

SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



Week of December 16/17, 2017 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Pope Francis'

MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

FOR DECEMBER

The Elderly - That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

OUR PARISH PRAYS TOGETHER

Feel free to share your special needs and intentions, so they can be included here and all of our parish will join in praying with you. Individual names are welcome but not necessary.

For Fr. Peter Schineller, as he begins a new adventure in his life, with gratitude and thanksgiving
For victims of natural disasters and violence
For family members who have died
For all those looking for work
For a woman concerned about her family
For those suffering from the cold
For the end to abortions

For those working for faith and justice
For the safety of all who are traveling
For a woman suffering from bone cancer
For those preparing for sacraments
For all those in pain
For justice for immigrants and refugees



MASS SCHEDULE FOR SACRED HEART PARISH **Christmas/New Year's 2017/18**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 – 5 PM Sweifieh, Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 – 10 AM – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel, 4th Sunday of Advent (*No evening Mass at Freres*)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 – 5 PM – Mass of Christmas Vigil, Sweifieh

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 – 10 AM, Mass of Christmas morning, Jesuit Chapel

Regular Mass Tuesday through Saturday – 8:30 AM at the Jesuit Chapel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 – 5 PM Sweifieh, Mass of the Holy Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 – 10 AM, Jesuit Chapel, Mass of the Holy Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 – 6 PM – Vigil Mass for January 1, deLa Salle Church, Jabal Hussein

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 – Mass of the Solemnity, 8:30 AM Jesuit Chapel

MONDAY, January 1 – Mass of the Solemnity, 10 AM Jesuit Chapel

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

December 16-24 Christmas Novena

December 16 – Farewell Reception for Fr. Peter Schineller, SJ, following the 5 PM Mass at Sweifieh

December 17 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM

December 17 – English Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Jabal Amman - 11:30 AM

December 22-January 2 - Jesuit Center closed for holidays; daily Mass schedule as usual except as noted

December 23 – 4th Sunday of Advent, Sweifieh, 5 pm

December 24 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM (*4TH Sunday of Advent*)

Christmas Vigil Mass (*Abbreviated*) – 5 PM at Sweifieh

December 25 – Christmas morning Mass, 10 AM – Jesuit Center with carols

December 26-30 – Usual schedule

December 30 – 5 PM, Sweifieh – Mass of the Holy Family

December 31 – 10 AM, Jesuit Center – Mass of the Holy Family

December 31 – 6 PM – Freres Church, Vigil Mass of the Solemnity

January 1 – 8:30 AM, Jesuit Chapel – Mass of the Solemnity (Quiet Mass, no singing)

January 1 – 10 AM – Mass of the Solemnity with full singing and carols

January 12 – Confirmation class resume

January 13 – First Communion class resumes

January 14 – World Day of Prayer for Refugees and Migrants

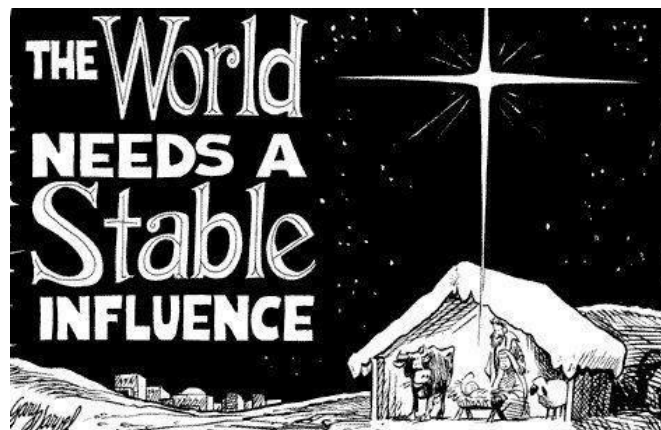
January 15 – 7 PM, “Ask Father John” at David Paul’s residence

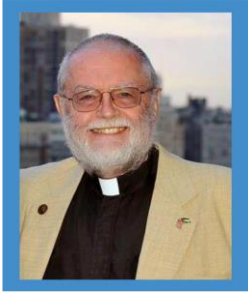
January 17 – Fr. Gerald on vacation until February 18



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

If you have not started an Advent Basket, it's never too late. We won't collect baskets until after Christmas, although we can on request. We will be delivering our gift to the parish up north as part of the John the Baptist celebrations, so there is time. Cash gifts are also welcome, for buying items that may not have been put in baskets. So feel free to come and be part of the project.





