

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 9, 2012

THOUGHTS FROM FR. PAUL



Advent Message Friends,

What is Advent all about? I think most people see it purely as a season of preparation for Christmas, which is part of it, but not the whole thing. The first two weeks of Advent are actually “reserved” for us to focus on Christ’s Second coming. We don’t think of this often. Yes, in a certain way our society, especially pop- culture, is obsessed with apocalyptic and end of the world themes as seen in so many of our movies, TV. shows, and video games, but how many of us actually think of the end of the world happening because Christ will come again? Is this not what Jesus spoke about in last week’s gospel? (Lk 21:25-28, 34-36) Scary isn’t it? Well that’s not my point in writing this. After all, Jesus doesn’t want us to live in a constant state of fear and panic. He is the Prince of Peace for crying out loud! But He does want us to be ready. He doesn’t want “that day catch you by surprise like a trap” (Lk 21:34). That is why the season of Advent, and our lives in general, should not be merely a matter of waiting, but of actively being ready. This implies that we must strive to live a certain way of life.

In the movie I Am Legend, Will Smith’s character Dr. Robert Neville faced death every day. It wasn’t comfortable, it wasn’t easy, but He had to live each day a certain way; being “vigilant at all times”, and living by a set of principles and rules which would allow him to not only save his own life, but possibly many others.

We face a different but very similar situation today. It is not easy to be a faithful Catholic. In fact to be one is to live almost completely counter-culturally because the culture we live in is, as Christopher West puts it, a counterfeit culture, a culture which presents the real thing as the counterfeit and the counterfeit as the real thing. We can see this most clearly in the way most media presents human sexuality. They’d have us think that anything goes and it doesn’t matter what you do or who you do it with. They say that this is freedom and happiness. Can anything actually be further from the truth? How many people, young and old, feel hurt, abused, and used? How many use drugs, cut themselves, or commit suicide because they cannot deal with the pain that this life of “freedom” gives them? I lost my own former best friend this past June because he was caught up in this counterfeit culture, this “culture of death” as Blessed John Paul II defined it.

The truest answers of life are not found on *Oprah*, the *Jersey Shore*, *Family Guy*, the *Tonight Show*, David Letterman, and most certainly not on *The View*! God’s view, the way for us to live our lives, is found in the Bible and the teachings of the Catholic Church. This Year of Faith which we are celebrating is meant to be a time for us to re-learn these teachings. Most people know *what* the Church teaches but don’t know *why*. It is *our* responsibility to live in the truth of God’s love by educating ourselves with these teachings. Thank God for gifts of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Theology of the Body!

St. Paul says, “You know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus” and “we earnestly ask and exhort you...that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God...you do so even more.” (Thes. 4:2).

Is there a coincidence that this reading was proclaimed in every Catholic Church around the world on the first Sunday of Advent or is God trying to tell us something? Let us use this season to all be more like Dr. Robert Neville and “be vigilant at all times and pray” that we are ready when Christ comes again. “Be Not Afraid”! (J.P. II)

Happy Advent,

*Fr. Paul*

*Joy to the World*

**Christmas Concert**

**Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m.**

**Confessions**

**Starting Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup>,  
12:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m. and Sundays 11:30 a.m.**

**Advent Penance Service**

**Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m.**

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

**Mass Schedule**

9:00 a.m. (Daily Mass)  
3:30 p.m. Mass (Church and Gym)  
5:00 p.m. Mass (Church and Gym)  
6:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant  
7:00 p.m. Family Mass  
8:30 p.m. Mass  
10:00 p.m. Caroling  
10:30 p.m. Mass

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

9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon  
**There will not be a 7:30 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day.**

**Wednesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. Mass only

**Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Holy Family**

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 noon

**Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup> New Year’s Eve**

9:00 a.m. (Daily Mass)

**Vigil of Mary, Mother of God**

5:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 1, 2013 New Year’s Day**

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

9:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.



**Sunday, January 6, 2013**

**Solemnity of the Epiphany**

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND**

**Retirement Collection for Religious**

The Religious Retirement Collection will be this weekend. Religious women and men have faithfully served the Catholic Church in our country and need our support. Your generosity is always appreciated.



*"In the spirit of this Year of Faith, we will have a new schedule for the Sacrament of Reconciliation"*

**Starts Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, Confessions every Saturday at 12:30pm and 4:15pm, Sundays at 11:30am.**

**Our Parish Advent Penance Service will be on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30pm. Let the mercy and healing begin!**

**Year of Faith Prayer**



Starting on the weekend of December 1 & 2, 2012 and continuing through November 24, 2013, we will say the *Prayer for the Year of Faith* before each liturgy. The prayer can be found inside the Missal cover. May we all grow in faith together.

**ADORATION & BENEDICTION**

**This Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm-7:00pm**

*"In modern life, so often noisy and dispersive, it is more than ever important to recover the capacity for inner silence and prayer. Eucharistic Adoration enables this to happen, not only around "me" but also in the company of the "you" full of love and this Jesus Christ, God close to us." Pope Benedict XVI*

The Parish of St. Elizabeth provides the opportunity for everyone to share Eucharistic Adoration on Monday's from 5:30-7:00 pm. We invite all to pray in silence for 15 or 30 minutes or longer with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar. Even if just for a few minutes, make sure that you take the time to stop in Church and give thanks to Him from whom every good comes.



**ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY Thursday, Dec. 13th, at 10am**

All ladies of the parish are invited to the Elizabeth Room Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 10am for the Rosary Society's annual Christmas party. We will have a 'spirited sing-a-long' of favorite Christmas songs, some great conversation & delicious home baked treats. "Come on down" and join in the festivities.

**LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH AT MASS**



What a wonderful tradition for you and your family. Would you like to light the advent wreath at Mass? Please call or e-mail Lisa T. at the parish office and sign up for your Mass date and time 201-891-1122 ext. 200 or [lisa@saintelizabeths.org](mailto:lisa@saintelizabeths.org). **You will receive a**

**reply with all the details and a confirmation of your date.**

**"To everything there is a Season and a time for every Purpose under heaven."**

**Ecclesiastes 3:11**

**"A time to be healed..."**

**Please pray for:** Gloria Cron, Jim Tully

**"A time for joy..."**

**Recently Baptized:** Ava Child, Mia Christopher, Cole Gay

**"A time to mourn..."**

**Recently Deceased:** Marie Lyle, Florence Maloney, Rosemary Kelleher

**"A time for war and a time for peace..."**

**For national and world leaders and for those in the Armed Services:** Jessica DeRosa, Major Christopher Crotty, Miguel Tully, John Paul Phillips, Jennifer Smolinski, Michael Zahorniak, LT. Brendan McGovern, Captain Colin McNulty, Captain Luke Walsh, Major Raymond G. Tierney, Capt. Brian Donlon, USMC, Major Brian Ferguson, US Marines P.F.C. Martin E. Koerner Jr. Major Mark Wimmer, 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. Nolan Dunn, Taylor Mosera, 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. **Amen.**



**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm**

Michael Wada, St. E's new music director, with the Festival Chorale, Spirit Group, Children's and Youth Choirs will present their annual Christmas Concert Sunday afternoon, December 16, at 4pm in the church. Join us as they perform traditional and current favorites of the season. There will be no charge however a **Free Will Offering** would be gratefully appreciated.

**LITTLE BLUE BOOKS FOR ADVENT**

Six minutes a day, that's all it takes to have a meaningful advent reflection. One of our oldest traditions of prayer called "Lectio Divina" sacred reading. Blue books take a short Scripture passage and simply let God speak to us through the words, guiding us to reflections that sometimes seem to come from nowhere.

**ATTENTION ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

It's time to sign up for your Christmas Mass. If you use the online scheduler, please go to the site and sign up now! If you do not have internet access, call Lisa Tota at the Parish Center at 201-891-1122 ext. 200, and she will enter your Christmas Mass choices. Thanks for all you do!

**BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

The St. Elizabeth Respect Life Ministry will have Christmas items available for purchase at the Parish Center during normal office hours. High quality at reasonable prices. All proceeds benefit the ministries, pro-life work. Jewelry, medal advent candles, crosses, ornaments, nativities and much more!



**2012 ADVENT GIVING TREE**  
**Sharing Tradition Continues...**  
**Gifts Needed By Sunday, December 16**

There is still an opportunity to support the Advent Giving Tree Ministry at St. Elizabeth's. Please help us continue to bring Christmas joy to the many families in need this year by taking a name from the Christmas tree in the Narthex and purchasing a gift for that person. The gifts must be returned NEW, WRAPPED, and WITH THE TAG taped to the OUTSIDE to the Narthex no later than 12 NOON on Sunday, December 16. Gifts are then picked up and delivered to the various organizations on Monday, December 17. If anyone would like to help sort gifts on Saturday or Sunday December 15/16, from noon to 4pm, please call Beth Rea at 201-848-0056, email [reafive@verizon.net](mailto:reafive@verizon.net) or Laurie Kocher at 201-670-8038. Thank you for your generosity.



**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Please join the St. Elizabeth School Family in the lower gym for **Breakfast with Santa**, on December 15. Two seating's available: 8:30am and 11:00am. Tickets are \$8.00 per person with a \$30.00 maximum per family. Seating is limited so call today for tickets! Contact Jenny Wells at [jenwells212@yahoo.com](mailto:jenwells212@yahoo.com) to reserve your spot.



**CHRISTMAS WAFERS "Oplatki"**

The Christmas Wafer commemorates a custom long used in family celebrations. A brief prayer begins the festivities of sharing the blessed Christmas wafer. By breaking and sharing this wafer with family and friends, we share the harmony and joy that bring peace and happiness to our hearts and home at this special time of year. If you would like to continue or to begin this sacred tradition, wafers can be purchased at the Parish Office. Donation: \$2.00.

**Elvis**

**One Night with You**

**Deacon Anthony Liguori as Elvis**

**Sat., Jan 12, at 7:30 pm \$25 per person BYOB!**

**Tickets**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to reserve** \_\_\_\_\_

**Seat/Seats at \$25 per person.**

Make checks payable to St. Elizabeth's Church.

