



WEEKLY SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Sunday Dec.13– 3rd Sunday of Advent

Rosary, 9:45 AM

MASS IN ENGLISH 10:15 –Bau Ly +

Bible Study 11:30 AM

MASS IN SPANISH, 11:45 AM

3rd Week of Advent

Mon Dec. 14 St. John of the Cross

Num 24:2-7,15-17, Ps 25:4-9, Ps 85:8, Matt 21:23-27

Tue Dec. 15

Zeph 3:1-2,9-13, Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-19,23, Matt 21:28-32

Wed Dec. 16

Isa 45:6-8,18,21-25,Ps 85:9-14;Isa 40:9-10,Luke 7:18-23

No Religious Ed

Confession 5:30-7:00

Parish Council 7:00 PM

Thurs Dec 17

Isa 54:1-10; Ps 30:2+4,5-6,11-13; Luke 3:4,6

Daily Mass 12:10 – Special Intention

Fri Dec. 18

Isa 56:1-3, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; John 5:33-36

Daily Mass 12:10 – Antonina, Mike, Chirs & Arthur Trybalski

Sat Dec. 19 :

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38

Rosary at the grotto 9:00 AM

Sunday Dec. 20 – 4th Sunday of Advent

Rosary, 9:45 AM

MASS IN ENGLISH 10:15 AM- Khanh Doan +

Bible Study 11:30 AM

MASS IN SPANISH, 11:45 AM

If you would like a Mass offered for a loved one, please call the church office or fill out a Mass intention envelope and place it in the offertory basket. Make checks payable to Fr. Nicholas Mammi. Specific dates may not be available. Please include a contact number to arrange an alternate date if necessary.

Prayer requests

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus **Philippians 4:6-7**

Please add these requests to your daily prayer intentions:

Corbin Lee, Lewis Drane, Teresa Biggs, Marie-Bernice Downey, Jacquie Bockrath, Ali Barton, Jennifer Bradshaw, Joy Bowman, Bill Barbour, Bob Humkey, Porky Ashbrook, Ted Tomczak, Carolyn Carr, Hazel Konorosky, Carolyn Eanes, Stuart Ward, Tia Goren, Bette Johnson, Marilyn Maietta, Finney Edelen, Bill Seuffert, Randall Dodson, Amir Hekmatis, Max Lawson, Linda Plaster Lawson, Mert Ruddy, Pam Lukow, Nancy Hubble, Lisa M. Dickerson, Gabriela Paredes, Hugh Gerlach, Beth Kiser, Georgia Arsenault, Jim Cecil, Charlotte Gardner, Joe Spattafore

(To add or remove prayer requests, please call the church office)

SICK, HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED? If you, or someone you know, would like to receive the Sacraments, please call the office. Outside of office hours, please call Barbara Kurtz (276) 647-1906 or Blaise Plageman (276) 632-1591.

UPCOMING LITURGIES

READINGS FOR SUNDAY DEC. 20

First Reading *Micah 5:1-4*

The ruler of Israel is promised to come from Bethlehem.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 80:2-3,15-16,18-19*

A prayer for God's salvation

Second Reading *Hebrews 10:5-10*

Through his obedience to God's will, Christ consecrated all.

Gospel Reading *Luke 1:39-45*

Mary visits Elizabeth, who sings praise to Mary and her child.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

St. Joseph:

Vigil: Thursday Dec. 24 5:00 PM (English)

Mass During the Day: Friday Dec. 25

12:15 PM (bilingual)

St. Francis of Assisi:

Night Mass: Thursday Dec. 24, 11:00 PM

(English/Latin)

Mass During the Day: Friday Dec. 25,

9:00 AM (bilingual)

SEE BACK COVER FOR MORE!!!

Retreat Opportunities

Lions to Lambs – Jan. 16- All men 18 and older are invited to attend this one-day conference. go to: <http://www.cdrcmfl.org/> or see the poster on the bulletin board for more details.

Discovery – Feb. 26-28 – peer led youth retreat for 9th and 10th graders who want to connect with other young Catholics and deepen their relationship with Jesus. See Donna McGarry for details.

DVC February 12-14 -Richmond - a weekend event held each year to gather high school youth from all 148 parishes in the Diocese of Richmond to one central location. Registration is due Jan. 13. (for early bird discount, You must be registered by Dec. 15!)

Advent & Christmas events

2016 Missals have arrived and are for sale at the Religious Goods Store for \$5.00 each. Give as a gift or pick one up for yourself. Visit the Store for other great gift ideas!

Christmas flowers If you would like to donate flowers in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one, please place your donation in the designated box in the commons.



Fr. Nicholas' talks on John Paul II's document, "Letter to Families (1994) Sundays: Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13, and 20 St. Francis of Assisi/Rocky Mount, VA 4:00 pm

Rosary Raffle Raffle tickets for 3 Christmas rosaries are available after all Masses. Prices are \$5 or 3/\$10. Stop by to see these beautiful rosaries in the display cabinet. Raffle will be held Dec. 19. 1st Name drawn gets 1st choice.

The Baby Bottle Boomerang (BBB) begins today to support the



Pregnancy Care Center of Martinsville/Henry Co. Please pick up a family baby bottle and collect your loose change to help the unborn babies and new mothers in our area.

Help Needed! There is a parishioner in need of a ramp at their home. The Knights of Columbus are ready to assist but we need a brother knight or other parishioner to manage/champion the project. Reach out to

[Greg Jessup](#), [Joe Bonanno](#), or [Robert G. Humkey](#) to see how we can rally to lend a helping hand!

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS:

Budget Amt.	\$3,846.15
Collection:	<u>\$2,672.00</u>
Deficit:	\$1,174.15

Words from our Pastor:

My Dear Family in Christ,

More than four months has passed since I began my new life as a parish priest at these two faith-filled parishes -- Saint Joseph and Saint Francis -- I serve by the call of the Holy Spirit. It is a great honor to serve each person who is connected to these beautiful parishes.

The Season of Advent is a reflection of our lives moving ever closer to God. This is true not only due to the fact that we prepare ourselves in it to celebrate the Messiah's birth among us in human form, true God and true Man; but it is also true due to the fact that Advent is the Church's Season of penultimate joy. In Advent, we are invited to experience the joy that prepares us for the ultimate joy of this mortal life: God among us – Emmanuel – that we fondly call Christmas.

Thus, there is a dual mystical metaphor here. We move closer to the great joy of Christmas and, at the same time, we move closer to the eternal joy of Heaven.

My prayer for each of you this Advent Season is that -- amidst the temporal difficulties, distractions and brokenness, and in spite of all the cultural hype, consumerism and materialism – you may rediscover your Christ centeredness you received in Holy Baptism. As you approach the sacred Crèche on bended knee to honor Our Lord in his Holy Birth this year, may you receive every grace and blessing in a renewed life in the One Who has come to visit us in our temporary home and will come again to bring us to our eternal home.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Nicholas +