

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear St. Joseph Parish Family,

Last week we received the sad news that Thom Sabatelli had passed away. I wasn't able to mention him in last week's pastor letter because I have to write these letters a week in advance, but it's good to keep up our prayers for Thom. His dedication to St. Joseph's religious education program was amazing– he built the program into what it is today. He put much of his life into teaching children the faith. He also helped create a strong community among the families involved in the religious education ministry. He will be sorely missed. St. Joseph will have a memorial Mass for Thom on Saturday, December 22nd at 12:10pm, in place of the usual Saturday midday Mass.

It is important that we continue Thom's legacy and continue to support and grow our religious education ministry. Fortunately, parents have stepped up and worked diligently to keep the ministry running. In the long-term St. Joseph's needs a director of religious education– a staff member to run the religious education ministry and to oversee new ministries in the future, such as a parish youth group. To help oversee the religious education ministry this year we've hired Nicole Michell. She is currently a Focus missionary at NYU and will help out here part time for the rest of the religious education season. I hope this position will grow into a full-time religious education position so that we can expand our ministries at St. Joseph's church. Great things are happening here: the Holy Spirit is at work in our midst, and I think Thom would have been proud to see how his parish is progressing.

May this Advent season bring you many blessings,

Fr. Boniface Endorf, O.P.

Fr. Boniface Endorf, O.P.
Pastor



Weekly Collection

December 2nd & 3rd, 2018

Masses Totals-----	\$6,732
WeShare -----	\$460
Faith Street -----	\$1,760
Grand Total-----	\$8,952

FAITHSTREET

To give effortlessly online, just click the "**Give Online**" button on the home page of our website - www.stjosephgv.nyc

WESHARE

To create online giving account, please visit stjosephgv.churchgiving.com and click "**Give Online**".

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please pray for:

Barbara Parazzo
Zoila Vallo
Eileen Fleming
Anne Darrow
Paul Gallagher

If you would like to include someone on our prayer list, please call the church office to submit their names.

Names on the prayer list will be on for four (4) weeks. If you wish to leave them on longer, please call the church office, Weekdays 9AM - 5PM.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 12:10 pm** Tal-Kokka Camilleri Family
5:30 pm Gerard Edward Johnson

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 9:00 am** Anthony Visconti
11:30 am Robert Burke
6:00 pm People of the Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 12:10 am** Father Thomas Ertle

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Saint Damasus I, Pope

- 12:10 pm** Don Naze

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 12:10 pm** John O'Connell

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

- 12:10 pm** Colleen Carney

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

- 12:10 pm** Robert Burke

RECTORY OFFICE

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
9:00am – 5:00pm
(212)741-1274

Office@stjosephgv.nyc

CATHOLIC CENTER @ NYU

238 Thompson Street
New York, NY 10012

contact@catholiccenternyu.org

UPDATE PARISHIONER INFORMATION

If you have not updated your parishioner information in the last two years, please log onto our website and update your information. Please be sure to include your sacraments and family information as well.

We have a number of registered parishioners with outdated or no important information.

If you are not sure you have registered as a parishioner, please call the office or email secretary@stjosephgv.nyc to check your status.

FLOCKNOTES

Get important updates from our church in a timely and convenient way! This tool we're using lets you choose what info you'd like to receive – via email or text message – from the various ministries and groups in our church. You can unsubscribe any time. There are two easy ways to connect:

Visit our church at

www.flocknote.com/SJGV (or)

Text SJGV to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.

FORMED

Discover all the best Catholic content in one place. Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks and a great selection of popular eBooks! Take advantage of your free subscription to FORMED. It's easy and free to register.

Visit formed.org, click on 'Register' and enter **parish access code: G8MMQT**.

Enter your email & create a password.

SECOND COLLECTION

Retired Brothers and Sisters

December 8th & 9th, 2018

This annual appeal benefits 31,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests – women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and His Church. Please join us in supporting this appeal and in praying for the Lord's blessings on our nation's elderly religious.

OFFICE CLOSED

**The Parish Office will be closing at noon on
Monday, December 10th.**

HELP WANTED

We are in need of volunteers that are interested and willing to help us decorate the church for Christmas! Tentative dates for decorating are Thursday, December 20th, Friday, December 21st and Saturday, December 22nd during the day. Please contact the parish office with your name and contact information through email or phone!

ADVENT LECTIO DIVINA & CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

December 5, 12, 19

7:00-8:30pm

Music Room of Parish House

The traditional method of Lectio Divina, of reading, reflecting, praying the Word of God leads us to deeper understanding of the Scripture, growing relationship with Christ and culminates in Contemplative Prayer, the silent communion with God.

THE GIVING TREE 2018

Again this year, a simple version of the Jesse Tree is placed in the Narhax, as a focal point for the donation of the Christmas gifts, for homebound women and men, for families in need from the surrounding community, and the residents at the Gift of Love, who are cared for by the Missionary Sisters of Charity. Our Jesse Tree, is a symbol of the expectation of new birth and life during Advent.

As you leave the church, please take one of the decorative "Ornaments" from the Tree, many created by the children of our parish. Each Ornament has a gift suggestion on the back. The gifts will be delivered by volunteers on Christmas Day, along with hot meal prepared by the Missionary Sisters of Charity.

Please return your brightly wrapped gift, with the Ornament attached on the following weekends, and place it in the designated box under the tree. **12/8-9, 12/15-16**

PLEASE REMEMBER - PEACE ON EARTH – GOODWILL TO ALL CREATURES. Items Needed for Abandoned & Injured Cats & Dogs cared for by the Humane Society of NY, on 59th Street.

Also, thank you children & parents of St. Joseph's who created the beautiful tree and package ornaments.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DAILY READINGS

Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday

Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS



HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018

"In every prayer I utter, I rejoice as I plead on your behalf at the way you all have continually helped promote the gospel from the very first day. I am sure of this much, that he who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus....My prayer is that your love may more and more abound...that you may learn to value the things that really matter up to the very day of Christ."

How many are busy writing greeting cards to relatives, friends and acquaintances. The thoughts expressed, speak of a deep, deep concern for the joy of Christ's presence to touch their lives. At times we might not think twice about the reason for sending a card.

Consider the reasons St. Paul referred to as he wrote the Philippians. He wrote about his prayer for this new Christian community. He offered encouragement for them to grow in their lives as disciples of the Lord. That prayer motivates us as we begin this second week of Advent. Advent reminds of the past coming, but directs us to today and tomorrow where the Lord is leading us. May we find a quiet moment to reflect upon Paul's wish for us today as we anticipate the coming of Christ with His grace and peace. May we seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our advent.

