



December 18, 2016

## Our Saviour Parish of the PNCC

2300 Princeton Pike; Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

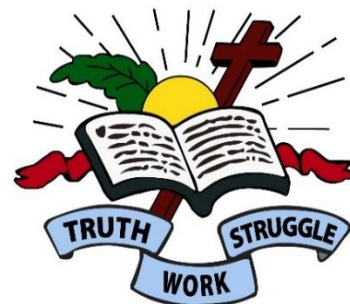
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## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

### **A Sabbath Thought**

Like Joseph, our role in the drama of Christmas - the drama of redemption for everyone - demands our openness to unusual options. What about angels, what about visions and dreams?

### **About Today's Bible Readings**

#### **ISAIAH 7:10-14**

Ahaz says he does not want to trouble the Lord with his business, but he is lying. He hopes God will let him handle things in his own way. But God intervenes anyway.

#### **Responsorial Psalm: 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6**

**R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

#### **ROMANS 1:1-7**

Paul writes to fellow Christians he has not met and urges them to be obedient ("listen") to the call that they have received to "spread the Name".

#### **MATTHEW 1:18-24**

Joseph, not often at center stage in the Christmas story, shares his fears with an angel in a dream. He finds his options enlarged and receives an invitation to name the future of salvation.

### **ENTRANCE RITE – Isaiah 26:19b; 29:19**

*V. Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world.*

**R. Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity You are God.**

*V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,*

**R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

### **THE GOSPEL – MATTHEW 1:18-24**

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

***This is the Gospel of the Lord!***

## **Worship Services**

**TODAY – Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

Intentions for Frank and Helen Lonska in memory of their wedding anniversary offered by Robert Lonska

**SATURDAY – Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**

**CHRISTMAS EVE – PASTERKA  
(SHEPHERD'S MASS)**

**9:00 PM – HOLY MASS**

**SUNDAY – Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>**

**CHRISTMAS DAY  
NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

**9:00 AM – HOLY MASS**

**ANGEL DELIVERY**

If you wish to send Christmas Greetings to members of the Parish, please place them in the box in the narthex.

### **New Candles**

We have received enough donations to replace all of the candles in the sanctuary with the new, clean burning oil type. We will list the donors and the names in memory of whom they were given in the next bulletin. We will bless all of the new candles after Christmas. A heartfelt "THANK YOU" to all who gave so generously.

### **Christmas Flower Memorials**

If you would like to make a donation of flowers to adorn the altars for Christmas, envelopes are on the table in the narthex. These make a lovely memorial of departed loved ones.

### **The Sanctuary Lights**

The new lamps are here for the sanctuary lights and we hope to have them installed in time for Christmas Eve. Thanks to Chris Ewaskiewicz and his assistants for their efforts.

### **Christmas Food Drive**

If you have any donations of non-perishable food items that you might care to donate to help make Christmas a little brighter for someone in need, please leave them in the narthex and we will see to it that they are given to those most needful in this season of hope and joy.

### **Christmas Wafers – Oplatki**

It's not too late for Oplatki! If you are interested in obtaining them for your Christmas Dinner celebration, please see Peggy Kowalik. They are \$2.00 apiece.

### **FLORENCE CHAMBERLAIN**

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the passing of our sister Florence Chamberlain on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please see the obituary on the table in the narthex for details of the funeral arrangements. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for an increase in faith and strength for her family and loved ones in this most difficult of times only made harder by the unfortunate timing of the holiday season.

## **INTENTIONS:**

**My Brothers and Sisters:** Our prayers are needed: For the increase in men called to the priesthood and diaconate of the Polish National Catholic Church; For the health and growth of our Parish; For all of the sick and homebound members of our Parish; For the health and wellbeing of Jules Nagy, Raymond Priester, Bob Rush, Howard Friedman, Bernice Muha, Stella Surma, Stanley Sostak, Rose Kubik, Janet Caruso, Marie and Nunzie Sospetti, Robert Paterson, David Wunderlich, Michael Havrilla, Gerry Brunson, Frank Fisher, Anthony Tonzini, Erica Franta, Carol Parker, Gregg Smith, Clint Koch, Sally Urban, Duane Schulte, Ruth and Michael Pivovarnick, Tim Fischer, Bernice Biroscak, Douglas Lipton, Patrick Toner and Chris White. For the repose of the souls of Kari Lynn Lee and Florence Chamberlain. **Our Father...**

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## *Today's Hymns*

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Please, join with the choir to make a beautiful noise unto the Lord!**

**The Hymns below can be found in the Blue Hymnal Books.**

#### **Opening Hymn**

#32 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Verses 1 & 7)

#### **Hymn to the Holy Spirit**

#144 – Come, Thou Creator

#### **Offertory Hymn**

#25 – Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

#### **Post Communion Hymn**

#26 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

#### **Recessional Hymn**

#31 – Watchman, Tell Us Of The Night

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## **Christmas Worship Schedule**

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve**

**Choir Presentation at 8:30 PM**

**Shepherd's Mass, Pasterka at 9:00 PM**

**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day**

**Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, Mass at 9:00 AM**

**Please encourage all you know, family, friends and neighbors to join us as we celebrate the birth of Our Lord.**

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