

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10, 2017

Sunday, December 10

7:30 am † Marie Bartley
9:00 am † Vivien Delima
11:00 am † *Pro Populo*

Monday, December 11

12:00 pm † Clint Lauderdale

Tuesday, December 12

12:00 pm † Edward Haddad

Wednesday, December 13

12:00 pm † In Honor of St. Lucy

Thursday, December 14

12:00 pm † Thomas & Emily Brewer

Friday, December 15

12:00 pm † Daniel K. Jenkins

Saturday, December 16

5:00 pm † Lourdes Aguilar

St. Ann's Holiday Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 23:

Fourth Sunday of Advent, 5:00pm

Sunday, December 24:

Fourth Sunday of Advent, 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am

Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve

5:00pm (*Children's Christmas Pageant w/Brass and Choir*)
8:00pm (*Brass and Choir*)

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day

9:00am (*Cantor*) and 11:00am Mass (*Choir*)

Tuesday, December 26: Parish Office closed.

St. Ann's New Year's Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 30:

Vigil Mass, 5:00pm

Sunday, December 31:

Feast of the Holy Family, 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am

Monday, January 1, 2018: New Year's Day

Holy Day of Obligation

9:00am (*Cantor*) and 11:00am (*Cantor*)

No 7:00pm Mass on New Year's Day.

Parish Office closed.

There will be **Confessions** heard for Christmas **after each of the morning Masses on, Sunday, December 17.** Get ready to receive the Lord for Christmas.

Thank you very much for your generosity to the weekly Collections at Mass: **The Offertory Collection** last weekend was \$6,106. **The Second Collection for Building Fund** was \$3,556. **The Faith Direct Online Collection** for the first half of November was \$1,525. (We report to you the online giving amount twice a month). In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Ann's Church, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. **Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: DC811.** Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

Saint of the Week: Our Lady of Guadalupe 16th century. (*Feast December 12*) Under this title, Our Lady is the



patron of Mexico, the United States and all of the Americas, as well as the protector of unborn children. In 1531, she appeared in a vision to the peasant Juan Diego, on Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City, and charged him with asking the bishop to build a church on that spot. But the bishop demanded a sign, so Our Lady had Juan gather flowers in his cloak, in

December, to take to the bishop. When Juan opened his cloak, the colorful image of Guadalupe was emblazoned on the cactus-cloth. That icon is preserved in the most famous shrine in the Western Hemisphere and Our Lady of Guadalupe continues to inspire poor and oppressed people worldwide.

St. Ann's Outreach to the Elderly and Infirm: St. Ann's parishioners are invited to join Monsignor Watkins, Deacon Devaney, and the St. Ann Outreach Committee for coffee, light refreshments and conversation **on Sunday, December 10 after the 11:00am Mass and on Monday, December 11 after the 12:00noon Mass in the library.** We want to learn more about the needs of our members, especially the needs of our older parishioners. This informal get-together will guide us in developing programs and services for the St. Ann's community. In addition to this important initiative, the Sovereign Military Order of Malta can facilitate the parish ministry for the sick and imprisoned. Kindly inform Msgr. Watkins at 202-966-6288 of parish members infirm, ill or imprisoned in order that St Ann's Church can extend the ministry of the parish and the Order on their behalf. The idea being that between Deacon Devaney and the cadre of Eucharistic ministers we can get to the homes of the infirm and ill, get a handle on potential maladies for Lourdes, and to be sure we enroll imprisoned parish members in the Malta Prison Ministry.

Calling All Angels and Shepherds: St. Ann's welcomes your child's participation in the **Christmas Eve Pageant** at the **5:00pm Mass on Sunday, Dec. 24.** Children ages pre-kindergarten and older can participate as a shepherd, one of the Magi, or in other non-speaking roles. We also need petition readers (grades 4 and higher) and greeters. Contact Patty Sucato at patty4714@aol.com.

New Parishioners: If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with the parish. Registration forms are available at the main entrance of the Church or from the Rectory Office. Completed forms may be returned by dropping them in the Sunday collection basket, mailed, or brought to the Rectory. Please let us know if you are relocating or moving away by dropping a note or calling the Rectory Office at (202) 966-6288.

Cathedral Penance Service with Confessions: All are welcome to experience the love of Christ through the Sacrament of Penance at the Advent Communal Penance Service, "Come Home for Christmas," on Tuesday, December 19 at 12:10pm at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle (1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW, near the Farragut North or Dupont Circle Metro Red Line stops). Fifteen priests, including confessors in American Sign Language, Spanish, and other languages, will be available for individual confessions.

