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REV. RAFAEL GALVEZ-PINEDA
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REV. MR. ROBERT S. PONTILLO
Deacon

MRS. FRAN BLACKGROVE
Parish Secretary

MRS. MAURA ROEM
Pastoral Associate, Child Catechesis

MRS. LORI ZUCARO
Secretary for Religious Education

MR. ALAN PITMAN
Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry

MRS. MARYANN KEEGAN
Secretary for Youth Ministry

SAINT ANDREW CHURCH

WESTWOOD, NEW JERSEY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 24, 2017



Welcome

The Saint Andrew's Roman Catholic Church mission is to spread the love of Jesus Christ through active ministry, inclusive worship and charitable works for our community and the world. We invite all who live in our area to join our parish community by calling the Parish Center or by seeing one of the priests.

PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

120 Washington Avenue
 Westwood, New Jersey 07675
parishinfo@standrewcc.com
www.standrewcc.com

Office Phone:.....201-666-1100

Office FAX: 201-722-1432

Religious Education: .201-664-6777

reledu@standrewcc.com

Youth Ministry:201-664-6777

ymin@standrewcc.com

Bulletin: bulletin@standrewcc.com

Parish Council:

parishcouncilsta@gmail.com

PARISH CENTER
OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

TUESDAY, THURSDAY

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

FRIDAY 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

SATURDAY 9:00 AM to NOON

TO REACH ONE OF OUR PRIESTS
IN AN EMERGENCY ONLY,

PLEASE CALL 201-364-6674.

COME WORSHIP WITH US

On the Lord's Day

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:15 PM

7:00 PM (Spanish Mass)

Last Sunday of Each Month 4:30 PM (Filipino Mass)

Daily

Monday - Saturday 9:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 PM

Sunday 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

Devotions

Eucharistic Adoration Thursdays 9:30 AM—3:00 PM (Chapel)

Rosary and Holy Hour Thursdays @ 7:00 PM (Chapel)

Rosary Saturdays 6:00 PM (Spanish)

Monday - Saturday 9:45 AM (Chapel)

OUR PARISH FAMILY

New parishioners may register by calling the Parish Center. Current members should notify us of changes in their status such as births, deaths, marriages, change of address, etc. Registration is required for receiving the Sacraments.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Those who are sick, homebound or in the hospital are a vital part of our parish family. Please call the Parish Center to arrange for reception of the Eucharist and Anointing of the Sick.

OUR PARISH WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

Our website has been updated and contains a link to our Facebook page.

Go to www.standrewcc.com St Andrew's Church (Facebook).

YOU CAN ALSO VIEW THE SUNDAY BULLETIN ON OUR WEBSITE.

SAINT ANDREW CHURCH, WESTWOOD

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 25 CHRISTMAS

8:00 AM Elizabeth Krone - Her Sister Dotty
 10:30 AM Ana Tumang - Fr. Alex
 12:15 PM Louis Magarelli - The Vargas Family
NO 7:00 PM MASS THIS EVENING

TUESDAY, December 26

9:00 AM John James Slattery - The Henry Family

WEDNESDAY, December 27

9:00 AM Domanic Gabaccia - Denise Salto

THURSDAY, December 28

9:00 AM Mary Pullara - The Vargar Family

FRIDAY, December 29

9:00 AM Frances Lombino - The Morrison Family

SATURDAY, December 29

9:00 AM John James Slattery - Casey & Marty Smith
 5:00 PM Robert Sauer - Sok Family

SUNDAY, December 31 - Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 AM Parish Community of St. Andrew's
 10:30 AM Parish Community of St. Andrew's
 12:15 PM Parish Community of St. Andrew's
 7:00 PM Parish Community of St. Andrew's

Those who have pre-arranged a Mass intention, are invited to present the gifts of bread and wine during that Mass. On the Lord's Day and Holy Days, please inform the usher.

New Year's Day Masses will be at 10:30 AM and 12:15 PM. There will not be a Vigil Mass on December 31.



“To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:11
“A time to be healed”
For those who are ill, especially: Msgr. Thomas McCarthy, Gilda Gilmartin, Barbara & Dave Stewart, Joan Shaw, Leonora Paul, Michael Bodtman, Cathy Wojcicki, Lee Ann Fernino, Bob Tropila, Deyanira Pineda, Octavio Galvez, Paul L. Clark, Helen Stipo, D.E., Kay Vanderhoof, Vincent Ficarra, Anna Meehan, Fr. Ward Moore, Diane Mariconti, Vinnie Covello, Elaine & Fred DeRobertis, Craig Carosella, Annette Pennington, Terry Rekow, Brian Fitzpatrick, Mary & Lou Pulver, McLean Ambrogio, Ed Marlow, Jean Neary, Ron & Joe Koppinger, Shannon Simester, Lombardi Family, John McLaughlin.

