola familia en Cristo.



**NO SE QUEDE FUERA DE ESTE COMPROMISO DE
FIDELIDAD PARROQUIAL
INFORMES - RECTORIA (914) 737-2071**



CELEBRACION DE LA FIESTA EN HONOR A LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE "PATRONA Y REINA DE LAS AMERICAS" 2016 - XVI ANIVERSARIO

Domingo 11 - Vigilia Guadalupana

11:00 pm - Exposición del Santísimo / P. Saúl Zavala
Rosario - Misterios Gozosos
12:00 pm - Rosario Misterios Dolorosos

Lunes 12 - Amanecer Guadalupano

1:00 am - Rosario - Misterios Gloriosos
2:00 am - Rosario Misterios Luminosos
3:00 am - Letanías, Finalización de la Novena
3:45 am - Bendición con el Santísimo / P. Saúl Zavala
4:00 am - Canto de las Mañanitas / Mariachi Viva México

5:00 am - Misa en Español para madrugadores

Celebrante: P. Saúl Zavala
Concelebrante: P. Vincent Druding
Diacono Carlos Campoverde
Música: Mariachi Viva México

6:30 am - Servicio de chocolate y pan en el Salón FWH

9:00 am - Veneración a la Virgen de Guadalupe en el templo todo el día y ofrecimiento de promesas
Misas en ingles: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

7:00 pm - Misa Vespertina

Celebrante: P. Saul Zavala
Concelebrante: P. John Higgins
Diacono Carlos Campoverde
Música: Mariachi Viva México

8:15 pm - Procesión hacia el Salón Padre Wilson

8:45 pm - Concierto de Música Mexicana
Mariachi Viva México & compartir comunitario en el FWH.

"NIÑO VIAJERO - 2016"



SABADO 24 DE DICIEMBRE/2016

6:00 pm Última Posada en el Templo Parroquial
7:30 pm Misa de Noche Buena - Misa del Gallo

DOMINGO 25 DE DICIEMBRE/2016

1:00 pm Pasada Navideña-Inicio en la estación del tren
2:30 pm Misa en su honor - Templo Parroquial
7:00 pm Misa de Navidad - Templo Parroquial

DOMINGO 8 DE ENERO DEL 2017

"Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor"

**IV - ANIVERSARIO DE LA CORONACION DEL NIÑO
VIAJERO EN LA CATEDRAL DE SAN PATRICO
NEW YORK, SANTA EUCARISTIA, EN LA IGLESIA
ASUNCION, PEEKSKILL - 2:30 PM -**