

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 18

Advent Weekday

- 6:30 Charles J. Haas †
 9:00 Robert Bork †
 7:30 Judith E. Courter †

Tuesday, December 19

Advent Weekday

- 6:30 Joseph Calderazzo †
 9:00 Richard Terwilliger †

Wednesday, December 20

Advent Weekday

- 6:30 Mady Maokhamphieu †
 9:00 Capt. Thomas Francis †

Thursday, December 21

St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

- 6:30 Alvarez-Najera Family
 9:00 Obidi Okoye †

Friday, December 22

Advent Weekday

- 6:30 Patty Boldt †
 9:00 Tereza D. Benevides

Saturday, December 23

St. John of Kanty

- 8:15 Betty Wendelin †
 5:00 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Digney †

Sunday, December 24

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 7:30 Lucille Calderazzo †
 9:00 Carlos Vieira †
 10:30 People of the Parish
 12:00 David and Ilse Pollard †

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

- 5:00 Mary Frances Weil †
 12 a.m. Rita and Tom Steininger

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 2017

The Elderly: That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

IN TESTIMONIUM...

The things we do for love.

For over a thousand years the only liturgical color was white. In Pope Innocent III (1198-1216)

“we find for the first time a determination of liturgical colors for specified days, along with the respective significance thereof. His rules are more or less those still in force today: white as the festive color (and he tries to discover a reason for the white-even in the white of the clouds on Ascension Day!), red for martyrs' days and Pentecost, black for days of penance and for Masses for the Dead, green for days without a festal character (Innocent III, op. cit., I, 65 (PL, CCXVII, 799-802). Cf. Braun, *Die liturgische Gewandung*, 729-736. Cf. E. G. Atchley, "Liturgical Colours," in V. Staley, *Essays on Ceremonial* (London, 1904), 89-176.). The sensuous interest in colors and the zeal in explaining their significance were alike manifestations of the spirit of the Gothic period.”

(Jungmann, *Mass of the Roman Rite*, p 112)

But what about Amaranth? Cerise? Coral? Cyclamen? Magenta? Raspberry? Rose? Salmon? Dare I say it... Pink? The Latin term is “rosacea”. We have come to expect this unusual color to adorn vestments on the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, as well as on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, also known as Laetare Sunday. Fr. Josef A. Jungmann, S.J. makes no mention of the color in *The Mass of the Roman Rite: Its Origins and Development*. His only mention of the color violet is in a footnote on page 425. We can tell from the citation above that the first special color associated with Advent and Lent was black.

The origin and development of rose as a liturgical color may actually arise from a non-liturgical ceremony that took place always on Laetare Sunday which also was called Rose Sunday, in which the Pope blesses a golden rose and bestows it “upon illustrious churches and sanctuaries as a token of special reverence and devotion, upon Catholic kings or queens, princes or princesses, renowned generals or other distinguished personages, upon governments or cities conspicuous for their Catholic spirit and loyalty to the Holy See, as a mark of esteem and paternal affection” (Rock, P.M.J., “Golden Rose”, *Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. 6. New York: Robert Appleton Company, 1909). The practice dates back to no later than the 11th century. Quoting a passage of Isaiah that we all associate with Advent: “There shall come forth a rod out of the root of Jesse, and a flower shall rise up out of his root” (Is 11:1) Pope Innocent III preached on the occasion that “As Laetare Sunday, the day set apart for the function, represents love after hate, joy after sorrow, and fullness after hunger, so does the rose designate by its color, odor and taste, love, joy and satiety respectively.”

May your roses also bloom in the winter of Advent! God bless you!

Fr. Christopher J. Pollard

**THE SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND IS FOR
CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHRISTMAS COLLECTION**

**SOLEMN VESPERS EVERY SUNDAY
DURING ADVENT AT 4:00 P.M.**

St. John the Beloved will celebrate Solemn Vespers in the Church every Sunday during the Advent Season. **This Sunday, December 17th at 4:00 p.m.** Solemn Vespers takes place in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament enthroned on the altar, includes a homily after the reading and concludes with Benediction. Come join in the official Evening Prayer of the Church.



