



# Third Sunday of Advent ~ December 15, 2019



*St. John coffee hour today.*

## March for Life

Bus stops: Sacred Heart in Stamford at noon, the Hamden Town Hall around 12:40 pm, and St. John the Baptist around 1 pm on Thursday, January 23. We stop for dinner then arrive at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Forestville, MD, where we will be sleeping on the floor- bring a mattress, sleeping bag or blanket, and a pillow.

On the morning of the 24th, the Knights will provide breakfast and a bag lunch before the bus drops us off near the National Mall in D.C. There will be an opportunity to attend numerous activities near the Mall before the March starts in the afternoon. We usually finish around 3 pm and board the bus (a stop for dinner), we will arrive back late Friday night. Bus ticket is \$73. Reserve your seat by calling 652.7170, ext. 102.

## Living Nativity

First Presbyterian in Delhi will have their annual Living Nativity December 22 and 23 from 6:30-8 pm with music and live animals. Please bring a donation for the Community Food Bank. Come envelop yourself in the joy of the season!

## Blood Drive December 19

The Red Cross is holding a blood drive on Thursday, December 19, from noon to 5 pm at 58 East Street in Walton. Get a long-sleeved t-shirt while supplies last, and be the lifeline patients need! Make your appointment today at 800.733.2767

## Advent Daily Mass Schedule

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays:

8 am at St. Peter

9:30 am at St. John

## ❁ Second Collection: Christmas Flowers

### Advent Joy

More than just a memory of the past, Advent is a celebration of the seeds of our faith, the gift of God's grace gradually growing to fulfillment in the world. Like the people of ancient Israel, we long for the completion of God's reign on earth. At the same time, we know that our redemption has been won for us and that our sins have been forgiven.

As we celebrate Advent in the liturgy of the Church, we experience the longing for Christ in our lives as we wait in a hope that is joyful because we have been redeemed. Just as our world is in desperate need of God's grace, our own lives are in need of reform to live more fully in Christ. The rituals of preparation remind us that this special time of the year is more than just a winter holiday.

Miraculously born of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus continues to come among us through the sacraments, Scripture, and the Christian community gathered in prayer. May we experience the presence of Christ, the proclamation of the Kingdom, & the call to conversion this Advent.

## Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

As we approach Christmas, it is easy to become "busy-holics" and race to prepare decorations, presents, and food. When feeling stressed with yourself or your beloved, pause, take a deep breath, and *"Be patient."* James 5:7

## 89<sup>th</sup> Birthday Card Barrage!

Lucille Courtney  
Ivy Lodge, Room 216  
108 Main Street  
Saugerties, NY 12477

## Keeping Our Community Warm

In 2018, Catholic Charities provided just over \$37,000 in heating assistance to 125 households which otherwise would have been left out in the cold by providing these families and individuals with one-time heating/utility assistance where there was no other help available. Catholic Charities is conducting a fundraising campaign entitled *"Keeping Our Community Warm one Brick at A Time"*. We are selling paper bricks for a fireplace, which will be displayed in the front window of the Oneonta Catholic Charities office.

We are asking community members to consider sponsoring this fundraiser by purchasing a brick for the fireplace, at a cost of \$25 per brick. 100% of the money raised will be used in our local community to help keep children, seniors, and adults warm this winter. Bricks can be purchased at the Oneonta office at 176 Main Street or you can mail a check to Catholic Charities, 176 Main Street, Oneonta, NY 13820. Thank you for your kind consideration.

*O Lord Jesus Christ,*

*Make me worthy to understand the profound mystery of Your holy incarnation, which You have worked for our sake and for our salvation.*

*Truly there is nothing so great and wonderful as this: that You, my God, should become a creature so that we could become like God.*

*You have humbled Yourself and made Yourself small, that we might be made mighty.*

*Blessed are You, O Lord, who came to earth as one of us. Amen*

~ St. Angela of Foligno

## St. John Advent Reconciliations 7 pm

17<sup>th</sup> ~ Communal Reconciliation

18<sup>th</sup> ~ Individual Reconciliation

## The Issue of Justice for Victims

The series continues Wednesday with Rick Howard, Esq. moderating the discussion, *"Justice for Victims-- Restoration and Renewal"* 7 pm in Father Willis Hall. Come and enjoy light refreshments as we learn about it and talk about it.

## Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> is the longest night of the year - - and not only because kids are getting antsy about Christmas. Celebrate the darkness with candles ... perhaps by making a 'pilgrimage' through your home carrying a candle and reflecting on the holiness of each room and person.

## Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The question put to Jesus in the Gospel is also put to us: *"Are You the one?"* Are you the one who will give guidance to the Children in your life or must they look to tv sitcoms, films, videos, and music lyrics for direction? Are you the one -- will you be the one?

## *Dominican Retreat Center* 518.393.4169

**January 10-12** -- For men & women, *A Time to Remember*~ Come away to reminisce the highlights of your life. We will take the time to pray, write, share and support each other in a sacred space, at our own pace. Our memories are a gift and should be written down, whether for publication or legacy. Bring a journal, writing materials, laptop, or art supplies.

**January 17-19** -- Silent Weekend Directed Retreat. An opportunity to spend time with God in silence and solitude so you can focus on your personal relationship with God. Sister Christine Connolly, OP \$205 (65+: \$190)