

December 2, 2018

ST. NORBERT

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

FERVENT DISCIPLES

CHURCH 50 LEOPARD ROAD, PAOLI, PA 19301
PHONE 610.644.1655
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SCHOOL 6 GREENLAWN ROAD, PAOLI, PA 19301
PHONE: 610.644.1670
FAX: 610.644.0201
MARY KAY HENNESSY, PRINCIPAL

MASS & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5:30PM

SUNDAY MASSES: 7:30, 9, 11:30 AM; **Spanish** 1:30PM;
Youth Mass 6PM

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 6:30 & 8 AM; **SATURDAY** 8AM

RECONCILIATION: **Thursdays** 7-8 PM; **Saturday** 4-5 PM or by
Appointment

ADORATION: **Thursdays** 8:30 AM - 8 PM; **Saturdays** 4-5 PM

CLERGY

REV. STEVEN J. ALBERO, O. PRAEM., PASTOR

REV. ARUL AMALRAJ, O. PRAEM., PAROCHIAL VICAR

DEACON JOHN P. LOZANO

DEACON STEVE MARTINO

DEACON WILLIAM M. MASAPOLLO (RETIRED)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We the Church enter Advent and the new liturgical year with a call for a watchful confidence. Our readings were originally addressed to communities undergoing great loss and confusion. Jeremiah speaks confidently of God fulfilling the ancient promises to Israel, even during a time of foreign invasion. Paul speaks of God leading the Church into holiness, while the community longs for the coming of Jesus. In the Gospel passage from Luke, Jesus speaks of powerful signs and of great confusion to come, but emphasizes that we may look forward knowing that God brings not cause for despair, but hope. We celebrate Advent to remind each other of God's faithfulness. We are to be watchful, to see how God is stirring up our world. God both disturbs our pride and complacency, and brings us healing and justice. We prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus, confident that God indeed fulfills all these divine promises.

WIDENING OUR VISION

In daily life, it's easy to simply focus on the here and now. Life can be complex and rapidly changing. It's often plenty for us just to get through the day. Yet it seems that in Luke's Gospel today, Jesus is asking his followers, and us too, to widen our focus and see a larger reality.

We are asked to observe not only the routines of daily life, not only the large forces of history acting upon us, but also God bringing forth the birth of a new creation. Jesus asks us to see beyond today's troubles and watch God stirring up hope. We are to more truly see persons in need, those who experience violence, loss, or injustice. We are asked to see beyond the superficial during the Christmas shopping season, and to see Christ as ultimate Gift and gift-giver.

WAITING WELL

Today we begin Lectionary Year C, when the Gospel readings are frequently from the Gospel of Luke. Luke wrote for a community that wrestled with questions about what had happened and what had not (yet) happened. Some in the community had anticipated the promised return of Jesus during their lifetimes. In today's Gospel, Jesus does not offer a timetable for his coming, but asks us to watch and wait. We can learn to wait faithfully, not knowing what will happen next, but living in trust. Advent is a time to learn again about waiting well.

Many of the events we most cherish in life involve waiting: the birth of a child, graduation, a new job, retirement. How we receive these events often depends on how well we have waited and prepared. Waiting well is not passive. We often work hard to prepare for life's big events, both externally and in our hearts. We ready ourselves, but allow for surprises. Advent's preparation for Christmas mirrors our many waitings, knowing that God may come into our lives by surprise, without a timetable.



TODAY'S READINGS: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 -- 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36 © J. S. Paluch Company

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land." – Jeremiah 33:15

Sunday, December 2

5:30 Living & Deceased
Members of the Young &
O'Donnell Family
7:30 †Jonathan Lucks
9:00 †James J. Cleary
11:30 †Harry Wolfington
1:30 PM **No Mass:** Fr. Steve's
Installation
6 PM Parishioners

Monday, December 3

6:30 AM Mark McDaniel
8:00 †Martin E. Murray

Tuesday, December 4

6:30 †Kitty McQuaid
8:00 †Joe Guest

Wednesday, December 5

6:30 Mark McDaniel
8:00 †Dolores Albero

Thursday, December 6

6:30 †Robert Butler
8:00 †Dolores Albero

Friday, December 7 –1st Friday

6:30 †William Francis Carey
8:00 †Frank Castaldi
9:00 Kathleen Flannery
7:00 PM **Vigil:** Immaculate
Conception Holy Day

Saturday, December 8 Holy Day

8:00 **Immaculate Conception**
Mary Lyons, Helen Fischer
& Lord's Blessing on
Corrine Kerrigan

Sunday, December 9

5:30 †Peter Messantonio, Jr
7:30 Parishioners
9:00 †Joseph Manion &
Regina Westhoff
†Carlo DiValerio
11:30
1:30 PM **No Mass:** Our Lady of
Guadalupe Festival
School Gym
6 PM †Frank E. Mamrol, Jr



Gratitude

"Get Ready"

We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and wonder for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus — born to us as Savior and Brother. It is a season to prepare for His return at the end of time.

