



Sacred Heart Church

A Roman Catholic Community

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www.sacredheartlynd.org

SERVED BY:

Rev. Theemas Pankiraj
Pastor

Rev. Cesar Chen
Parochial Vicar

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615 NEW JERSEY AVE

Charles Sofio
Parish Manager
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Parish Catechetical Leader
201-935-3094

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Linda Durocher
Principal
201-939-4277
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SMALL BLESSINGS DAY CARE
201-935-0506

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973-497-4000



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm(Spanish)
Monday - Friday: 12:00pm in the church
Saturday: 9:00am in the church,
5:00pm in church (Anticipated Mass of Sunday)
Holy Days & Holidays: As announced in Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00pm - 4:45pm
Daily: Upon request following the 12:00pm Mass

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents should contact the parish office to schedule an interview and register for the required baptismal preparation session.

Preparation: in the church at 7:00pm

Sacrament: in the church at 3:00pm
Dec. 11

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Common Policy for Marriage in all Catholic parishes of New Jersey requires couples to begin preparation at least one year prior to the planned wedding date. It is advisable to contact the parish office before any other arrangements are made.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick is available for all seriously ill members of our parish family. Please call the parish office.

R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the Church's process to prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please call the parish office.

PARISH REGISTRATION / OFFICE HOURS

We invite all new members of our parish family to register at the Parish Office during regular office hours: 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday - Friday; Saturdays and Sundays Closed.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gaudete Sunday

The spirit of the Advent season is filled with the images of some of the most powerful figures in all of Scripture. This third week of Advent highlights the personality of one of these: the prophet Isaiah - whose words are full of expectation, hope and joy.

Isaiah was witness to one of the most turbulent periods in the history of Israel, from both the religious and the political standpoint. He has been called the "prophet of the nearness of God" who took an active part in the course of the daily events of his time. He supported the local government and religious leadership of the day, but that did not prevent him from denouncing the corruption that had encompassed them, and their obliviousness toward the poor and helpless. Affirming the principles of absolute justice and morality, and faith in God, he was fearless in his prophetic mission and almost poetic in his description of the coming Messiah.

Today Isaiah describes people traveling on, what one commentator calls, "the holy highway." Verses 8 and 9 (which are unfortunately omitted in our reading) describe their journey with a clear reference: "a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the holy way... the redeemed shall walk there."

God's people were dispersed. Isaiah isn't speaking just to the exiled in Babylon; but to all those scattered throughout the world. God is bringing them back and nature is sharing in their joy. "The desert and parched land will exult..." Indeed, nature is transformed from a desert wilderness into a blooming garden so that the travelers will be refreshed and delighted on the journey itself.

The "glory of the Lord" is to be made known to the people because God has intervened and has prepared a "holy highway" for their trip. He has come to save them. "Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing."

There are not many scenes in our world that are blooming and strewn with flowers. The "desert and the parched land" have nothing to exult over - yet. Too many people in the world live in an emotional, physical or spiritual wasteland. Many are vulnerable, hurt and frightened. The voices of those around us paint pictures of doom and gloom - and they have ample reason to do so. But Isaiah's words suggest strongly that all the evidence isn't in yet. There's more to the picture than we can see.

We are an Advent people who live in hope and trust in God's promises. But we are also a continuation of God's presence in the world. What Jesus says to John the Baptist in the Gospel about himself and his ministry of healing to the blind, lame, and the lepers is now up to us to continue. The Advent scriptures ask us to live the mystery of Christ in our time.

Jesus lived his life proclaiming a vision of God's truth as it applies to human activity and relationships - proclaiming this truth publicly and courageously, and in the face of constant threat and opposition. His mission was one of service to the poor and the desolate, of comforting His people - a proclamation that their slavery to sin and death has come to an end. It was a call to rejoice, for like a shepherd feeding his flock, the glory of the Lord was truly revealed.

What he did was confront the world's evils through healing and forgiveness. Isaiah's prophecy was fulfilled when people met Christ, "Here is your God... who comes to save you." Now we are to "go and tell" what we have seen and heard in Christ. We do this by: giving sight to those who cannot see; by enabling the physical and emotional crippled; communicating with those who are disenfranchised by church and society; finding ways to give value to human life and in so doing become, like Jesus, good news to the poor and oppressed.