“A time for peace”
For those serving in the Armed Forces, especially: Alma & Michael Baffa, Dillon Heyliger and Jeffrey Gum.
“If today, you hear his voice...”

For our parishioners studying for the priesthood/diaconate: Pedro Soriano, Seminarian. Paul Zeller, Diaconate candidate.

The Parish Center will be closed through Monday, January, 1 and will reopen Tuesday, January 2.

DECEMBER CHANGE IN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION/HOLY HOUR
 Dec. 28: Adoration until 3 PM; no Holy Hour in evening

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, December 25 - PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

TUESDAY, December 26 - PARISH OFFICES CLOSED
 Basketball all day through Dec. 31. (Gym)

WEDNESDAY, December 27 - PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

THURSDAY, December 28 - PARISH OFFICES CLOSED
 Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 AM-3:00 PM (Chapel)
 Spanish Women's Group 6:00 PM (MPR)
NO ROSARY AND HOLY HOUR THIS EVENING
 Food Pantry 7:30 PM (Church Hall)

FRIDAY, December 29 - PARISH OFFICES CLOSED
 Spanish Youth Group 6:30 PM (3rd Fl. & MPR)

SATURDAY, December 30 - PARISH OFFICES CLOSED
 Men's Cursillo 8:00 AM (MPR)
 AA Meeting 10:30 AM (Church Hall)
 Reconciliation 4:00 PM (Church)
 (Carport Entrance)
 Spanish Prayer Group 6:30 PM (Church)

SUNDAY, December 31

	<p>IF LIFE PUZZLES YOU, FIND THE MISSING PEACE IN DISCOVERING CHRIST</p>
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“Discovering Christ”, a seven-week experience, beginning January 28 through March 18 with a Saturday retreat on March 3. The Sunday sessions will be held from 4:00-6:30 PM each week at St. Andrew's Parish Center, 120 Washington Ave. in Westwood. Each session consists of a simple Sunday dinner, an inspirational talk by dynamic guest speakers, small group discussion and dessert. Registration deadline is January 8. For more information, call the parish center at 201-666-1100 or visit www.standrewcc.com.



MEMORIALS DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 24

<p>CHURCH HOSTS In loving memory of LOUISE & THOMAS CRISTALDI by LAURA CRISTALDI</p>	
<p>CHAPEL HOSTS In loving memory of ELIZABETH LOGUE by PEGGY BLESSING</p>	

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pastor's Letter

Dear Parish Family,

Today, we joyfully celebrate the giving of the most precious gift we have ever received. We celebrate the gift of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us. Jesus is also the greatest present that we could give to one another. He reveals Himself to people ready to receive Him. Our God is not impressed with elegance or class, but simple, joyful hearts. To such people as these, the Father's love is revealed in the humanness of the child of Bethlehem.

There is something about the season of Christmas that is essentially human and ennobling. It is the spirit of sharing, of giving and going beyond one's self. It is universal. It belongs to all! Our fragmented society needs the healing presence of Christmas. The walls that divide us can be overcome only when we all become cheerful givers. With the Christmas season, nobody is so poor that he has nothing to share. Nobody is so rich that he is totally self-sufficient. In the context of sharing, of giving and receiving everyone wins. Politics, too, needs to be enlightened by Christmas. Government, at any level, truly celebrates Christmas by working incessantly to promote the good of all and by committing its energies and resources in response to the aspirations of the people. Ordinary citizens give meaning to Christmas by each contributing time and talent to make life joyful for others. In this Christmas season, may each one of us be blessed with the spirit of sharing, the charity to give a part of ourselves to those who need it.

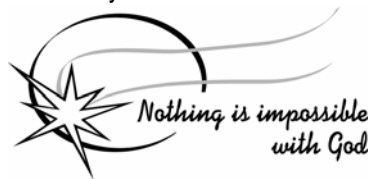
One of my favorite Christmas songs is the "Little Drummer Boy" because it has a message as old as life itself. A shepherd comes to a manger where gifts are strewn at the foot of a child who lies there. The boy realizes this child is special and wants to give him a rich gift as well. But he has nothing, only the clothes on his back on a cold night. And a drum, which I imagine must be made of sheepskin. He plays on his drum and sings... "I am a poor boy parampapampam. I have no gifts to bring parampapampam. Shall I play for you parampapampam...me and my drum!"

The best gift that you can give to Jesus this Christmas is yourself, your smile, your joy, your love...