It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgment day is coming, too, when we will be called to give an account for all that God has given to us during our lifetimes. In other words, Advent is a steward's season!

Our readings for the first week of Advent waste no time in calling our urgent attention to these themes of reflection and preparation. They seem to shout, "Wake up! Get ready!" and offer us some practical advice as we enter into this season.

The Gospel, from Luke, warns, "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and



PRAYERS & READINGS



PRAY FOR HEALING: Corinne Kerrigan, Greg Kleckner, Maria Palfy, Julian D'Orazio, Maria Morales, Michael Fullam, Mary Corcoran, Tim Dippel, Alice Bowman, Dorothy Wilson, Ed Rofi, Guillermo Maldonado, Helen Gelstine, Peter Lim, Ann Sassaman, Clare Rossmeisl, Diana Reyes, Frank Henriquez, Patricia Boyce, Louanne Armstrong, Ruth Chavez, John F. Erickson, Debra Ulicny, Roberto Barajas, Joseph Mongiello, Mary Alice Spina, Sue Birmingham, Todd Monastero, Dan Petrella, Julianne Zelov, Guillermo Lopez, Maura Tehrani Henderson, Kate Fullam, Marion Fries, Isabelle Oravecz, Midge Malloy, Bob Denney, Mary Pyne, William R. Ewing, Jackson Kahn, Marc Palfy, Mary Ann Gallagher, Missy Schwartz, Eduardo "Lalo" Quintana, Joseph Morelli, Gerry Hughes, James Buroker, Layne McHugh, Deborah Nagle

REST IN PEACE: Trudy DiNardo, Francisco Pina

PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS:

Pvt. **Matthew Cress**, USA; Pvt. Jessica **Flowers** USA; Pvt. **Michael Flowers**, USA; Capt. **Rob Kersey**, USN; Capt. **Spencer Lahiff**, USMC; Sgt. **Justin Lansford**, USA; Pvt. **Bryan McCormick**, USA; Lt. Col. **James Merenda**, USAF; Lt. **Nicholas Prestipino**, USA; Sgt. **R. J. Paski**, USA; Sgt. **Matthew Paski**, USAF; Maj. **Brian Wallin**, DO, USA, Lt. Col. **Keith Benedict**, USA



drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life." How easy it is to lose focus on our Lord either by too much indulgence in our

lives or by too much worry about our lives. Both extremes are easy to fall prey to. To avoid these traps we are told to "be vigilant" and "pray for strength to sustain us."

During Advent, we Christian stewards must ask ourselves some hard questions. Am I staying faithful to my prayer life? Am I using my energy and skills to serve others? Am I overly concerned about material gain? Am I relying my "stuff" or my investments as my source of comfort or security? Am I living for the moment or for the coming of the Lord? Get ready Christian stewards! He's coming! Let us prepare with awe and wonder. © catholicsteward.com

"The family has the mission to guard, reveal and communicate love."

—St. John Paul II

ST. NORBERT
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FERVENT DISCIPLES

 Online Giving

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION **WAITING FOR OUR SAVIOR**

Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa's sleigh at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn't catch on too fast.

Some may say, "How come we don't sing Carols till the Christmas Eve Mass?" Or "Why don't we have the Church decorated with Christmas trees on the First Sunday of Advent?" Others may even say that Advent is a new fangled idea. Not so.

To trace its beginnings, we must go back to the fourth or fifth century (300-400 AD) in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17.

Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the

Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation.

