

**Monday, Nov. 26, 2007, Weekday**

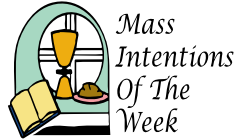
6:30 Rev. Edward Hathaway  
9:00 Anne McCabe †

**Tuesday, Nov. 27, Weekday**

6:30 Marge Kremidas †  
9:00 Kaden Thomas Messing

**Wednesday, Nov. 28, Weekday**

6:30 Bill De Coste  
9:00 Marge Kremidas †



**Thursday, Nov. 29, Weekday**

6:30 Dennis Dufour  
9:00 Juan Cesar Palacios †

**Friday, Nov. 30, Andrew, apostle**

6:30 Joan Collins †  
9:00 Debra Ellis

**Saturday, Dec. 1, Weekday, Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:15 Lou McGuinness †  
5:00 John B. Waugh †

**Sunday, Dec. 2, First Sunday of Advent**

7:30 Paul Lehmueller †  
9:00 Adriano & Amelia Fernandes †  
10:30 Sniezek Family  
12:00 People of the Parish

**Readings for the Week of November 25, 2007**

Sunday 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43  
Monday Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52-56; Lk 21:1-4  
Tuesday Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57-61; Lk 21:5-11  
Wednesday Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28;  
Dn 3:62-67; Lk 21:12-19  
Thursday Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68-74; Lk 21:20-28  
Friday Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19; Mt 4:18-22  
Saturday Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82-87; Lk 21:34-36

**Happy Thanksgiving**

**From the Pastor**

During the season of Thanksgiving which inaugurates the Christmas holiday season is also the prelude before Advent.



We will be having a three-day parish retreat on December 14, 15, & 16 and I ask that you mark your calendars and come for all, or at least some of the talks. We are fortunate to have the Benedictine, Father Mark Gruber, a professor in the department of Sociology/Anthropology at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA. Father has a PhD in Anthropological Sciences from the University of New York. He is also an author of several books including Exalted in Glory and Wounded by Love: Intimations of an Outpouring Heart, Thanksgiving and Praise: Dandelions for God, and Deep Calls Unto Deep: How the Scriptures Challenge us. I know you will enjoy him and this will enable you to have a good advent which means you will have an extraordinary Christmas.

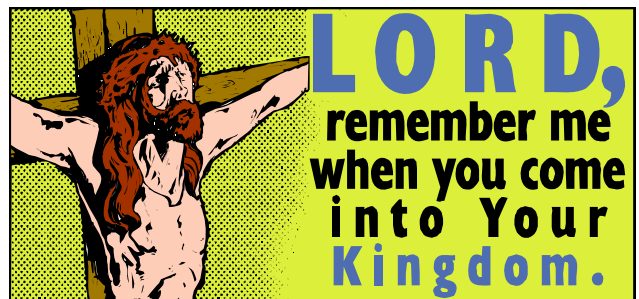


**Let us go rejoicing to  
the House of the LORD!**



Please pray for the  
repose of soul of  
Kathleen Ryniker.

- |                       |                       |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Albert & Marie Balint | Charles Harrison      | Ernest Oddono   |
| William T. Berry      | Gary & Cindy Hogan    | Al Parsons  |
| Sonja & Soraya        | Laura Holleran        | Elia Priestley  |
| Borghese              | Maureen Hollingsworth | Joseph Riotto   |
| Michelle Brewer       | Muriel Jennings       | Lois Riscile  |
| William Carnazzo      | Mary Johnson          | Edelisa Samson  |
| Esperanza Castillo    | Mimi Johnson          | Margaret Serrao   |
| Juan Chirino          | Billee Jordan         | Leah Shannon  |
| Michael Clarke        | Blanche Kane          | Sister Marion   |
| Carol Coad            | Shirley Kelley        | Barbara Skytell   |
| Vincent Corcoran      | Col. James J. Kelly   | Dolores Snyder  |
| Edward Cotter         | Alice Koutsoumpas     | Mary Spann  |
| Estelle Danielson     | Katherine Malcolm     | Eileen Sweeney  |
| Marie Davalos         | Annette McGovern      | Raymond Vagli   |
| Lucille Dion          | Carter McNally        | Theresa Vartanian   |
| Denis Downey, Jr.     | Ferenc Molnar         | Graham Waite  |
| Bryan Downie          | Matthew Morgan        | Mary Ellen Waite  |
| Pam Dunne             | Marilyn Middleton     | Lily Winkle   |
| Phil Dunton           | Edmund Milauckas      |   |
| Winifred Feeney       | Nancy Miller          | <b>Let us know when<br/>you would like to<br/>be taken off the<br/>prayer list.</b> |
| Alec Gramann          | Monica Mizerek        |   |
| Kathleen Harrington   | June Nage             |   |
| Scott Harris          | Lang Nguyen           |   |



**Holy Father's Prayer Intentions Nov. 2007**

**General:** That those dedicated to medical research and all those engaged in legislative activity may always have deep respect for human life from its beginning to its natural conclusion.