Respect Life News: On November 16th and 17th, "medical professionals, legal authorities, experts in palliative care and medical ethics, theological scholars and philosophers from over 30 countries gathered in the Vatican for the World Medical Association European Region Meeting on End-of-Life Questions. Hosted by the World Medical Association, the German Medical Association and the Pontifical Academy for Life," the event "provided a platform for debating the different policies and perspectives on end-of-life issues in Europe, for exploring patient rights, treatment limitations, and palliative care, and for better understanding public opinion on these complex topics. [The] Congress was introduced by a message from Pope Francis." A November 16th Vatican Radio report, quoting the Pope's message, reads, in part: "When faced with the new challenges that arise with regard to 'end-of-life' issues, 'the categorical imperative is to never abandon the sick. The anguish associated with conditions that bring us to the threshold of human mortality, and the difficulty of the decision we have to make, may tempt us to step back from the patient. Yet this is where, more than anything else, we are called to show love and closeness, recognizing the limit that we all share and showing our solidarity.' "In his message, the Holy Father called for 'greater wisdom' in striking a balance between medical efforts to prolong life, and the responsible decision to withhold treatment when death becomes inevitable. 'It is clear that not adopting, or else suspending, disproportionate measures, means avoiding overzealous treatment.... 'From an ethical standpoint, it is completely different from euthanasia, which is always wrong, in that the intent of euthanasia is to end life and cause death.' [He] "acknowledged that it is often difficult to determine the proper course of action in increasingly complex cases" 'There needs to be a careful discernment of the moral object, the attending circumstances, and the intentions of those involved,' "he said, pointing to the traditional criteria of moral theology for evaluating human actions. But in this process, he insisted, 'the patient has the primary role,'" (wma.net/news-post/world-medical-association-european-region-meeting 11.17).

Men's Discernment Retreat: Friday, February 2 through Sunday, February 4, 2018: Men in their 20s, 30s, or 40s who are considering a call to the priesthood are invited to attend a discernment retreat at Saint John Paul II Seminary led by priests of the Archdiocese of Washington. There is no fee to attend. Registration is now open at www.dcpriest.org. Email vocations@adw.org if you have any questions.

Catholic Charities Hope Corps: Catholic Charities of DC is recruiting young adults to help us engage volunteers in impactful, recurring service projects. Hope Corps members serve in teams to lead community volunteers in a project once a month through 2018. Volunteers for the projects sign up on line for a one-time commitment to do a project that makes a big difference in a few hours. Examples of projects include: serving meals, packaging food, cleaning up inside or out, conversations with clients to practice skills, and game nights to encourage socializing. You can view a full list of projects where Hope Corps members will serve here. Hope Corps members receive training and swag and healthy pride in doing good deeds to benefit people in great need! Contact Julie to learn more: Julie.Bodnar@CC-DC.org or apply to participate. Visit CatholicCharitiesdc.org for ongoing service opportunities across the DC area!

Wine & Cheese Date Night for Newlyweds and Engaged Couples: "Are Your In-Laws OUT-Lawed? How to Have a Healthy & Happy Relationship with Your In-Laws!" Jan 6, 7:30pm to 9:30pm. Our Lady of Bethesda offers monthly get-togethers for newly married couples (3 years or less); engaged couples are also welcome! The program is a fun and informative series that offers practical and spiritual tools to help couples make their marriages GREAT! It's also the cheapest DATE NIGHT in town!! This month's speakers will be Patrick and Christina Jacobeen, recently seen on EWTN's. At Home with Jim And Joy. Cost to attend is \$20 per couple or sign up for the whole season for only \$95 per couple. Please register in advance to help us prepare: www.ourladyofbethesda.org or call 301-365-0612. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda MD.

Mother Teresa Vocation Society Annual Day of Recollection: On Saturday, January 20, 2018, from 9:30am to 2:00pm, Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations for the Archdiocese of Washington, will lead a day of recollection at Annunciation Church in Washington, DC (3810 Massachusetts Ave., NW). The day will include Mass, a talk, Adoration, and an opportunity for Confession. Lunch will be served, and donations are welcomed. It is not required to be an MTVS member to attend this event! For more information, please visit www.dcpriest.org or contact Maris Moriarty at moriarty@adw.org or 202-636-9020.

COFFEE AND DONUT SOCIAL after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses on Sundays in the Collins Room, located on the lower level of the church. Many thanks to the Knights of Columbus who organize this weekly fellowship for our benefit. If you are interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus, please speak with Mr. Drew Gorman whom you can meet during Coffee and Donuts