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### THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 4, 2022

#### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3**

The Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday of Advent 4:00PM Souls in Purgatory

#### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4**

The Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Robert Johnson—Birthday Remembrance

9:00AM Peter & Gloria Monti—Memorial

10:30AM Margery Rusnak—Memorial

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Advent Weekday

7:30AM Salvatore DiStefano—32nd Anniversary

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6**

Advent Weekday; St. Nicholas, Bishop

7:30AM Everett Martin—21st Anniversary

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
7:30AM Beatrice Alfano—Memorial

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM 5:00PM Carol & Andrew McCauley—Memorial

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM
7:30AM Dec'd of Gallogly & McGarry Families—Memorial
9:00AM Deceased Alumni & Faculty of OLM School
7:00PM Mary Arrow—Memorial

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Advent Weekday; St. Juan Diego Cuauthlatoatzin 7:30AM Thomas Chisholm—Birthday Remembrance

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10**

Advent Weekday

8:30AM Margaret B. Devlin—47th Anniversary
The Mass of Anticipation for 3rd Sunday of Advent
4:00PM Kate Bedard—13th Anniversary

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11**

Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Theresa Pearson—15th Anniversary

9:00AM John Furtado, Sr. & Susan Furtado—Memorial

10:30AM Irene Sullivan—1st Anniversary

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy



## Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

The Wednesday before Thanksgiving, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, named the Most Reverend Richard G. Henning, the Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, as the Co-Adjutor Bishop of Providence. The difference between a coadjutor bishop and an auxiliary bishop is the coadjutor bishop enjoys the right to assume leadership of the diocese when the current Bishop resigns his office to retire.

So Bishop Henning is to become the Bishop of Providence when he succeeds Bishop Tobin. Bishop Tobin will turn 75 years old on April 1, 2023, and must send a letter of resignation to the Pope. When Pope Francis accepts the letter is not yet known. Bishop Henning has a stellar reputation among the priests and people of the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

He is known to be a very kind and pastoral priest and Bishop, as well as very hardworking and highly intelligent. Bishop Henning holds a Doctorate in Theology and speaks fluent Spanish and Italian.

In his priestly ministry, he has served as a parish priest, a seminary professor, and a rector and worked extensively with Hispanic immigrants in Long Island. The Bishop will be received into formally the Diocese of Providence on January 26, 2023, at a Mass of Reception at the Cathedral of Peter and Paul Saints Providence. Please pray for him as he prepares to begin his ministry among us.

On the same day, the Holy Father, Pope Francis,

accepted Bishop Evans' letter of resignation, which he sent on his 75th Birthday on September 3, 2022. We thank Bishop Evans for his 49 years of priestly ministry and 13 years as our Auxiliary Bishop. We pray for his health and happiness during his well-deserved retirement. Ad multos annos!

Also, I hope you noticed the new statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus has been placed in Mercy Park. We are very grateful to the Ponte Family, who generously donated the beautiful statue. It was hand by well-known carved a Mexican sculptor of Catholic statuary. The beautiful statue stands over 5 feet tall and weighs nearly 900 pounds. The stand the statue rests upon weighs almost 400 pounds and is 3 feet tall.

We are grateful to the former OLM Altar Server, now a Landscape Architect, Aleksus Jagminas, and his partner, Robbie Paulsen, of R.K. Industries for their work placing the statue in Mercy Park.

We celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary this Thursday. It is a holy day of obligation. There is a Mass on Wednesday at 5:00pm and also Masses on the holy day at 7:30am, 9:00am, and 7:00pm. Plenty of opportunity to get to Mass for the holy day.

Through the centuries, the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854:

"The most Blessed Virgin

Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin."

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception places Our Lady before us as an example of what God can do and what we can do if, like Mary, we put ourselves in God's hands and at God's service, always open to what God asks and always seeking to fulfill God's will.

The dogma also encourages us to do our best to remain free from sin. Although we are all born with original sin and, through the grace of Baptism, are freed from sin, in the course of our life, because of human weakness, we fail and sin. The feast of the Immaculate Conception reminds us that if we cooperate with God's grace, as did the Blessed Virgin Mary, we can lead a life as free from sin as is humanly possible.

I hope your Advent days are prayerful as we continue to prepare for the coming of Christ. Take some time for prayer and reflection in these busy days before Christmas. Stop by the Church and visit with our Lord. He's waiting for you! Pray and practice patience in this season of joyful anticipation. Get to Confession and receive his mercy, love, and forgiveness. It's Advent, prepare the way and make straight his paths!

Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless. Go Pats!

Father Healey



### St. Nicholas Day - December 6

On December 6, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Nicholas. While many countries have traditions surrounding the day, for the German people, this day takes the place of prominence. As an elementary school student in Germany, I remember making little paper shoes to place outside the doors of our classroom to be filled with chocolate coins and clementines. St. Nicholas day was also the starting day for the incomparable Christmas markets. Yet, with all of the celebrations and traditions, St. Nicholas was not from Germany. He was the Bishop of Myra in modern-day Turkey in the fourth century. While he is known for his gift-giving, which all started so that a father did not have to sell his daughters, St. Nicholas's role at the Council of Nicaea speaks to him being more than just a gift-giver, but indeed a true defender of the faith. At the Council, the heresy of Arianism was proclaimed by the priest Arius, stating that the Son was not equal to the Father. St. Nicholas would listen to this, stand, and then go on to defend the truth that we profess in the Nicaean Creed that the Father and the Son are equal. St. Nicholas' willingness to stand and defend the truth should never be overlooked! The traditional German breakfast on St. Nicholas Day is Pfannkuchen: German Pancakes

### **Ingredients:**

Makes one large pancake which will serve 2
4 Egg Yolks - Beaten
5 Egg Whites – Beaten Stiff
2 Tablespoons Cornstarch
¼ Cup Warm Milk
¼ Warm Water
¾ Tablespoon Sugar
Zest of 1 Orange
2 Tablespoons Butter

### **Directions:**

**Step 1**: Preheat over to 400 degrees, then combine egg yolks, milk, water, salt, sugar, and orange zest in a bowl and stir until smooth. **Step 2**: Gently fold in beaten egg whites. **Step 3**: Melt butter in a heavy 10-inch skillet. **Step 4**: When the skillet is hot, pour in ALL of the batter and cook over medium-low heat for 5 minutes, partially covered, then move the skillet to the oven for 3 more minutes. **Step 5**: Serve immediately topped with powdered sugar and a squeeze of orange juice!