**Mission:** That in the Korean Peninsula the spirit of reconciliation and peace may grow.



## Religious Education

### **FIRST PENANCE & FIRST COMMUNION MEETING:**

Fr. Gripshover will be conducting the Parents' First Penance & First Communion meeting on Thursday, **November 29** from 7:30 – 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Parents with children preparing for First Communion this school year are required to attend.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Students are required to attend Mass on December 8, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, as it is a Holy Day of Obligation. Students should plan to attend a Vigil Mass on Friday night or an early Saturday morning Mass. (Evening Mass on Saturday, December 8 is the Vigil for Sunday, December 9 and will not fulfill the Saturday obligation.) Catholics are required to attend Mass on both Dec. 8 & 9, 2007.

## In Our Parish



### **THIS WEEK IS FIRST SATURDAY:**

**First Saturday is Dec. 1st. (First Friday is Dec. 7).** There will be First Saturday devotions this week as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. There will be Eucharistic

Adoration following the 9:00 am Mass until midnight on Dec. 7\*\*\*(see note below).

**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is Sat. Dec. 8 and a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses: 8:15, 10:00, & 11:45 am. There will be a Vigil Mass on \*\*\*Fri. Dec. 7 at 7:30 pm. First Friday Adoration will be interrupted for an hour for the Vigil Mass and will resume afterwards.**

Schedule  
of Events

**OVER 50 CLUB:** Our annual "Christmas Carol Fest" will take place on Mon. **Dec. 17.** Roz Messing will again be our musical director with George Washko on the trumpet. Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 am. Lunch will follow at noon in the Parish Hall. A sign-up sheet can be found in the church vestibule. Please leave a check for \$20, made payable to St. John the Beloved, with Seniors on the memo line, in the parish office by Thurs. Dec. 13. For info call Gladys Brennan at 703-821-2547.

Make plans to attend:

**ADVENT PARISH RETREAT  
DEC. 14, 15, 16 (Friday - Sunday)**

**"The Desert Passage of Faith"**

**With Rev. Mark Gruber, OSB**

**@ St. John the Beloved Catholic Church**

**703-356-7916**



### News from "The Word"

**St. John Parish Book & Gift Shop**

**The WORD is open on Wednesday evenings, Thursday mornings, First Fridays, and Sundays after all the Masses.**

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. The WORD has Advent calendars, wreaths and candles to help you start this season properly. Also, we have books of Advent meditations to help you draw closer to Our Lord as we anticipate the celebration of His Coming.

### **THRIFT SHOP NEWS ~ Quality at Bargain Prices:**

**Tues. - Fri. 11:00 am- 2:00 pm & Sat. 10:00 am-1:00 pm.**

This week we will have a ½ price sale on children's and housewares. Chances are available for the Tom Tom One XL GPS Navigator, valued at \$350, which we will raffle off December 19 at the close of business; they are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, and are available in the Thrift shop. Thank you for your support of the parish. If you have any questions call during business hours (703) 356-7420.

**ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH** are automatically members of the St. John Women's Council and as such are invited to take part in the activities and ministries of your Council. If you are unfamiliar with the good works of the Council, please see the church website at **www.stjohncatholicclean.org** or call the parish office to have information sent to your home. Please enrich our parish by taking part in one or more of these worthy endeavors and consider supporting them with the donation of your \$10 annual dues.