Advent calls each of us to transformation: to resist the crass, cultural emphasis on frenzied purchasing, partying and noise - and instead foster a time of quiet and contemplation... to step out on a path towards peace and the birth of a new level of human consciousness - which is what the birth of Jesus the Christ called us to 2,000 years ago. The nature of this path - this "holy highway" - what it will demand and what we will encounter along the way, is laid out in graphic detail in the readings for the four Sundays in Advent.

Our God is the God of life, abundance, deliverance and joy. That's the Good News that consoles us, gives meaning to our lives and challenges us to cry out: "Be strong, fear not; Here is your God."

**AN ANCIENT ADVENT TRADITION
THE "O ANTIPHONS"**

During the final days of Advent, the anticipation increases as the birth of the Savior draws nearer and nearer. In the final eight days (octave) before Christmas, this anticipation is marked by something special that happens in the prayers of the Liturgy of the Hours.

The antiphons of the Evening Prayers (Vespers) during the week before Christmas all welcome the birth of the Savior by heralding one of His resplendent Biblical titles along with a special petition in light of that title. It is a liturgical tradition started in the earliest centuries of the Church and continues in monasteries and convents today, and even in homes of the Catholic faithful who make the Liturgy of the Hours a part of their daily prayers.

The O Antiphons are special because each one emphasizes a different prophetic title of the soon-to-be-born King of Kings as foreshadowed in the Old Testament by the prophet Isaiah: Wisdom, Lord of Israel, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, King of All Nations, and Emmanuel. Additionally, the ancient monks who first assembled the O Antiphons were very creative with the order in which they are prayed. If one takes the first letter of each antiphon (in the Latin) starting from the last to the first, the word ERO CRAS is formed which translates, "Tomorrow I will come." The last antiphon is prayed on the final day before the Christmas Eve Vigil.

December 17

O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation.

December 18

O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.

December 19

O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.

December 20

O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven: come, break down the prison walls of death; and lead your captive people into freedom.

December 21

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust.

December 23

O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God.

MASS ON DECEMBER 24TH

The Mass on Saturday, December 24th at 9:00 AM is the Mass for the last day of Advent, it is not a Christmas Mass and does not fulfill the obligation to attend a Christmas Mass

At Christmas our thoughts naturally turn to those friends and members of our family who shared their faith with us and helped to make each Christmas so special. If you would like to remember your deceased relatives or friends by donating Christmas Flowers and Decorations used to decorate the Church of the Sacred Heart throughout the Christmas Season, just fill in the form below and put it in a plain envelope marked "CHRISTMAS FLOWERS" and drop it in the collection or return it to the parish office at your convenience.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

In Memory of:

_____	Other:\$_____
_____	\$50
_____	\$35
_____	\$25
_____	\$20
_____	\$15
_____	\$10



**SACRED HEART HOME SCHOOL
ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY**

**Friday, January 13th, Sacred Heart School
Doors Open: 5:30PM Raffles Begin 8:15-8:30PM
No Alcoholic Beverages Will Be Allowed
Kitchen Will Be Open**

**Ticket includes: one sheet for 1st Level Prizes.
Coffee, Tea & Dessert. Call Patty at 201-803-9580 or
the school at 201-939-4277**

\$15 Donation per person. No one under 18.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

SICK: Betty Tynan, Baby Ryan Joseph Lomuscio, Sal Russo, Charles Klimkowsky, Nancy Namoviez, Giovanna Muscara, Al & Joan Viscuso, Lea Pappas, Anita Barcia, Denise Swanteck, Maureen F. Coughlin, John Smith, Julius Single, Dave Tzrepla, Frank Bucu, Sr., Christopher N. Coughlin, Vladimir Pudoff, Isabella Lugo, Tess, Franceso Giacchi, Mario Alongi, Sr., Grace Dacchille, John Scivetti, Ken Stone, Timothy Yushak, Jaxson Rivera, Marilyn Loughran, Luca Ataide, Donald Tetreault, Norma Altreche, Linda Vasquez, Joelle Montillo, Vincent Russo, Nenita A. Jacildone, Anthony Scorre, Fely Czeslowski, Ely Ongoco, Camen Yangco, Lea Aspile, Perpetua Aspile, Anne Montillo, Christopher Di Giovanna, Jamie Canal, Laney Darmiento, Margot O'Hara, Maureen Branigan, Patricia Coughlin, Andrea Globis, Joann De Lorenzo

DECEASED: Michael D. Schifano

CHURCH BELLS CELEBRATE & COMMEMORATE



The Sacred Heart Church bell rings:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

In Honor of: The Intentions of the Cavalcante Family

Donated by: Jim & Isabel Cavalcante

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

In Honor of: The Intentions of Nicole Breedlove

Donated by: Jim & Isabel Cavalcante

THE GIVING TREE

Reminder, All gifts need to be returned under the tree by no later than this Sunday, December 11th so they can be delivered on time.