**ST. PETER CLAVER SOCIETY
CHRISTMAS ANNUAL SALE OF
SEE'S CANDY AND AMARYLLIS**

The St. Peter Claver Society will be selling See's Chocolates and Amaryllis Gift Kits following all **Sunday Masses** on the first three weekends of December. (Please note that we will be unable to sell on Saturday Evenings.) Both make wonderful hostess gifts for holiday parties. Teachers and work colleagues especially appreciate receiving these as gifts, and all profits go directly to the needs of African orphans.

**ADVENT GIVING TREE: "GIVE A GIFT FOR LIFE"
SUPPORT WOMEN, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

As you prepare for Christmas, include a Gift for Life on your shopping list by supporting Gabriel Project pregnancy assistance and Project Rachel post-abortion healing ministries right here in our local area. Your tax-deductible contribution will make a big difference in the life of an expectant mother or a woman who is suffering from the after effects of an abortion. It's easy to give! Just take a *gift tag from the giving tree* in the vestibule and follow the directions. For more information, please call Andrea at 703-790-1724 or visit: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

**MARCH FOR LIFE: SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2018**

Friday, January 19, 2018 is the 44th Annual March for Life". Please consider offering a day of work to be a witness for human dignity. **March** for those who cannot march or speak for themselves. **March** for those who may never have a chance to pray or play. **March** for those who may never have the chance to be born. **March** for those already lost to us. We have a bus reserved that will transport you to and from the March

**SENIORS' CLUB MONTHLY GATHERING
MONDAY, JANUARY 8**

On Monday, January 8th we will kick off the New Year with a big bang! You definitely won't want to miss this occasion! Marc Lapadula, senior lecturer, noted professor of screenwriting at Yale and an alumnus of St. John Academy will be back by popular demand as our honored guest speaker. Using film clips, Marc will bring to life a selection of timeless American Films, expertly analyzing each and offering us fascinating insights into their importance and impact on American culture. Please mark your calendars and bring a friend. Lunch will be served in the school auditorium following 11:30 AM Mass for those who wish to attend. Please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule of the Church or call the parish office at 703.356.7916 by Friday, January 5th. Those who arrive without reservations are welcome but, unfortunately, we cannot offer them lunch. The suggested donation is \$15.00 per person to be collected at the door. For further information or if you would like a ride to the luncheon please call Phil.

SJA CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Christmas is nearing and it's never too early to start thinking about your tree! This year's fresh cut Fraser fir trees, garlands and wreaths arrived on November 24th at St. John's. There will be trees in many sizes. Don't miss this opportunity to support St. John Academy and have the best tree, wreath and/or garland in the community. The quality of these trees is amazing. We will be selling thru December 23rd. Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 3:30 - 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

THRIFT SHOP IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Get a jump on your Christmas shopping. We have a great selection of gently used clothing, toys, household items and Christmas décor. Thrift Shop hours are 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Tues.-Fri, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday. For additional information please call the Thrift Shop during business hours at: 703-356-7420.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES, HOGAR IMMIGRANT
SERVICES, IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS**

Catholic Charities, Hogar Immigrant Services is looking for volunteers who would like to donate their time as ESOL teachers once a week at St. James in Falls Church. Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 - 9pm in St. James Catholic Church.

Please contact Renata Crespo at (571)208-1572, ext. 105, to volunteer or for more information.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE




SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 PM Vigil Mass *in English*
 7:30 PM Vigil Mass *in English*
 11:15 PM Music Prelude
 MIDNIGHT Solemn Mass *in Latin*
(readings in English)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:30 AM Mass *in English*
 9:00 AM Mass *in English*
 10:30 AM Mass *in English*
 12:15 PM High Traditional *Latin* Mass

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 17	December 18	December 19	December 20	December 21	December 22	December 23
10:30am CCD 4:00pm Vespers	9:45am S & S Forths 11:30am Seniors' Club 4:30pm CCD 4:30pm Confiteor 7:00pm RCIA 7:30pm Latin Mass 7:30pm Legion 8:30pm Futsol	7:00pm CCD 7:00pm WCH 8:00pm Hoops	ADORATION 9:30am–7:30pm  Confessions Hourly 10:00am 4:00pm–6:00pm 7:00pm Holy Hour	3:00pm Soccer		8:45am Confessions 3:30pm Confessions 7:00pm Lessons & Carols