### **SHARE CHRISTMAS STORE:**

Once again Share, Inc. will be sponsoring its cost-free Christmas store on December 15 to our less fortunate neighbors in the Northern Virginia area. Share is asking for donations of NEW items such as dolls, toys, games, small appliances, clothing, jewelry, gloves, hats, socks, home decor items, and gift cards. Popular gift cards include Marshalls, Payless Shoes, Sears, Old Navy, The Sports Authority, Target, Ross, Blockbuster, CVS, Giant and Safeway. Gift cards in increments of \$25 are especially helpful. **December 8/9** we will have a vehicle parked outside church during all masses to receive your donations. Monetary donations made out to St. John's Church with "Share" on the memo line will also be gratefully accepted. Gifts and gift cards can also be dropped off on Fri., Dec. 14 (8 am to 4 pm) at McLean Baptist Church, Please keep in mind recent toy recalls; Check for recalled toys at The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's website ([www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)). Volunteers needed Fri. Dec. 14 (8 am-4 pm) & Sat. Dec. 15 (8 am- 6 pm) at McLean Baptist Church. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Nancy Duffner at 703-903-8925 or email at [NMDuffner@aol.com](mailto:NMDuffner@aol.com) Thank you for helping to make this Christmas happy for all.

**Altar Server Schedule**

**Novena/Mass:** Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2007  
7:30 pm C. Earner, James Eyer, Baban  
**Saturday:** Dec. 1  
8:15 am Kissingers, Stechschulte  
5:00 pm **Vigil** Jack, Mike, Matt & C. Katz  
**Sunday Masses:** Dec. 2  
7:30 am Sniezeks, Dolan  
9:00 am Bello, Caron, Kirtley, Payne  
10:30 am Beattys Crnkovich  
12:00 pm J., R. & B. Ludwick, D., P. & J. McGiffin, Mehan,  
Murry, Hickey, A. & F. Mehigan, Oeler, Alligood



**St. John Youth Corner**

Senior Youth Group

**NEXT SENIOR YOUTH MEETING ~**

**SUNDAY, December 2**

**For information about WORKCAMP 2008,  
please call Sabatino at 703-504-8733**



**SAINT JOHN ACADEMY**

**ST. JOHN ACADEMY LIBRARY'S  
FALL BOOK FAIR** will be

sponsored by Scholastic Book Fair. It will be held during school hours Monday, December 3 - Friday, December 7, ending at 11:00 am. The theme this year is **Book Fair Blizzard** and there will be a Family Event on Monday, December 3, 3:00-4:45pm. A contest will be held and a treat will be provided. Remember, books make excellent Christmas gifts.



**BLOOD DRIVE:** The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive on Saturday, **December 1st**, in the parish hall at St. Luke's Catholic Church. We urgently need donors to help save lives, and all the donated blood is used in the local

region. This drive is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of St. Luke's and co-sponsored by St. John's Knights who urge you to please consider giving. As a bonus, all donors will receive a nice Red Cross t-shirt. There are two ways to sign up: you can point your web browser to [tinyurl.com/y7x94r](http://tinyurl.com/y7x94r), and do it online. Or, you can call Carlos Roberts at 703 237-8738, and he will sign you up or answer any questions you may have. On behalf of all blood recipients, thank you!



**NOVENA PRAYERS & ROSARY:** the Miraculous Medal **Novena Prayers and the Rosary begin at 7:10 p.m.** **The Eucharistic Holy Hour will follow immediately at 7:30 p.m.** All parishioners are encouraged to adore our

Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and pray to the Blessed Mother for world peace and conversion of hearts.

**ADORERS ARE NEEDED EVERY WEDNESDAY,** and every First Friday and First Saturday of every month for Eucharistic Adoration. Contact Ann Thunder @703-442-0668 if you are able to spend an hour with our Lord or sign up for a specific hour on the **Schedule of Adorers Roster** in the vestibule of the church.



**COFFEE & DONUTS** after the 9 & 10:30 Masses today, were hosted by the St. John Academy PTO. Thanks to the RCIA group for hosting last week.



**THE ST. JOHN WOMEN'S COUNCIL** would like to thank all the volunteers, vendors & bakers who helped to make the 31st St. John Christmas Boutique such a

success. A special thanks to the Mother's Group for their outstanding organization and enthusiasm; to our Master of Music, David Lang and the children's Treble Choir; Haislmaier Violin Duo; and all the young talented musicians from McLean High School.

**THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS:** Because of you, this bulletin is furnished to our parish without charge. We hope that our kind sponsors renew their ads, and if others are interested in placing a new ad please call Diocesan Publications at 1-800-233-8200.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOV. 25, 2007	26	27	28	29	30	DEC. 1 First Saturday
<b>CCD PreK - K</b> 10:30 - 11:30 am  <b>CHRIST THE KING</b>	<u>Sew &amp; So Forth</u> 9:45 am DR Rm <u>CCD Gr. 1,2,3</u> 4:30 - 5:30 pm <u>Legion of Mary</u> 7:30 pm DR Rm	<b>CCD Gr. 1 - 8</b> 7:00 - 8:00 pm <u>Jr. Legion of Mary</u> 3:30 pm DR Rm <u>Bible Study</u> 7:30 pm	<b>ADORATION</b> <u>Confessions</u> 6:45 - 7:15 pm <u>Novena Prayers &amp; Rosary</u> 7:10 <u>Eucharistic Holy Hour</u> 7:30 <u>RCIA</u> 7:00 pm	<u>St. John Choir</u> 7:30 pm  <u>Parents of First Penance mtg.</u> 7:30 pm		Missionaries of Charity   My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

