

DECEMBER: MONTH OF THE DIVINE INFANCY

SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Harvey Izzo by the Family*
4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil): *Kathleen Kane by Kathy Kissel*
5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *Louise Milliken, r.i.p., by John & Judy CArnrigh*



SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER: ADVENT III

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Alana Donahue*
9:00AM (Saint Thomas):
Anita Santafemia Jaccoi by Michael & Barbara Nappi
11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Richard Waye by Ken Cook*
12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *pro populo*

MONDAY 12 DECEMBER: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Ted & Margaret Scalzo, r.i.p., by Mary King*
6:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Our Lady of Guadalupe,*
Patroness of the Unborn by the Respect Life Committee

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER: COMMEMORATION OF SAINT LUCY

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Peter Yaw Obeng, r.i.p., by Joe & Regina Leiby*

WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER: COMMEMORATION OF SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *James T. O'Connor*

THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER: ADVENT FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *James Mahler, r.i.p., by Joan Fuger*

FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER: ADVENT FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Frank Margini, r.i.p., by Ernest & Elsa Maldonado*

SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER: ADVENT FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *James Mahler, r.i.p., by Ann Marie Binazeski*
4:00PM (Saint Joseph): *Edward & Lynne Hassdenteufel, r.i.p., by Shirley Hassdenteufel*
5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *John Sweeney & Neil Hogan, r.i.p., by the family*



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Patroness of the Unborn

&



SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER: ADVENT IV the Americas

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *John Lossino*
9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Conroy & Gray Families by Catherine Conroy*
11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Special Intention by Eric Lundgren*
12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *pro populo*

r.i.p. (requiescat in pace: rest in peace), *a.i.d.* (ad intentionem donoris: for the intention of the donor)
pro sal. (pro salutem: for health), *pro populo* (for the people)

Saint Thomas Church

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING:

Sunday Regular: \$11,104.00
Parish Project Fund: \$2,894.00
Flowers: \$1352.00
Food Pantry: \$80.00

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

Religious Retirement

ADVENT RECONCILIATION MONDAY

December 19, 2016
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

12 MONTHS OF CHRISTMAS DRAWING



We will begin a new year of prizes this month. Please pick up a raffle entry, complete it, place it in an envelope along with your \$20, return it to the office, or drop it in the collection plate.

December's "Get Into the Spirit" prize:

"Santa's World Travels" Hand Decorated Porcelain
by Royal Doulton (MSRP: \$175)

Set of 4 Fine Chine Christmas Tree Cocoa Mugs
by Johnson Brothers (MSRP: \$80)

January's "Ring in the New Year" prize:

"Wish Believe" Champagne Flutes
with a New Year's Surprise

by Waterford (MSRP: \$130)

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saint Thomas Church **Saint Joseph Church**

Christmas Eve: ***Christmas Eve:***
4:00PM & 8:00PM 6:00PM

Christmas Day: ***Christmas Day***
7:30AM 12:30PM
9:00AM
11:00AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY (NEW YEAR'S)

Saint Thomas Church **Saint Joseph Church**

Vigil: ***Vigil:***
5:30PM 4:00PM

New Year's Day ***New Year's Day***
7:30AM 12:30PM
9:00AM
11:00AM

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Unwrapped gifts for Catholic Charities of Orange County will be picked up tomorrow. We will not be accepting anymore items. The response to this collection has been very generous! Thank you!



FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

On December 9, 1531, Juan Diego, an Aztec, encountered a beautiful young woman near Mexico City. Speaking in the native Nahuatl, she revealed herself as "Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live." She requested that a chapel be built. After the local bishop refused to believe Juan, the Virgin herself arranged roses in Juan's rough cloak. When Juan opened his cloak before the bishop, a miraculous image appeared. Numerous volunteers erected Mary's chapel in less than two weeks. In seven years, eight million native people were converted. Pope John Paul II called the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe the "Marian heart of America."
Magnificat, December 2016

ADVENT REFLECTION

"A Morning with Mary"
Wednesday, December 14, 2016



9:00 – 11:30AM
Mt. Saint Joseph
84 Presentation Way, New Windsor
RSVP: Sister Eileen Carmody
ecpbvm@gmail.com or 845-913-5178

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, December 11th
3:00PM at Saint Thomas Church



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS **ADOPT A COAT**

The Knights of Columbus Council 7460 would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and support of our Coats for Kids Service Program. With your assistance, we were able to provide several new winter coats to children in our local community. We made 3 bulk deliveries to local elementary schools who provided us with size requirements of those in need. With your help, we were able to make several children warmer this winter and we thank you!

COURT RITA #264 ANNUAL BAKE SALE

This weekend at Saint Thomas
December 10th & 11th

In the old school building after all Masses at Saint Thomas church. Stop by and treat yourself to some delicious homemade sweets and support a worthy cause.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Presented by the parish

Religious Education students.
December 18th at 2:00PM
Saint Thomas school gym.
All are invited!



TIMOTHY CARDINAL DOLAN
December 1st, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
A Blessed Advent to you! We all know how busy this time of year can get as we prepare for Christmas – with holiday gatherings, shopping, travel plans, etc. Yet we can never forget that the Church gives us these four weeks of Advent as an opportunity to *prepare ourselves* for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Can I suggest one way you might fit some Advent preparation into your busy schedule? Spend some time on FORMED.org, if you haven't already signed up. Thanks to a generous benefactor, all parishes in the Archdiocese of New York are currently signed up for this online platform that provides Catholic content such as movies, E-books, audio talks, Bible studies, and more! There is an Advent study, as well as a new program on the Sacrament of Confession, called *Forgiven*. I especially encourage you to watch this and prepare for our Archdiocesan-wide *Reconciliation Monday* on **December 19**. FORMED.org is a website that you log into with a *parish access code* that allows you to view all the content. This means that you can view this great Catholic material anywhere you have internet access. All you need to do is enter the access code that your parish has provided.

Whether it is an activity at your parish or sitting down at home to watch something on FORMED.org, the season of Advent is an opportunity to receive many graces and keep our focus on what really matters.

We just celebrated Thanksgiving, and it is good for us to show our gratitude to God by spending some time reflecting on His great act of love – sending us His Son to be our Savior.

Faithfully in Christ,

Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York



(SEE INFORMATION AT TOP
OF NEXT COLUMN)

“Behold,
I send My messenger, and
he will prepare the way
before Me.”

(Malachi 3:1)

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RESPECT LIFE

“A child is loved because he is one's child: not because he is beautiful or because he is like this or that ... Not because he thinks as I do, or embodies my dreams. A child is a child: a life generated by us but intended for him, for his good, for the good of the family, of society, of mankind as a whole.”

Pope Francis, General Audience, February 11, 2015



GAUDETE SUNDAY

Certain Sundays throughout the liturgical year have taken their names from the first word in Latin of the Introit, the entrance antiphon at Mass. Gaudete Sunday is one of these.

What Is Gaudete Sunday?

Answer: Gaudete Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent. The Introit for Gaudete Sunday, in both the Traditional Latin Mass and the *Novus Ordo*, is taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "*Gaudete in Domino semper*" ("Rejoice in the Lord always").

Like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, so the priest normally wears purple vestments. But on Gaudete Sunday, having passed the midpoint of Advent, the Church lightens the mood a little, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The change in color provides us with encouragement to continue our

spiritual preparation—especially prayer and fasting—
for Christmas.

For this same reason, the third candle of the Advent
wreath, first lit on Gaudete Sunday, is traditionally
rose-colored.

Scott P. Richert (catholicism.about.com)

