

Gratitude



First Sunday of Advent

The first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year, Advent being a time devoted to prepare our hearts for Jesus' arrival. As a door to usher us into this new liturgical season all American families celebrate the feast of "Thanksgiving." Why do we give thanks? To Whom do we give thanks?

For us Catholics, those questions have an easy answer. We give thanks to God for all his blessings and gifts. And this attitude of gratitude stirs in us the desire to respond with renewed love and devotion. In his "Contemplation To Attain Love," St. Ignatius invites us to "bring to memory the benefits received, of Creation, Redemption and particular gifts, pondering with much feeling how much God our Lord has done for me, and how much He has given me."

If we make this journey through God's gifts we will feel the need to go to prayer to adore the Lord and give him thanks. In doing so we would join the Magi who were looking for Jesus to adore him (Mt 2:1). Advent is a very good time to go to the Adoration Chapel and learn to recognize Jesus' presence and to adore him.

For our prayer in Advent and as an exercise of gratitude I would like to ask you to consider a very special blessing the Lord has given our parish and families: the priests. Could you imagine your life without the priests? What would happen with your family album if you remove those pictures with a priest? To whom should you have gone for advice, consolation, a prayer or a blessing?

Priests are a great blessing in our lives and I, being your pastor, am the first one giving thanks to God for those priests who have marked and continue to inspire my life. I feel overwhelmed by this gift that was entrusted to me and I hold this treasure in an earthen vessel (2 Cor 4:7).

Thus I would like to invite you during this Jubilee of Mercy year to give thanks for the priests, to pray for them and in a special way to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. For this purpose the bulletin will have a blurb about vocations and an intention for your prayer. Let us pray as one family to the Master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest (Lk 10:2). And may the Lord bless our parish family with many vocations, because this is the most precious of His blessings.

Vocation Intention for the Week That all those now discerning their vocations will be alert and responsive to the invitation of Christ. "Strengthen your hearts in holiness." Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? Contact Fr. Juan (703) 354 8711, general@queenofapostles.org or Fr. Jaffe (703) 841 2514, j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week:

First Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16 1 Thes 3:12-4:2 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36(3)



First Sunday of Advent Masses this Week

Monday, November 30: St. Andrew, Apostle

6:30 a.m. +Terrence Nielson
9:00 a.m. +Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Thach, Sr.

Tuesday, December 1: Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. (L) Mark and Marsha Bush
9:00 a.m. (L) John Beach

Wednesday, December 2: Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. +Raul Monillas
9:00 a.m. (L) John Beach

Thursday, December 3: St. Francis Xavier, Priest

6:30 a.m. (L) William Benson
9:00 a.m. +George and Margaret Fonge

Friday, December 4: Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. +Mickey Barlow
9:00 a.m. (L) John Ault

Saturday, December 5: Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Mr. and Mrs. John J. McAuliffe and Family
5:00 p.m. +Nannette A. O'Neal
7:00 p.m. +Teresita Aguilar

Sunday, December 6: Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. +Else Ryan
9:00 a.m. (L) Katherine Barnoski
10:30 a.m. Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 p.m. +Betty Armstrong



Prayer and the Family

Talk by Fr. Paul Scalia
*Episcopal Vicar for Clergy
for the Diocese of Arlington*

Friday, Dec. 4
7 to 8 p.m.

*Drinks and light food
at 6:30 p.m.*

Please RSVP to
general@queenofapostles.org

Please pray for the members of our parish who are

ill Mark Bush, Silvia Serban, Joseph Covas, Glenda Delosier, Luta "Cornie" McGrath, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Barbara Mazur, Irma Mori, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Bridgetta Jenkins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Teresa Subalusky, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith, Andres Encinas Fernandez, Sabrina Fernandez Numbella, Lula Tesfu, Monte Moyer, Joseph Luong Bui, Jeanie Miller, Carol D. Otani, Jean Seitz, Noah Mabaya, Robert McMurre, Anne Jenkins.