*From St. John's Office of Evangelization . . .*

## SALVATION (part 4)

Over the past three weeks, we have considered the topic of our salvation, as it is understood from both the Catholic and Protestant perspectives. Once again, from the Catholic perspective, salvation consists in being made a sharer in God's own life, and by this gift or grace, man is justified, or made right, in the eyes of God. From the Protestant perspective, God's grace is not something that justifies man interiorly, rather it is God's declaration of justification, apart from any real interior justification of the soul.

As we considered last week, the source of the Protestant position lies in the frustrated heart of Martin Luther, who did not make a proper distinction between actual sin and certain disordered tendencies which incline us to sin, commonly called concupiscence. Having confused the act of committing a sin with the condition of concupiscence, Luther concluded that since he felt his disordered appetite at war within him in every action, he must be committing sins in all his deeds, even the virtuous ones. Thus, Luther taught that man's acts, either virtuous or vicious, could in no way be a determinative factor in his salvation. As we noted at the beginning of the series, this error is the foundation for all that divides western Christendom. Please note, if man is left in his sin, then the entirety of the sacramental system—by which Catholics believe that God pours his own divine life into the soul of man, sanctifying, justifying and saving him from his sin—is an outrage! What is the truth?

In the beginning of the Gospel of Saint John, the Evangelist tells us that God sent his only-begotten Son, so that men might be given the power "to become children of God" (Jn 1:12). This gift of divine adoption raises man up, through the Sacrament of Baptism, so that we might "be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Rom 6:5). As Saint Paul explains, "let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies . . . but yield yourselves to God as men who have been brought from death to life" (Rom 6:12-13). "Let us then," Saint Paul continues, "cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" (Rom 13:12). Here we find the heart of the Catholic teaching on salvation. It is simply this: that God loved his people so much, that he would not leave them under the dominion of the devil. Therefore, he sent his only Son, who is himself the Good News, that mankind, in the person of Jesus Christ might come into the presence of God, "holy and blameless and irreproachable" (Col 1:22). As the Scriptures tell us, "nothing unclean shall enter [into the house of the Lord]" (Rev 21:27).

By Baptism, the Sacred Scriptures tell us, and the Catholic Church believes, we "put on a new nature, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness" (Eph 4:24). Thus, God reconciles his creation by making men once again "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Pt 1:4). From this participation in the life of God, man is justified, not by an external juridical declaration, but by an interior restoration. God's life becomes man's life once again, in order that man might live the life of God. By grace, mankind, reconciled to the Father through Jesus Christ, now lives the life of "the Son," carrying the cross and being crucified in the flesh, so that "as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." (Rom 6:4). With the grace of God flowing through us, now all is made possible, because our life has become the life of God himself (Cf. Acts 3:12, 4:30). Let us be clear, the Catholic Church does not teach that man is saved by his works, but rather, that man is saved by being united to the life and work of the Son of God. The key to understand the Catholic position on salvation is that our union with the work of Christ is an interior union which restores the whole of the human person, even his work. When a Catholic performs works of charity, he believes that God is at work in him, justifying him by making him a sharer in God's work. The justified man is the man who is fully alive in God, through Jesus Christ. Thus we read in the epistle to the Galatians, "Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap . . . let us not grow weary of well-doing, for in due season we shall reap" (Gal 6:7,9). Far from being left in our sin, and declared justified apart from our true state, God has made us "partakers of the divine nature," that in every action of our lives, God is present, reconciling the world to himself. This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As we begin our journey of Advent, making our way to the great feast of the Nativity of our Lord, let us keep our salvation in mind. Let us always remember the great gift that God has prepared for us in Jesus Christ, and remember that our salvation depends upon our union with him. Let us prepare our hearts, therefore, that when the day of salvation appears, the doors of our hearts are found open to him.

