

First Week of Advent

Monday, December 2nd

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Deceased Members of the Pinto and Tauro Families

Tuesday, December 3rd

Saint Francis Xavier

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Adamma Ugoh (D)

Wednesday, December 4th

Saint John Damascene

Daily Mass 8:30 AM: Temilope Olaniyi (D)

Thursday, December 5th

8:30 AM: Guadalupe Manlapaz (D)

Friday, December 6th

Saint Nicholas

Mass 8:30 AM: Alfredo V. Felix (D)

Saturday, December 7th

Saint Ambrose

8:30 AM: Migdalia Malave (D)

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 7th

Mass 5:00 PM: Peter E. O'Neill (D)

Mass 7:00 PM: Francisco De Leon (D)

Sunday, December 8th

8:00 AM: Francis Greenfield (D)

9:30 AM: Fidelis, Israel, Florence, & Alice Mepha (D)

11:30 AM: Julius Adeniyi (D)

6:00 PM: Francis Greenfield (D)

Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends:

Jacqueline Bhola; Elaine Brooks; Muriel Brown; Rose Chisefsky; Chunyere Duru; Helen Dgiduch; Patricia Farland; Ferris "Bo" George; Genevieve Greenfield; William Halbe; Jan Jarus; John and Joan Kodak; Rod Oaks; Cathy Pielmeier; Evelyn Turley; Mae Young; Sister Giustina Zanin; Ziara Zanin; Rita and Eugene Zehner

For our military, protect them from all harm.

For the faithful departed, may they rest in peace.

Please call the parish office at 301-459-4818 x 201 to request a name to be placed on the sick list.

Stewardship Report

Due to the early printing deadline for this bulletin, the Stewardship Report for Nov. 24th will be included in next week's bulletin.

Next weekend's second collection is the Archdiocesan collection for retired sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please give to those who have given a lifetime of service to the faithful.

Items of Note at St. Matthias

Saint Joseph Sunday Missal Sale: If you missed the Ladies of Charity sale, the 2020 Missals are available at the parish office. Cost is \$ 5.00.

Celebration of the Virgin of Guadalupe: An overnight celebration with prayers, singing, and dancing will be held Wednesday, Dec. 11th, through Thursday, Dec. 12th. Parishioners are asked to meet at Friendship Hall at 10:30 PM on Dec. 11th to prepare for the procession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On Dec. 12th, a skit will be presented in the church at 6:00 PM, with Mass following at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to attend.

Giving Tree: The Ladies of Charity are sponsoring the Parish Giving Tree which will be in the church vestibule through Dec. 8th. Please take a gift tag labeled with a requested item. Unwrapped and tagged gifts may be dropped off at the church or parish office. Gifts will be donated to area charities. Thank you for making Christmas brighter for someone in need.



The Parish Social Life Committee will hold its next meeting in the Hughes Center on Saturday, December 7th, at 8:30 AM.

Adult Bible Study Class will take a break during the month of December. We will resume our study of the Book of Revelation on Tuesday, January 7th, at 9:15 AM, in the Hughes Center. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend!

The St. Matthias Prayer Group meets in the church every Sunday immediately after the 11:30 AM Mass. All are welcome.



The Academy of Saint Matthias

The Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program for 2020-2021 is available for families with students in grades Pre-K-12 who are applying to or currently enrolled in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington.

- For students currently enrolled in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Washington, the deadline to apply for tuition assistance is **Friday, December 6, 2019**.
- For families enrolling their children for the first time in a Catholic school, the deadline to apply for tuition assistance is February 14, 2020.

All families who apply for financial assistance must complete the TADS application (<https://secure.tads.com>) to be considered for aid from any source. Please apply early, and contact the school if you have any questions.



As Christmas approaches and you are shopping online, please use smile.amazon.com/ch/52-0780162. When you buy gifts using Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchases goes to support our school.

Knights of Columbus

Catholic High School Scholarships: The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsors several high school scholarships for children of its members and for Catholic students in general. The application deadline is February 1, 2020. Scholarship information and application forms are available at <https://kofc-md.org/high-school-scholarships/>.

The Best Advent Ever

A Great Christmas Begins with an Incredible Advent. Are you ready? *The Best Advent Ever* is a totally free and totally awesome video program sent to your email that will help you prepare for Christmas as never before. To sign up, go to <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/>.



Around the Archdiocese

Ascension Catholic Church is thrilled to welcome world-renowned speaker, blogger, and “Hobo for Christ,” Meg Hunter-Kilmer on Tuesday, December 3rd, from 7:00-8:30 PM. Bring your Bible and Meg will help you prepare for a blessed and meaningful Advent. To learn more about Meg and her ministry, visit piercedhands.com. Ascension Church is located at 12700 Lanham-Severn Rd., Bowie, MD.

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will provide meals for hundreds of poor, homeless, elderly, and needy individuals on Christmas Day. Volunteers are always needed to fill many different positions. If you would like to sign up to help, please visit www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner.

If you have foreign coins or currency that you would like to donate, please place them in an envelope and drop the envelope in the collection basket any weekend, or drop it off at the parish office. Coins and currency will be sent to the *U.S. Fund for UNICEF*. Every day, UNICEF workers brave war zones, treacherous terrain, disasters and disease to make the world safe for kids. UNICEF helps give children the childhood they deserve.

Family Connection

Many of us feel the pressure early in the holiday season to be ready for Christmas. But today's Gospel challenges us to be ready for something other than the gift-giving of Christmas.

Read together today's Gospel reading. As a family, talk about what it means to be ready for the day of the Lord. One of the roles of the family, the domestic church, is to be a school of faith leading one another to salvation. Reflect together as a family on how your family helps one another to be better Christians. Commit to one thing that your family will do this Advent season to help one another be better Christians. You might choose to write this commitment down and post it in a prominent place in your home, perhaps near your family's Advent wreath.

Pray together that God will help you in this Advent commitment. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Celebrant Mass Schedule for Dec. 7/8

5:00 PM Fr. Jack
7:00 PM Fr. Jacek
8:00 AM Fr. Jack
9:30 AM Fr. Jack
11:30 AM Fr. Canice
6:00 PM Fr. Canice