



11/27	9:00 am	Mary Viola (John Froleiks)
	5:00 pm	Eda Leone (Jerry & Barbara Driscoll)
11/28	8:00 am	Margaret DeSanto (Peter & Domenica Gioiella)
	9:15 am	Tyler James (The Rohr family)
	11:00 am	William Ely (Wife, Lucy)
	6:00 pm	Mary Viola (Joe & Andrea Licek)
11/29	9:00 am	Angela Ottavaina (Sister)
11/30	9:00 am	Anthony DeSantis (The family)
12/01	9:00 am	Paul Kennedy (Eile & Brian Kennedy)
12/02	9:00 am	Deceased mothers & fathers
12/03	9:00 am	John Pote (Bob & Judi Dennehy)
12/04	9:00 am	Gildardo, Taborda in Thanksgiving (Wife and children)
	5:00 pm	Frank Corso (Joann & Mark King)
12/05	8:00 am	Jose Rentas (The Rentas family)
	9:15 am	Linda McCallum (Furguele family)
	11:00 am	Eleanor Vrabel (6 <sup>th</sup> . Anniv.) (M/M Mel Taverner)
	6:00 pm	Anne & Paul Kuczo

On the first Wednesday of each month, immediately following the 9:00 am Mass, there will be an anointing of the sick in the sanctuary. Anyone with an ongoing medical condition or who is seriously ill, anticipating a medical procedure or operation, is welcome to come.

**Christ suffered for you,  
and left you an example  
to have you follow in his footsteps.**

**He did no wrong;  
no deceit was found in his mouth.  
When he was insulted  
he returned no insult.**

Canticle 1 Peter 2

## MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St. Jerome Parish, a Roman Catholic community, proclaim our belief in the message and mission of Jesus Christ. As disciples of Jesus we are called to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to work for its values in the local community and beyond. We are committed to: worship, religious education, shared faith and service. We welcome all people with respect, acceptance and support.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** – Today is the first Sunday of Advent, beginning the Holy Season in preparation for the Feast of Christmas.

### Blessing of the Candles

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

THE LEADER LIGHTS THE CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH.

### First Week

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Lord, Jesus come. Be our Protector. Rescue us from the dangers that threaten us because of our sins and lead us to our salvation. We ask this of You who lives and reign now and forever. Amen.

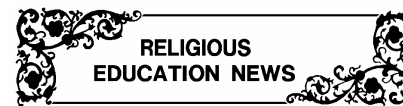


## THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR LAST YEAR AND THIS WAS:

November 23, 2003 \$6841.00

November 21, 2004 \$8945.00

We are exactly at budgeted offertory for the operating year.



## **REACH**

**REACH** classes resume next Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, for K-6 in the morning and Grade 8 only in the evening. Grade 7 will meet on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **FIRST RECONCILIATION FAMILIES**

Parents only meeting, on Monday evening, November 29<sup>th</sup>, from 8-9:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

## **MAYAWORKS-HANDCRAFTS from GUATEMALA**

Please stop and view the display of these beautiful items. It's a great opportunity to support the women of Guatemala

And get a jump on your holiday shopping. Anyone who can help with sales before or after Mass this weekend or next, please see Anne or Kathy.

**TOTAL:** Let's continue to thank God for our many blessings during this Thanksgiving weekend of praying together at Mass this Sunday at 6:00 PM. There will be NO TOTAL program tonight because of the holiday or next Sunday because of Confirmation in the afternoon. There will be a 6:00 PM Mass next week as always.

**CONFIRMATION** – Rehearsal for Confirmation candidates and sponsors will be held on **WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1<sup>ST</sup> FROM 7:30 TO 9:00 PM IN THE CHURCH.** The sacrament of Confirmation will be received by 55 teens and one adult on next Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. We ask for the prayers of all parishioners for our confirmands and their families.

**EMMAUS** – The planning meeting for Emmaus 27 will be held today, November 28<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Kevin Eidt Youth Room. We are eager to welcome back our college students home for the holidays. All helping hands and hearts will make our retreat on the weekend of January 7-9 an experience of God's abundant blessings, a deepening of our faith and sense of community, and fun! Applications for all juniors and seniors are available in the Youth Room or by calling Judi at 847-3635 or emailing at [juditotoal@aol.com](mailto:juditotoal@aol.com).

## ALTAR-FLOWERS



**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flowers that will adorn our lovely altar this weekend have been donated by Peter and Domenica Gioiella in memory of Peter and Hortense Gioiella. Next weekend the flowers are in memory of Vincent and Laura Umbrino, donated by Peter and Domenica Gioiella.

If you would like to memorialize a family member or friend by donating flowers for our altar, you may do so by giving a donation of \$50. The name of your loved one will be announced in the bulletin. There will be one donor per weekend. If you are interested, please contact Pat at the parish office at 847-5349 at least two weeks prior to the date you choose.

### BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

Adoration is scheduled for the **First Friday** of every month. Come and spend some quiet time in the presence of our Lord. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, after the 9:00 AM Mass, until 4:00 PM. A sign up sheet is provided in the back of the Church.

**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS**  
Trinity Catholic High School – December 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.  
Call admissions office at 203-322-3401, ext. 32 for info and/or application to register for the exam.

Notre Dame High School – December 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.  
Students may register on the day of the test. For additional info, call 372-6521.

### RANDOM THOUGHTS

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, and how quickly it has come! Advent is a complicated liturgical time. It begins with readings that look to the end of time when Jesus will come again, but then it concludes with readings that look to the imminent celebration of Christmas. In all this there is a sense of both longing for a better future as well as the certain hope that since God, in the past, as acted mightily for his people, He will again do so.

The three main biblical figures of Advent are the prophet Isaiah, John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary. Isaiah both confronts evil behavior and speaks exquisite words of hope to people when they are down and out. John the Baptist appears as a fiery prophet who is able to nonetheless, make room for the one for whom he has been waiting, the messiah who is Jesus. Mary then takes center stage on the last Sunday of Advent, and we learn from her what it means to be a faithful disciple.

This weekend and each of the Advent weekends, your bulletin will contain a handout that contains the Sunday Gospel and a reflection with questions to ponder. The handout is prepared by Benedictine priests and is worth reading and praying. You will also find **THE WORD AMONG US**, at the entrances to the Church. It contains a reflection for each day of Advent. Use these resources and as always, if you make Advent different and more prayerful, your Christmas will be deeper.

Finally, this weekend and next we are selling coffee from the third world farmers as well as crafts from Guatemala. The proceeds will help third world workers earn a just wage. To purchase any of these gifts is to do the work of the Lord.