

Holy Family Parish

PO Box 405 - 5 Main Street
Russell, Massachusetts 01071
413-862-4418

December 9, 2012 –Second Sunday of Advent

Growing Our Parish

Advent wreath

Paul Turner

An Advent wreath symbolizes our longing for the coming of Christ. The wreath is a circle of evergreen branches into which are set four candles. Traditionally three candles are violet and one is rose, but four violet or four white candles may also be used.

The wreath symbolizes many things. Evergreens signify God's enduring promise of redemption, evident like green branches in the midst of snow. The circle signifies our hope for the return of Christ, whose kingdom will have no end. The colors of the candles match the traditional colors of the vesture for the four Sundays of Advent. Violet garments signify our penitent hope for salvation. The rose color, which may be worn on Advent's Third Sunday, signals that the season is nearly over—joy is at hand!

The wreath's most luminous symbol is its growing light. One candle is lit on the First Sunday of Advent, two on the Second, three on the Third and all four on the Fourth. In the northern hemisphere, Advent comes at a time when the days decrease to their shortest length. As the hours of darkness increase, we light more candles on the wreath. The wreath, which symbolizes the coming of Christ, grows in intensity as the anniversary of Jesus' birth draws near.

The Advent wreath may be used at home or at church. It should be blessed on the First Sunday of Advent after the homily at Mass, at evening prayer

Saturday night, or during a prayer service including biblical readings and Advent songs. At home, the wreath could be blessed by a family member and lit during the evening meal, to remind everyone of the true meaning of this holy season.

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I'd like to thank the many businesses that advertise in our bulletin. These local companies, many owned by our parishioners, provide goods and services and employment to our neighbors and friends in the Hilltowns. Please—take a moment to thank them for their support of our parish bulletin when you do business with them.

John Patrick Publishing Company has assigned a new sales representative to our parish. If you have a business and would like more information on placing your advertisement in our bulletin, please call Sara Furrey at 508-887-6614, or leave your name at the Parish Office and we'll forward your interest to her. Parishioners get a discounted rate when placing an advertisement in the bulletin, and a portion of the cost of the ad comes back to Holy Family at the end of the year to help finance the parish's many endeavors.

Fr Ron

**Mass Schedule
December 8 - 16, 2012**

Saturday, December 8 Vigil

5:00 p.m. Holy Family Parish's Religious Education
Teachers, Aides, and Students

Sunday, December 9 Second Sunday of Advent

8:15 a.m. Ralph and Jane Lucardi † requested by the
Lucardi Family

9:15 a.m. Religious Education at Littleville

11:15 a.m. The Doyle Family † requested by Elaine
Young

Monday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Military Personnel

Tuesday, December 11 St Damasus I

8:00 a.m. The Unemployed

7:00 p.m. Finance Council Meeting

Wednesday December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 a.m. Those who work in the medical field

Thursday, December 13 St Lucy

8:00 a.m. Communion Prayer Service

Friday, December 14 St John of the Cross

8:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, December 15

5:00 p.m. Victims of Religious Persecution

Sunday, December 16 Third Sunday of Advent

8:15 a.m. Roland Collins † requested by Barbara Leja

9:30 a.m. Religious Education at Littleville

11:15 a.m. William and Eleanor Mandeville †
requested by Elaine Young

12:15 p.m. Baptism – Ana Marie Holmes

Second Collections

December 8/9 – Retirement Fund for Religious
December 15/16 – Maintenance and Improvements

Donations for Christmas Flowers may be dropped
into any collection basket; please use the envelope
provided in your support packet.

Pastor: Fr. Ron F. Sadlowski
(413-862-4418)

Deacon David Baillargeon
(413-667-3147 or cell phone: 413-207-1301)

Religious Education:
Jo-Anne Auclair, Director ~ 413-848-2029
Kellye Dowd, Assistant ~ 413 485-8889

Cemetery Superintendent:
Phil Gusek ~ 413-862-3350

Administrative Assistant: Susan Morawski

Office Hours:
Monday-Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Email: holyfamily.parish@aol.com
Phone/FAX: 413-862-4418

Baptisms & Marriages:
Please call the office at 862-4418 to schedule.