RAMBLINGS

OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

I watched a video the other day, of a small boy on Christmas morning. He came down the stairs, and there were snowy bootprints on the floor. He got so excited he was jumping up and down. He followed the prints, and there was the tree and toys. Again he was excited, but then he quickly turned to the cookie plate and the cookies were gone and the glass of milk was empty. (Notice he didn't start opening presents yet.) The next thing – he wanted to go outside and see if Rudolph had eaten the carrot – and of course, there was only the top of the carrot left on the stoop.

What struck me was what was important to this little boy, and it wasn't the presents. I'm sure he went back and eventually tore wrapping paper and opened boxes. But the most important were the signs of Santa having actually been in his house – the prints from the boots, the empty milk glass, the mostly-eaten carrot.

We need to be more like that little boy. Not as interested in the presents, but looking more for the signs that Jesus Christ has been in our house, and in our lives. The signs are not always as evident as a boot print or a milk glass, but they are just as exciting. When a prayer gets answered, when you suddenly realize something you've never seen before in a friend or a child or even yourself, a moment when God whispers to you and you hear it – that's it. Most of us are probably beyond jumping up and down, but there can be just as much excitement and wonder in a moment like that as that little boy found in the traces of Santa's visit.

When I was young enough to still believe in Santa Claus, we lived in the country, and it snowed on Christmas Eve. On Christmas morning, in a field of smooth white snow, there were deer tracks – only one set – that came from the orchard through the back field and up to the house, just under my bedroom window. And then the tracks turned and went back to the orchard, in a perfectly straight line each way. My mother (thinking quickly) said that that was one of Santa's reindeer, checking to be sure that I was asleep before Santa could come. I bought it completely, and believed in Santa much longer than my friends did. I knew my parents were tricky but I could not figure out any way they could manufacture deer tracks in the snow.

My friends would ask, as only young cynics newly-discovering the truth can ask, how Santa could visit each house all over the world? Children who believe don't ask that, because the focus is still on themselves, and the important thing is that Santa comes to them. It's a miracle, and that's all the answer one needs. The same is true of Jesus. He can come to each person in the world, if we let Him, and the focus is always on us. Jesus thinks we are each important, each and every one of us.

Of course, he's right. We are. We don't always believe that, but we are, and Jesus will help us to discover that, if we will let him. So as we continue through our Advent journeying, let us rejoice when we find the signs that Christ has come and work to always make Him welcome.

And let us continue to pray for one another.

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Fr. John's Phone: Office: 06 461-4190, Ext 29 Mobile: 079 013-8985

Website: Jordanjesuits.org with a link for the Sacred Heart Parish

Facebook: If you are on Facebook, go to Parish Group and on your first visit you request to be admitted. After that the system will recognize you so you can post.

MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Monday to Saturday	8:30 AM	Jesuit Center
Saturday	5:00 PM	Sweifieh, St. Mary of Nazareth
Sunday	10:00 AM	Jesuit Ctr Chapel
	6:00 PM	Jabal Hussein, St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle

Confessions are 30 minutes before weekend Masses, or available by appointment.

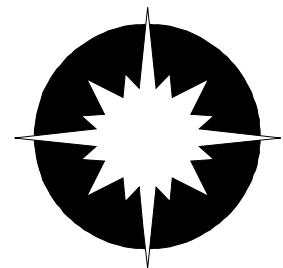
PLEASE REGISTER IN OUR PARISH

There is a **NEW** registration form. Go onto the website and there is a space where you can register online. This is the best and the easiest.