Thank you again for your generosity and overwhelming response to this wonderful project.

FIESTA GUADALUPE A GREAT SUCESS!

Our parish family enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of delicious food, excellent entertainment and warm fellowship as we celebrated our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. We gratefully acknowledge the many hours of hard work that the committee put in to make this celebration such a beautiful day for our parish family. We are also very thankful to all the businesses that donated their talents to make this day so special. A total of \$3,600 was raised for our parish! Many, many thanks to all who participated!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray For Us!!

CHRISTMAS FAVORITES AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA

The Fifty-First Annual Christmas Carol Sing

Wed., Dec. 14 & Thu., Dec. 15 at 8:00 PM

Doors Open 7:00PM

Now in its 51st year, the Carol Sing has become one of the most significant Christmas concerts in northern New Jersey. The ambiance of candle light and season décor, along with the Cathedral Choir, organ, brass, percussion and thousands of participants, combine to create an event that must be experienced. Free-Will Offering

DECEMBER 11, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Anticipated Mass for Sunday

5:00pm Lorenza & Julian Duran

SUNDAY - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Charles A. Muldoon

10:30 am John Ruggier

12:00pm O.C.

1:30 pm Jose Lopes

MONDAY - Our Lady of Guadalupe

12:00pm Frank Carucci

7:00pm People Of Sacred Heart

TUESDAY - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

12:00pm Theresa Stone

WEDNESDAY - St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12:00pm Ukraine

THURSDAY - Advent Weekday

12:00pm Ukraine

FRIDAY - Advent Weekday

12:00pm Meagan Valente

SATURDAY - Late Advent Weekday

9:00am Angel Pagan & Perry Cerf (Living)

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

5:00pm James M. Cavalcante

SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am O.C.

10:30 am John Ruggier

12:00pm Alejandro Paterak

1:30 pm Severo Cordova Chavez

STEWARDSHIP

November 27, 2022

Sunday Collection - \$5,128

Add'l Assessment - \$545

Add'l All Saints - \$45

December 4, 2022

Sunday Collection - \$5,528

Assessment Collection - \$2,208

Reminder: We need \$6,600 in the Sunday Collection to cover our budgeted expenses. Thank you! continued generosity!



Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24th

5:00 PM - Family Mass

12:00 AM - Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM

10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM (Spanish)



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to give a little support to our parish every time you shop, at **NO COST TO YOU**. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a half of one percent of the purchase price to our parish.

Just follow these simple steps:

- 1.) Visit smile.amazon.com. It's just like shopping on amazon.com.
- 2.) Sign in. Simply use your existing Amazon credentials. If you don't have an account, you can create a new one.
- 3.) Start shopping! In the box that says Pick Your Own Charitable Organization type in 324 Ridge Rd. This the address for the church. There are many, many Sacred Heart Churches on AmazonSmile, by using the address it will bring you directly to our parish. Click the yellow select button.
- 4.) If you are already an AmazonSmile user and want to switch your selected charity to be our parish, on the top of the screen you will see your current charity listed. Click the down arrow next to the charity name and follow the directions in step 3.
- 5.) Please remember to shop our smile.amazon.com link every time. Purchases made on the main Amazon.com site do not support our parish.



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

retiredreligious.org

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Your generosity in the second collection this weekend will assist The Retirement Fund for Religious. This is our opportunity to give back to those men and women who have given a lifetime!



Food Pantry Update

Our next food pantry open date is Dec. 17th

We are preparing for our Christmas food distribution. Can you help us make Christmas a little more merrier for our neighbors in need?

Items needed most, at this time, are: Fruit, Pasta Sauce, Pasta (including Spaghetti), Potatoes (small packages or canned), Vegetables, Coffee (regular and instant), Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cereal, and beans.

Thanks to all for the donations which help keep our food pantry stocked! **We would not be able to help local families without your generosity.** As a reminder, we are unable to package out-of-date food products for distribution to our families.