### November 20, 2022

Weekly	\$9,171.00			
	Total=\$14,940.00			
Outreach	\$1,512.00			
CCHD	\$2,599.00			
November 21, 2021				
Weekly	\$15,898.00			
November 27, 2022				
Weekly				
EFT	<u>\$6,545.00</u>			
1	otal=\$17,489.00			
Outreach	\$1,593.00			
Annual Collection (To Date)	\$105,995.00			
November 28, 2021				
Weekly	\$10,944.00			

### Thank You for Your Generous Support!



### **Second Collections**

This Week: Building & Grounds Next Week: Retired Religious Fund

Leave a Legacy of Faith for the next Generation! Remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.





### **RE Schedule**

<u>December 4</u>: 5:00pm Mass & Class for Grade 8 Confirmation 2023 to follow in the OLM School Gym

<u>December 11:</u> 9:00am Mass & Class for Grade 1 & 2 to follow in in the OLM School Gym

<u>December 11</u>: Advent Penance Service 6:00PM for Grades 3 thru 8. Parents should attend.

<u>December 18</u>: 9:00am Mass & Class for Grades 3 & 4; 5:00pm Mass Class for Grades 5-7



- <u>OLM Food Pantry</u> is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated items in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. All food items should be unexpired and non-perishable. We also are in need of paper goods (paper towels, napkins). Thank you for your support.
- OLM Holiday Outreach: We are always in need of gift cards to Stop & Shop and Walmart during the holiday season. Please drop in the collection basket or the safe in the vestibule in envelop marked OLM Holiday Outreach.
- OLM Bereavement Group: Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 4:00PM in Mercy House. All those who are grieving are invited to join with us. For more information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



### Striving to Be Saints & Scholars!

### **Upcoming Events:**

- <u>• Tuesday, December 6</u>: Celebration of Saint Nicholas Day!
- Thursday, December 8: Holy Day School Mass at 9:00AM
- Monday, December 12: Advent School
   Confessions at 12:45pm

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### Middle School Youth Ministry

Friday, December 9th. 6:30pm-9:00pm
Adoration and Christmas Party!

Starting with a time of prayer and Adoration in the Church.

Yankee Swap and Christmas Party to follow in OLM School Gym.

\*\*In this season of giving please bring a package of new socks which will be donated to Emmanuel House for those in need.\*\*

Ugly Christmas Sweaters Optional......But Encouraged
Yankee Swap gift limit: \$25.00

Please, no gift cards!

### **Marculate Conception**

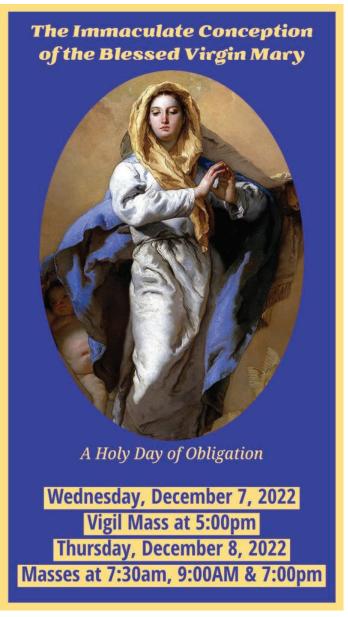
"THE IMMACULATE Conception" is a title for Mary, the mother of Jesus. The expression means that Mary was conceived without sin. The conviction that Jesus was born of a virgin is a distinct belief, even though many Catholics erroneously think that the Immaculate Conception refers to Jesus.

Contributing to the confusion is the celebration of the Immaculate Conception during the season of Advent. While the faithful are preparing to honor the birth of Jesus, we commemorate the conception of Mary. The choice of December 8 for the Immaculate Conception does not directly relate to Advent; it corresponds more to the traditional date for the Feast of the Birth of Mary, September 8, which coincides with the dedication of a Jerusalem church in honor of the mother of Mary. The feast for the conception of Mary is backed up from that day nine months. In a similar way, we celebrate the Annunciation on March 25, nine months before the birth of Jesus.

Belief in the Immaculate Conception asserts that God preserved Mary from all sin from the moment of her conception, thus preparing a pure vessel for the Incarnation of the Son. This belief is not expressly contained in the Scriptures, but it enjoys a wide-spread following in the Church's tradition. Although the Immaculate Conception of Mary has been affirmed since the earliest centuries of Christianity, it was not formally proclaimed a dogma of the Church until 1854. December 8 is now a holyday of obligation in the United States, which is placed under Mary's patronage with this title.

When Mary is depicted as the Immaculate Conception, she is often shown wearing a crown of stars as the woman in Revelation 12 and standing on a snake, reversing the temptation of Eve. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the exalted Queen of Heaven who manifests God's power over sin.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner.





In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed, most especially **Richard Belanger**, **Joseph Mulcahy** and **Gina Ponte** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated last week. Residential Commercial
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