To request a Mass Intention,
call the office at 862-4418

NEW PARISHIONERS—Welcome!
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE
TO REGISTER

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5 p.m.

Sunday Masses:
8:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Daily Mass (Mon, Tues, Wed): 8 a.m.

Communion Prayer Service
(Thurs): 8 a.m.

Confessions (In Children's Room):
Saturday 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.
Sunday 7:30-8:00am

Religious Education:
Sunday, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
Littleville School, Huntington

December 8 to 16, 2012

WINTER STORM POLICY

When Gateway Regional School System has a 2-hour delay or cancels classes, there will be NO 8 a.m. daily Mass or Communion Prayer Service.

Date	Mass	Lectors	Ushers
Dec 8	5:00 p.m.	Diane DeMoss	Gil Gagnon
Dec 9	8:15 a.m.	Barbara Leja	Del Lavature Mel Scuderi
	11:15 a.m.	Mike Crochiere	
Dec 15	5:00 p.m.	Ellen & Jesse Vidal	Bill Hardie
Dec 16	8:15 a.m.	Chris Lindberg	Dick Allard Steve Morawski
	11:15 a.m.	Richard Stockmal	Dave Norton

Huntington Food Pantry ~

Monetary donations may be mailed directly to Huntington Food Pantry, PO Box 477, Huntington, MA 01050-0477. Donations of breakfast cereal, canned meats, box meals (hamburger helper, mac and cheese, etc), and spaghetti sauce may be placed in the blue bin at the entrance of Church.



Parish Prayer Line – Please call Fr Ron at 862-4418 with your request. If you or a family member will be hospitalized, admitted to a nursing home or rehabilitation facility and would like a Pastoral Visit, please call Fr Ron.

The Finance Council is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, December 11 at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

20/20 Club Winners: #41, Sue Donnelly and #37, Jackie Conklin. Congratulations!

Prayer for the week

Lord, help us to put a new joy in our living.

“Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven.” –Luke 6:23



Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday, December 24

Vigil of Christmas Mass at 5 p.m.

Tuesday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord

Masses at 8:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

New Year’s Mass Schedule

Monday, December 31 – Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Mass at 5 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1, 2013 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Mass at 10 a.m.

Note:

No 8 a.m. Mass on December 24 or December 31.

20/20 Update – Last year we started the 20/20 Club to build community and raise revenue for the Parish. We experienced an extremely successful first year and are currently awarding prizes for the Fall session. Many people have asked about joining the club but are not sure how it works. As we still have 4 available spots on one of the teams, I would like to share the details again.

The Club consists of two 20-week sessions. Tickets are purchased from a captain for \$20 each session. Every member is assigned a number. Each week a number is drawn and a \$20 prize is awarded. The first session runs from Sept. to Dec. and the second session runs from Jan. to May. At the end of the two sessions, we hold a June Dinner Dance where three Grand Prizes of \$500, \$250, and \$100 are awarded. Your participation in the Club entitles you to 40 weekly drawings as well as admission to the Dinner Dance and eligibility to win one of the three Grand Prizes. You do not have to be a parishioner to participate.

Winning numbers are published in the weekly bulletin. Since our target number is 200 members, your chance of winning is much better than winning the Lottery and you will be helping the Parish.

If you are not on a team and would like to join, contact Sandie Mann at 862-3327 or email me at kitmann103@hotmail.com

2013 Catholic Calendars are available at the entrance of the church as a gift from your Parish. One per family please!

Also available for parishioners are the **Christmas wafers (Oplatki)** to be shared with your family and friends during the Christmas meal. A suggested donation of \$1 may be dropped in the basket next to the wafers.