Checks maybe dropped off at the Parish Center.

Or mailed to "Elvis" C/O Parish Office St. Elizabeth's Church,  
700 Wyckoff Ave., Wyckoff, NJ 07481



We want to thank our Parish Life Committee for so many years of dedicated service. Providing hospitality on Sunday's and at special events the women and men of Parish Life have made us feel welcome and strengthened the bonds of our community life. The Committee will no longer be functioning as in the past. Hopefully we will as a parish continue to meet our needs and provide service to others with care and creativity. The Parish Life Committee deserves our special thanks and profound gratitude.

- Joan Andriani
- Nancy Cannon
- Elaine Canto
- Betty Girli
- Barbara Janiaga
- Pat & Al Jensi
- Doris Noerr
- Robert Ringley
- Jim Townley

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR CORNERSTONE 2013**

**Women's Cornerstone**

**Men's Cornerstone**

**February 1-2, 2013**

**March 1-2, 2013**



In an age of cell phones, e-mail, iPods and Xboxes, we find ourselves disconnected from what is really important in life. Cornerstone is an opportunity to slow down and provide you with the gift of some quiet reflective time that will renew your life and faith. It is an opportunity to meet others within the community with similar needs, struggles, and aspirations. Your 24 hour journey will be made up of prepared short talks, small group discussions, and personal prayer/reflection. There is also time to socialize and get to know other people from the parish. It is a very relaxed and informal experience.

Come and experience Cornerstone XX yourself..... You will find out why men and women have been joining for 20 years!

For more information call:

- Jeannine Mosco 201-891-8559
- Laura Giovacco 917-589-0795
- Craig Urciuoli 212-906-1141
- Mark Sullivan 201-580-1897



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*A voice of one crying out in the desert:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight  
his paths." - Lk 3:4*

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6  
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14  
Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38  
or 1:39-47  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

**OTHER PRAYER EXPERIENCES**

**Miraculous Medal Novena** – Thurs. after 9 am Mass  
**Novena to the Divine Mercy** – Fri. after 9 am Mass  
**Men's Sharing** – Elizabeth Rm. Sat. 7 am  
**Morning Prayer** – Mon.-Sat. 8:40 am  
**Rosary** - Each day after 7:00 & 9:00 am Mass

**SUPPORT FOR OUR PASTORAL ACTIVITIES**



*"And this is my prayer; that your love may increase ever  
more and more in knowledge and every kind of  
perception, to discern what is of value..."Philippians  
1:9-10)*

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God.

The gift of treasure for last week was \$29,093 (of which \$3,975 was from online giving). Year to date collections amounted to \$506,136 vs. our year to date budget of 557,405.



**Altar Bread & Wine:** In Memory of Stephen Yagos,  
Given by: Marta Yagos.

**Candles on the Altar:** In Memory of Neil Van Der Horn,  
Given by: Nancy Cannon.

**Sanctuary Lights:** In Memory of Mae & Dominick DeVincentis,  
Given by: Charles & Marianne Franchavilla.

**Flowers in the Sanctuary:** In Memory of  
Concetta & Carmelo Rizzo, given by: the Rizzo Family.



**Second Sunday of Advent**

Sat.	Dec. 8	5:00 PM	John L. Doyle
Sun.	Dec. 9	7:30 AM	People of the Parish
		9:00 AM	Matthew Rahelich, Ann & William Hopf
		10:30 AM	Anthony Giamanco
		12:00 PM	Robert McGarvie
Mon.	Dec. 10	7:00 AM	Rudi Draudin, Rudi Draudin
		9:00 AM	Margaret & Harold Bell, Bonnie Bell Gerli
		5:30 PM	<b>Holy Hour</b>
Tue.	Dec. 11	<b>St. Damasus</b>	
		7:00 AM	Peter Mariano
		9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Members Of the D'Ura & Gringeri Fam.

Wed.	Dec. 12	<b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b>	
		7:00 AM	Margaret O'Rourke
		9:00 AM	Teresa & Frank Anello
Thu.	Dec. 13	7:00 AM	Rosemary Duggan
		9:00 AM	Louise & Sal Capalbo, Concetta & Carmelo Rizzo

Fri.	Dec. 14	<b>St. John of the Cross</b>	
		7:00 AM	Edwin Whiteley
		9:00 AM	Stephen Yagos

Sat.	Dec. 15	9:00 AM	Memorial Mass
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**Third Sunday in Advent**

		5:00 PM	Kimberly & Christopher Huber
Sun.	Dec. 16	7:30 AM	Dorothy Bermudes
		9:00 AM	People of the Parish
		10:30 AM	Narciso Morson
		12:00 PM	Josephine Novack

**PARISH CENTER HOLIDAY HOURS**

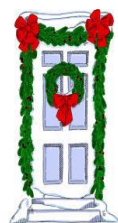
**Friday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, the office  
will be closed from  
1-4pm, Staff Christmas Party**

**Monday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 9-12 noon**

**Tuesday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> Closed**

**Monday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 9-12 noon**

**Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> Closed**



Parish Center  
Office Hours

**END OF BULLETIN**  
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