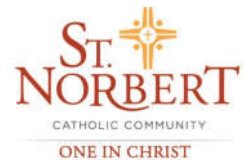
Advent as we know it develops on two separate tracks: preparing in remembrance for Christ's first coming to us and as a season before Christmas to prepare for Christ's second coming at the end of time. Like Lent, Advent is supposed to be a time of repentance, prayer, fasting, and alms giving to the poor. Unlike Lent, there is an attitude of joyful penance and the Advent Wreath is a joyous touch to mark the preparation and anticipation of Christmas. Advent is best summed up in what we say right after the Lord's prayer at Mass each week: *"In your mercy, keep us free from sin...as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ."*

— Adapted from Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

Photo of a mosaic from the dome of the Arlan Baptistry of Ravenna of an empty throne awaiting God: <https://arsartisticadventureofmankind.com/tag/christ-in-majesty/>



PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** **SUNDAY, DEC 9, 11:30 AM** **BILINGUAL MASS**



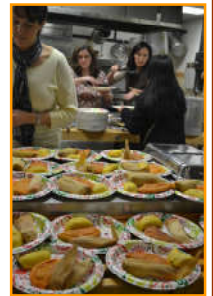
- ◆ **Rosary** to Our Lady at 11 AM in the Oratory
- ◆ **Procession** to the Parish Activity Center
- ◆ **Traditional** foods, music and more
- ◆ **Everyone** in the parish is invited
- ◆ **Express** our love and devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Volunteers needed for set up, clean,
and bring fruit or dessert**

CONTACT:

Cecilia Silva Palacios at 610.353.3882 or
silvacd77@gmail.com

Laura Peterson or 610.644.1655 ext. 121 or
lpeterson@parish.stnorbert.org



News & Events



THIS SUNDAY, DEC 2:

FR. STEVE'S INSTALLATION

Fr. Steve Albero will be officially installed as our new Pastor by Bishop John McIntyre today, **Sunday, Dec 2**, at a special Bilingual **11:30 PM** Mass. There will be **no 1:30 PM** Spanish Mass so that we can all celebrate Fr. Steve's installation. All are invited to a reception for Fr. Steve immediately following the Mass in the School dining hall. We will also have an official recognition of Fr. Arul as our new Parochial Vicar. "I'm looking forward to being your pastor and of continuing our mission of making St. Norbert's an Amazing Parish while forming Fervent Disciples," said Fr. Steve.

DO YOU HAVE . . .

THE RIGHT STUFF?



St. Norbert Parish is developing a comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and we need you! We are looking for individuals with experience in security, retired or active law enforcement or military to help serve on our planning committee. **CONTACT:** Barrie Fila at filab@becket-lee.com if you are interested and please include information regarding your ex-

perience and availability.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO...

SERVE THE POOR

Our next mission to serve lunch at the St. Francis Inn in the Kensington area of Philadelphia will be on **Friday, Dec 21**. The Inn serves the daily needs of the poor and homeless with food, clothing, and hospitality. Our St. Norbert's ministry has served every month for many years. Volunteers must be 16 years of age or older. Help break the cycle of homelessness and poverty. **CONTACT:** Cal Fastuca at cal.fastuca@me.com



GIVING TREE IS UP . . .

GIFTS DEADLINE DEC 10



Pick up your ornaments now and please return your gifts to the Narthex by **Monday, Dec 10**. See the ideas below for presents. **CONTACT:** Carol Coyne Helping Hands Ministry at 610.296.8019 or cov498@aol.com or Marsha Menendez at 610.247.9307 or marsha@menendezfamily.com

BETHESDA – Bainbridge, Sanctuary, Mary House and Dominic House: Men's Permanent Supportive Housing: *Socks, underwear, deodorant, shaving supplies, soap, towels, twin sheets*

BETHESDA—Spruce Street & Serenity: Women's Permanent Supportive Housing: *Socks, underwear, deodorant, soap, towels, twin sheets*

ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE: Orphan & Abortion Rescue, House of Refuge, East Fallowfield, PA: *Clothing & toys*

ST. MARY'S SHELTER: Transitional/Emergency housing for women & children of domestic abuse: *Household goods, grocery gift cards*

GAUDENZIA: Alcohol and drug addiction recovery and mental illness treatment for men, women, and children: *Towels, robes, underwear, toys*

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES/ST. AGNES OUTREACH:

Chester County: *Household goods, baby items, gas & grocery gift cards*

BIRTHRIGHT WEST CHESTER & COATESVILLE: Assists mothers in need with *maternity & baby supplies*

T/E CARE: Assists residents in Tredyffrin and Easttown Townships: *Walmart, Target & ACME gift cards*

ST. NORBERT PARISH IN-REACH FOR OUR HOMEBOUND: Provides help for those in need within the parish and the local community: *Grocery, gas & pharmacy gift cards*

MOTHER'S HOME, DARBY: Residential shelter for pregnant women in crisis who choose life: *Maternity & baby supplies*

ST. GABRIEL PARISH: Assists families with food: *Grocery & gift cards*

Over 1,000 gifts and cards are distributed through your generosity every Christmas.