This Week in Our Parish

Sun., November 29: "Coats for Kids" KofC Pancake Sunday
No Religious Education

Hannan Hall 2-8p.m. Ghana Group

Mon., November 30:

Parish Office 7-8p.m. RCIA

Tues., December 1:

Hannan Hall 10-11:30a.m. Bible Study

Choir Room 7:30-9:30p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Wed., December 2:

Hannan Hall 7-9p.m. Ghana Prayer Group

Parish Office 7:30-8:30p.m. Baptism Class in English

Thurs., December 3:

Hannan Hall 6:30-7:45p.m. High School Bible Study

Parish Office 6:30-8p.m. Legion of Mary

Church 7:30-8:30p.m. Holy Hour

Fri., December 4:

Hannan Hall 3:30-5:30p.m. Nazareth Group

Parish Office 6:30-8p.m. Legion of Mary

Cupertino Room 7-9p.m. Hispanic Legion of Mary

Sat., December 5:

School 4-6:30p.m. Spanish Prayer Group

Hannan Hall 7-9p.m. Ghana Choir

Sun., December 6: Sunday Social

School 9-10:15 Religious Education

Hannan Hall 2-5:30p.m. Ghana Group

"Coats for Kids" Pancake Sunday

TODAY—Nov. 29 Our Knights of Columbus Pope John Paul II Council 4522 is helping to bring warmth to children in need this winter season. This Sunday, proceeds from our Pancake Breakfast will benefit Coats for Kids, a charity supported by the Knights of Columbus, which will distribute 96 winter coats to local children, including from our parish. The breakfast menu will include fruit and sausage, along with coffee, hot chocolate, juice, milk and tea. We are asking for a \$10 donation per adult, \$8 per senior, and \$8 per child to support the charitable efforts of Coats for Kids.



Simbang Gabi—Dec. 16—Dec. 18

Queen of Apostles will host 3 nights of *Simbang Gabi* (pronounced seem-bang gab-bee), a 9-day novena Mass to the Blessed Mother which begins on Dec. 15 and ends on Dec. 23. All are invited to attend! Light refreshments will follow in Hannan Hall after each Mass. We are seeking in-kind and food donations, as well as volunteers. Please contact Nenita de Guzman of the Parish Office at n.deguzman@queenofapostles.org or Cheryl Madlansacay (703) 333-2809.



QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FAITH, EXCELLENCE, JOY

Queen of Apostles School Now Enrolling for the 2016-2017 School Year Registration has begun for the next school year. The kindergarten class is expected to fill up quickly, so don't delay registering your child. Application packets are available at the school and on the school's website (www.queenofapostlesschool.org). Tours are given daily from 8:30a.m. to 2p.m. or upon request. You can arrange a tour through the school's website or by calling (703) 354-0714.

School Book Fair Queen of Apostles School would like to invite all parishioners to our Book Fair! Both fiction and non-fiction books and games are available for all ages. This is the perfect chance to find Christmas presents for everyone. The Book Fair will be held on Tuesday, **Dec. 8**, from 1-3:30p.m., on **Dec. 9 & 10** from 9a.m.-3:30p.m., and on Friday, **Dec. 11**, from 8:15a.m.-12:00p.m. Thank you for supporting our school library!

ACCA 1st Sunday Food Collection—Dec. 6 Please remember the needy in our area and donate non-perishable food items such as small bags of beans and rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce, canned tuna, and meats. Donations may be left in the vestibule at all Sunday Masses. Thank you for your generosity.

Attention RE Confirmation Students

RE students in 8th grade and higher who desire and are preparing for Confirmation, please remember your patron saint report is due **Dec. 6**. Choose a Saint whose life inspires you to strive for holiness and live the Christian life. Develop a spiritual relationship with your Saint so you can ask him or her to pray for you. Also, attendance and participation at the **Dec. 12** (8:30a.m.-3:30p.m.) Confirmation Retreat at QofA is required.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Angel Tree 2015—Volunteers Needed

Be an angel and help a child in need! For the fourteenth year, we will have Angel Trees set up in the back of the Church to provide Christmas gifts to children in need. Gifts (including gift cards) can be brought to the Parish Office during the week and are due by 1p.m. Sunday, **Dec. 13**. We will need angel volunteers to help move gifts to the Parish Office after the 12noon Masses on **Dec. 6** and **Dec. 13**. Contact Frieda Cocozza: (703) 399-9946 or email f.cocozza@queenofapostlesschool.org.



Open Gym Night—Friday, Dec. 4

The next Open Gym Night for high school and college students will be Friday, **Dec. 4** from 6-8p.m. in the school gym. All levels of ability welcome! Invite your friends! Contact Charlie at Charles.Kasenge@gmail.com for more information.



And Mercy Became Flesh... O Come, Let Us Adore Him

On Sunday, Dec. 13, we will again be inviting parishioners to become active participants in Eucharistic Adoration. The beginning of the Year of Mercy is an opportune time to make this commitment... to pray for God's mercy on us and on the whole world.



Thank you for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend, the collection will go towards **Project Rachel**, a Diocesan post-abortion healing program and the other half go to the **Knights of Columbus**. Next weekend, the collection will go towards **Parish Charitable Needs**.