Feast of St. John,
Apostle and Evangelist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

Open House at Rectory

Following 9:00AM Mass

Solemnity of Mary,
Holy Mother of God

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

5:00PM Vigil Mass

10:30PM Holy Hour

11:30PM Mass in English

“Ring in the New Year”

Champagne Toast Following Mass

MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST

7:30AM Mass

9:00AM Mass

10:30AM Mass

12:00 Noon Sung Mass in Latin

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH MINISTRY

CATHOLIC YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT (12/17)

Tonight is our last Sunday Youth Night of the year, we will be doing a Catholic Trivia Night! 6:15 - 8:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Open to all 7th - 12th graders. Half the questions will be Catholic, the other half will be random trivia. Youth will form teams up to 6 members. The team with the highest score will win a prize! Additionally, confessions will be available at the beginning of the night for any teen wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent.

CONFITEOR CLASS

Monday Dec 18th at 4:30 p.m. in the Adult Ed. Room. Open to all Freshmen and Sophomore High Schoolers.

RCIA CLASS

Monday Dec 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Ed. Room. Open to all Junior and Senior High Schoolers.

WORKCAMP 2018

Now accepting applications for WorkCamp 2018! WorkCamp is June 23rd - 29th.

James Clement

703-356-7916

jclement@stjohncatholicmclean.org

SEW & SO FORTHS

Sew & So Forths is our parish sewing group and we invite you to join us on Mondays after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. We meet in the Dodi Reagan Room. We will also be glad to accept items you have made for baby layettes if you cannot attend our Monday meetings. Please contact Gladys Brennan at 703-821-2547 for more information. Join us!

COFFEE & DONUTS

Everyone is invited to Coffee & Donuts following the 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses in the Parish Hall.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO ST. JOHN

For your convenience sign up for the Faith Direct Offer-tory program. www.faithdirect.net our code: VA77

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Please send all announcements that you would like to have publicized in the bulletin to the following email address: Bulletin@stjohncatholicmclean.org. Please send the text in New Times Roman 11 pt, justified. **Our deadline is Friday, Fourteen days before the bulletin date.**

THE STATE OF THE COMMONWEALTH



Please reserve this date!

Thursday, February 15, 2018

5:00 - 6:00 p.m., with reception to follow

Virginia Vespers:

Evening Prayer for the Commonwealth

with the Catholic Dioceses of Arlington and Richmond

The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

800 S. Cathedral Place

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Carmel Broadfoot

Mary Elizabeth Bergen

Salvatore Calabro

John Cartelli

John Paul Charles Carver

Virginia Connelly

Sheila Corallo

Elke D'Amico

Richard DeCorps

William Dunne

Joe Elias

Tara Flanagan-Koenig

Susan Glover

Francesca Greco

Paul Griffith

Edward M. Hallinan III

Jack Halpin

Arnold Harrington

Emily Hazlett

Agnes Henley

Mark Johnson

Christopher Katz

Dorothy Kottler

Sharon LeMaster

Sue Malone

Carmella Manetti

Patrick McDonough

Diana Meisel

Bonnie Moran

Veronica Nowakowski

Anita Oliveira

Briner Orillo

Mary Pistorino Reilly

Patricia Richer

Shelby Rogers

Thomas Rosa

Avery Schaeffer

Merle Shannon

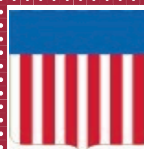
Gloribeth Smith

Carolyn Steinhoff

Bill Sullivan

Mary Warchot

Marie Wysolmerski



God bless and protect all our family members and parishioners who are serving in the military and civil service for our defense, especially...

David Blau

Jonathan Choo

Nicholas Galvan

Harry Griffith

Bill Jones

Brendan Murphy

Lynn Partik

Michael Shipley

Kimberly Templer

Michael Templer

Jesus Toledanes

Alex Trujillo

Justin White

Dr. Paul White