THANK YOU!

CUB SCOUTS PACK 7 ANNUAL WREATH SALE



Thank You for your support
Merry Christmas
Proceeds benefit Cub Pack 7



Solemnity of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

MASS: Friday Vigil 7 PM;

Saturday Feast 8 AM

STEWARDSHIP REPORT
Coming Soon

Around Our Parish

open to all parishioners. Prior to the party, contacts are made with all the charity groups supported by St. Norbert's yearly and some new this year including: Bethesda Project houses, St. Joseph's House, St. Mary's Shelter, Gaudenzia, Catholic Social Services/St. Agnes Outreach, Birthright West Chester & Coatesville, T/E Cares, Mother's House (for single women), St. Gabriel Parish and St. Norbert In-Reach. Thank you for your generosity. **Merry Christmas!**

A lot of work goes on behind the scenes to prepare our annual Christmas Giving Tree. **Carol Coyne Shannahan, Marsha Menendez** and their elves gathered (see below) before Thanksgiving for the **Ornament Making Party**



It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving. –Mother Teresa

An Evening of Reflection Allowing Jesus to Come Close

Monday, December 3, 2018
Malvern Retreat House
Malvern, PA

Directed by
Heather Makowicz



Heather Makowicz is a Certified Spiritual Director and a leader in her parish's Healing Prayer Ministry. She also speaks to women and young adults on topics related to prayer and discernment. Additionally, Heather organizes and leads hiking excursions that integrate prayer while encouraging people to encounter God in his creation. As the mother of a son with multiple special needs and someone who has experienced deep healing in her own life through the Catholic Church, Heather strives to give away what she has received. Through her own journey she finds tremendous joy accompanying others in theirs. She holds a Masters Certificate in Spiritual Direction from Neumann University in Aston, PA, and a Masters in Clinical Social Work from Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Virginia.

Tomorrow Night





Xanten 2019

PLAN NOW...

HIGH SCHOOLERS ONLY

Hey Teens:

Join us for the **16th annual Xanten** retreat for high school students.

Encounter Jesus, grow new friendships, deepen current ones . . . and have a great time.

Save the date: **Jan 11-13** at

St. Mary of Providence retreat center in Elverson.

CONTACT: Clare Field at ckane@parish.stnorbert.org



SAVE THE DATE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

(Free)

Sunday, Dec 9, 3 PM

Church of the Saviour, Wayne
651 N. Wayne Ave, Wayne, PA

Followed by dinner at
McKenzie Brew House, Berwyn

The performance includes a choir, soloists and musicians and is very uplifting.

Tickets are FREE!

We will be at the door distributing tickets for our group at the 2:30 pm.

Please arrive early to allow time to park and get your seat! Ample parking on premises

Dinner at McKenzie Brew House

Swedesford Rd., Berwyn

We will have our own room and order from the menu. Each table will get a separate check.

In order to secure enough tickets and dinner spaces, please complete below by Dec. 6:

Name _____

Phone or email _____

Concert only (# of Guests) _____

Dinner only (# of Guests) _____

Both concert and dinner (# of Guests) _____

Drop off form at the Parish Office or Email or call Ann Higgins abh1a@comcast.net or 484.580.8805

TAKE SOME TIME FOR A . . .

SPIRITUAL "WORK OUT"

There are many benefits of "getting things off your chest;" chief among them is a removal of the barrier that sins place between us and Jesus. Reconciliation is an opportunity to clean your spiritual house; to "work out" your interior life. Coaches are available. You have plenty of opportunities:

- ◆ **Saturdays** from 4 – 5 PM
 - ◆ **Thursdays** from 7 – 8 PM
 - ◆ **Advent Reconciliation Service** – Monday, **December 17** at 7 PM (many confessors available)
 - ◆ **By appointment** through the parish office
- Think of Confession as a positive encounter with the head coach, Jesus. He drafted you and wants to help you sculpt and firm up in 5 minutes or less!

St. Norbert's
YOUNG ADULTS

TUESDAY NIGHTS . . .

No Experience Necessary

Join us on Tuesday nights for fellowship and Scripture reflection at 7:30 PM. St. Norbert Young Adults gather in the Parish Office Lower Level Meeting Room. No experience or materials necessary, just bring yourself.



THIS CHRISTMAS . . .

"Give the Gift of Growing in Faith"

Our parish Book Store has many great books and timeless classics! Check out the Narthex books for yourself or someone you love.

KEY PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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