### Salvation is from the Jews

Tues. @ 7:30 pm Nov. 27, Dec. 4 & 11

Lepanto: The Battle & the Poem Sun. Dec. 9

Advent Retreat Dec. 14, 15, 16

www.SJICC or call 703-504-8733

### *From the Music Desk...*

Hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving!! Did you know that the feast of Saint Cecilia (November 22) fell on Thanksgiving this year? You can read a little about Saint Cecilia below from the Wikipedia website ...

"Saint Cecilia (or Sancta Caecilia in [Latin](#)) is the [patron saint](#) of [musicians](#) and [Church music](#). Her feast day, celebrated both in the Catholic and [Orthodox Church](#), is [November 22](#). She is one of seven women, excluding the [Blessed Virgin](#), commemorated by name in the [Canon of the Mass](#). It was long supposed that she was a noble lady of [Rome](#) who, with her husband Valerian(us), his brother Tiburtius, suffered [martyrdom](#), C. [230](#), under the emperor [Alexander Severus](#).

The researches of [Giovanni Battista de Rossi](#), however, go to confirm the statement of [Venantius Fortunatus](#), [bishop of Poitiers](#) (d. 600), that she perished in [Sicily](#) under [Marcus Aurelius](#) between 176 and 180. A [church in her honor](#) exists in Rome from about the 5th century, and was rebuilt with much splendour by [Pope Paschal I](#) around the year [820](#), and again by Cardinal Sfondrati in [1599](#). It is situated in [Trastevere](#), near the Ripa Grande quay, where in earlier days the Ghetto was located, and is the [titulus](#) of a [Cardinal Priest](#), currently [Carlo Maria Martini](#).

The martyrdom of Cecilia is said to have followed that of her husband and brother by the prefect Turcius Almachius. The officers of the prefect then sought to have Cecilia killed as well. She arranged to have her home preserved as church before she was arrested. At that time, the officials attempted to kill her by locking her in an overheated bathhouse. However, the attempt failed, and she was to be beheaded. The executioner attempted to decapitate her three times unsuccessfully, at which time he fled. Cecilia survived another three days before succumbing."



Be sure to get your special edition Saint John the Beloved 2007 Christmas ornament. Coming soon to a narthex near YOU!

In Christ,  
Director Lang

### *In Our Area*

#### **FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS**

continues the series on An Overview of Catholic Social Teaching. The next discussion will be on Tues., **Dec. 4**. "The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers" will be presented by Thomas Shellabarger, Policy advisor on Urban & Economic Issues, U.S. Conference of Catholic bishops. Meet at St. Mary of Sorrows in Fairfax at 7:30 pm. 703-978-4141x18.

#### **MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY BOUTIQUE:**

On Sat. **Dec. 1** from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Marymount's Main House will be **The Shops at Main**, a holiday boutique with unique gifts. Proceeds will go to support Marymount Angels Endowed Scholarships. Tickets are \$12 before Nov. 15, and \$15 after that date and at the door. For more info go to [www.marymount.edu/shopsatmain](http://www.marymount.edu/shopsatmain)

#### **FRIENDS OF THE ORPHANS**

are looking for volunteers who have experience with Youth Ministry to serve in our homes in Latin America. We need tutors, Speech pathologists, occupational therapists, and a Home Correspondent. Visit [www.nph.org](http://www.nph.org)

#### **HOLIDAY BAKE SALE:**

Order walnut, poppyseed & apricot rolls for \$10 each from Epiphany Byzantine Church on Sun. Nov. 25 & Dec. 2 from 9:00 am - noon and on Tues. Nov. 27 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. For information call 703-455-6510.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TESTING FOR 8TH**

#### **GRADERS**

applying to Diocesan High Schools Saturday, **Dec. 8**, 2007 from 8:30 – 12 Noon at the following locations: Bishop Ireton, Alexandria; Bishop O'Connell, Arlington; Paul VI, Fairfax; St. Francis of Assisi School, Triangle (for Pope John Paul the Great HS) Eligible students: any 8<sup>th</sup> grader not attending Arlington Diocese Catholic Schools. Requirements: Students must fill out a High School Placement Test Registration Form (available under "School Forms" at <http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/offices/schools>). The registration form must be submitted to the test site not later than Wednesday, December 5, 2007.

#### **EVENING OF PRAISE, WORSHIP, & ADORATION**

with music by *VISION* is every First Saturday of every month at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Fairfax. 7:00 - 8:30 pm. (Dec. 1)

#### **STONERIDGE**

School of the Sacred Heart will hold tours Tues. Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Jan. 8. Visit their website for more info: [www.stoneridge.org](http://www.stoneridge.org)