On behalf of Fr. Rafael, Deacon Bob and the parish staff, I extend to you our prayerful best wishes for a holy and blessed Christmas.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Alex



OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES...

My husband and I were curious why our five year old son referred to Jesus as "Jesus Christmas." Finally, we asked him why he thought Jesus' last name was Christmas. He quickly replied, "Well, why wouldn't it be? His mommy's name is Mary Christmas!"

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS—SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

1ST READING: GENESIS 15:1-6; 21:1-3

2ND READING: HEBREWS 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:22-40



Let the
Lord
enter;
He is
king of
glory.

No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor...

The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need even of God —for them there will be no Christmas...



Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, only they will have that someone...

That someone is God.
Emmanuel.
God-with-us...



Without poverty of spirit there can be no abundance of God...

-- Oscar Romero --

Archbishop Romero speaks a hard word here, difficult for us to hear and understand in our first world comfort. But his words are true to season's spirit. Christmas is for those "who need someone to come on their behalf." If we think we need no one or if we don't believe the "someone" we need most is, indeed, God - then we will have no idea of what Christmas is all about... Advent is a time for waiting for the One who comes on our behalf...

Our Stewardship Commitment

COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 16-17

Envelopes: 157.....	\$ 5,923.00
Non-Envelopes	\$ 3,020.00
In-Church Total	\$ 8,943.00
General Repairs	\$ 2,040.00

**ST. ANDREW'S FOOD PANTRY
ITEMS OF THE WEEK:
PASTA & TOMATO SAUCE**



WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF: peanut butter/jelly, pasta/tomato sauce, soup, juice, cereal, pancake mix/syrup, tuna, soap, shampoo, mac & cheese, canned vegetables, toilet paper.

SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO WELCOME.

CLOTHING BIN OPEN: We ask for clean, ready-to-use shoes, clothing, towels and bed-linens **ONLY** be placed in it. **Do not leave any items outside the bin or the Church garage doors.** Due to limited space, we are **ONLY** able to accept baby & kitchen items, clothing, small toys & children's books at the garage on Mondays, 6:30-8:00 PM and Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 PM.

WANTED: Volunteers are needed on Mondays, 6:30-8:00 PM and Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 PM.

HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Englewood Hospice is now recruiting Hospice volunteers: We offer many opportunities for those interested in becoming part of our Hospice Team. Volunteers attend special training, at our Englewood office, to become a member our Hospice team.

Volunteers can work directly with patients, perform clerical and administrative duties or work with arts and crafts. We welcome all who would be giving of their time to help provide companionship to our patients.

To learn more about our training sessions, dates and times, please contact Marion McGowan, Director of Volunteers at 201-510-6426 or at mcgowan@vnahg.org.

St. John's Academy News

JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON! Wishing a blessed Christmas from the community of St. John's Academy.

May your day be filled with the joy of Christ's birth!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

**FOR THE RIDE HOME
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,9-11,16

2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Adult Question: How do you open your heart to what God wants for you? How do you follow the pathway that leads to happiness?

Child's Question: Is there something hard you need to do this week? What might make it easier?

WHAT CHILD IS THIS? (ISAIAH 9:5-6)

Did you ever notice what we do when we hold a small child? We all do it. With our eyes, we look straight into the child's face, and silently speak the wonder, awe, love that can't be put into words. We use our lips a lot when holding a baby. We pursue them, make sounds that aren't words, and we kiss the child from a distance. If ever arms expressed holding something precious, they do it when we cradle a tiny baby. Few could describe such grace, but everyone can picture it. Did you ever notice that we never stand still when holding a tiny baby? We slowly sway from side to side, turn in half circles, lean forward and back.

Did you ever stop to think that you were once held that way? Anyone who ever held you as a tiny child held you that way. Did you ever stop to think that God holds you that way? Not just when you were a tiny child, but now. Even if things aren't going well—*especially* if things aren't going well. What child is this? It's me. In God's arms.

Merry Christmas.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THIS WEEK

Please join with us in praying one **OUR FATHER** per day for gathering together with our family and friends in welcoming the birth of our dear Lord Jesus.

50 PLUS CLUB EVENTS

NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION: Stony Hill Inn, Hackensack Friday, December 29. Cost: \$64.00 per person. Reservations, please call Hilda at 201-265-5257.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE 50 PLUS CLUB will be on Wednesday, January 3 at 1:00 PM. The program will be "Getting to Know You". Members are reminded to bring in one or two items for the Food Pantry. Don't forget to pay your dues.

May the
Miracle
of Christmas
fill your
heart
with Joy.



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