You can also send Fr. John an email or check in at the parish Facebook page (Parish Group) and he will guide you through the process. Painless.

ONE

One starlit night
One couple in distress
One shabby stable
Only one place to rest
One group of shepherds
One night long ago
One angel's message
Only one place to go
One wisemen's journey
One king did they seek
One Son of David
Only one child so meek
One reason for coming
One goal on earth's sod
One death that redeems
Only one way to God.



Let us remind ourselves, our families and our world that Christ is the point of Christmas. Let us remember that Christmas would not be Christmas without Christ. Without Christ, it is simply "mas" which is Spanish for "more." As the world continues to focus on the "mas" we need to focus on Christ, for Christ is the point of Christmas.

From Great Vesper for the Nativity

According to the Flesh of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ
a verse by Anatolios (Second Tone)

What shall we offer You, O Christ,
Since for our sake
You have appeared upon the earth as a man?
Truly, each and every creature You have made
Shall offer You their thanks.
The angels shall offer You their praise;
The heavens, the star; the Magi, their gifts;
The Shepherds, their wonder;
The Earth, the cave; the wilderness, the manger;
And we, the human race, offer You a Virgin Mother.
For which cause, O God, Who exist beyond eternity,
Have mercy upon us.



Indeed, what shall we offer?

This year, are we the angels, offering our praise? Are we the heavens offering the star? Are we Zoroastrian astrologers of means with valuable gifts or homeless herders who tend someone else's flock, with nothing more to give than reverential awe?

Or shall we be like Mother Earth offering protection and openness, with her austere sister, the great and terrible Wilderness, providing a harsh container out of vast emptiness, a stone sarcophagos instead of a soft crib? Would we be all of humanity presenting our total being, the matrix of ourselves, in an inexplicable paradox?

Can we be Mary, whose gift of herself, magnifies God in the cosmic "YES" that echoes throughout all creation and time? Could we be a Joseph, and give the accepting of outrage in a chaos of obedience and love?

Might we become a Herod slashing out at the threat to our pride, our power, our influence? Are we the innkeeper with no place to offer shelter to those in need? Or his wife, withered by disbelief but made whole by mercy in the presence of an ineffable reality?

Who shall we be? What shall we offer for all that we have received? May joy flow out of us, not an empty Fa la la la la, or some expression in merchandise. May we offer all our being and be made divine, as the pre-eternal God becomes human, that we may be united as was intended at the beginning, in a communion of love.

the unworthy monk Nathanael

During Advent take time, slow down,
be still, be awake to the Divine Mystery
that looks so common and so ordinary -



Yet is wondrously present.

CRYPTIC CAROLS

(Answers in next week's Bulletin)

1. Small City in Judea
2. Colorless Yuletide
3. Singular yearning for twin anterior incisors
4. Loyol followers advance
5. Righteous Darkness
6. Weather: Cloudless; Arrival time: 2400 hours
7. Far off in a feeder
8. Array the corridors
9. Bantam percussionist
10. Monarchial Triad
11. Nocturnal Noiselessness
12. Father Christmas en route to Borough
13. Initial Christmas
14. Frozen Precipitation Commence
15. Proceed and Enlighten on the Pinnacle
16. The Quadruped with the Vermillion Proboscis
17. Query Regarding the Identity of Descendant
18. Delight for this Planet
19. Give Attention to the Melodious Celestial Being
20. Hence Arriveth Kris Kringle
21. To descry matriarchal osculation of Yuletide anthropomorphism
22. At the zenith of the habitat



23. Endocarps vesicated in a conflagration
24. Jehovah dulcify blithe chevaliers
25. The dozen festive 24-hour intervals
26. Tintinnabulation of the clarion
27. An optical experience of a triad of maritime objects
28. Anthropomorphic crusty, frozen precipitation
29. Yuletide Odyssey

30. I. agutilium and Hedera helix
31. Oh! Pseudotsuga menziesii
32. Beneficent monarch of Bohemia