

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 28, 2021



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Ally Wade, the Tracey Family
and Wilma O'Rourke

10 a.m.: Albert & Elizabeth Kern, Luka Vulaj,
Mike Faso and Aaron Stinson

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*"Advent increases our hope,
a hope which does not disappoint.
The Lord never lets us down."*

-Pope Francis

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathy to Gail VanTassel upon the death of her brother, Stanley Lewis. Please keep the Lewis family in your prayers.

BREAKING BREAD

The first Sunday of Advent signals the start of a new liturgical year, which signals the need for new corresponding missalettes in the pews. And you've probably already noted something different.

For your convenience, "Breaking Bread" offers the entire year's readings - plus hymns - in one book, which balances nicely in the hand thanks to the cover. And the cover should help ensure that they last through the end of 2022.

If you need a copy for your ministry, contact the office, but please don't remove them from the church.

TREASURER'S REPORT

November 14-21: Totaled \$ 6,263.87

Envelopes: \$ 3,364.00 – Online: \$ 2,899.87

THANK YOU!

BE AN ANGEL; HELP AN 'ANGEL'

If you are able to brighten Christmas morning for one of the more than 40 "angels" still remaining on our virtual **Giving Tree**, please reach out to either Therese Quinn (313-0256; eat@frontiernet.net) or Mary McCabe (914-420-0842; mmmk94@frontiernet.net). They will provide all the information necessary for successful shopping.

Wrapped gifts identified with the angel number must be returned no later than **December 12**. There will be a cart in the vestibule to Deacon John Hall, so you don't even have to come inside.

Any angel tags that are not claimed will sadly have to be returned to St. Simon Stock - without any presents for those children.



CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE



Sisters Hill Farm in near Stanfordville is a ministry of the Sisters of Charity of New York. As with other farms with congregational ties in the Hudson River Valley, including Harmony Farm in Goshen, it is a community supported agriculture (CSA) farm. Not only is it not-for-profit and provides produce to members, and charities such as food banks, it is among the farms that have put sisters' environmental ethics into practice.

The emphasis at Sisters Hill Farm (and all sisters' farms) is a "balance - a naturally healthy environment, a natural functioning resilient ecosystem" in which pesticides are not used, and different crops are grown side by side, said David Hambleton, farm director and Orange County native.

"It's a spiritual thing," says Sr. Mary Ann Garisto, the farm's former director.

To read the full story, visit:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/earthbeat/environment/news/rooted-values-sisters-farms-grow-connections-neighbors-earth-and?utm_source=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_campaign=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_medium=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_term=PANTHEON_STRIPPED_!!CKtKgcab!xdKJnIEX1Nj6zqV3mUef7ntaxwpdJVyi8CR_IlsGWBppqGmG9sVGXcq5erPQ9E\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/earthbeat/environment/news/rooted-values-sisters-farms-grow-connections-neighbors-earth-and?utm_source=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_campaign=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_medium=PANTHEON_STRIPPED&utm_term=PANTHEON_STRIPPED_!!CKtKgcab!xdKJnIEX1Nj6zqV3mUef7ntaxwpdJVyi8CR_IlsGWBppqGmG9sVGXcq5erPQ9E$)

IN THE LOOP



Wednesday, December 8, is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** and a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at St. Paul's at 9 a.m. There will be no vigil Mass.



To honor the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Tony Bellizzi, a Catholic evangelist, will present **"Full of Grace: The Second Greatest Story (N)ever Told"** at 6 p.m. **Wednesday, December 8**, at the Church of the Infant Saviour in Pine Bush. His presentation will cover Marian apparitions worldwide. If you know that you will attend, please call Infant Saviour at 744-9944; however, walk-ins will be welcomed.



Parishioners are invited to remember deceased loved ones with a donation toward the Christmas flowers and church decorations. Please submit the names by **December 15**. There are envelopes in the church vestibules, and the usual donation is \$10 per name. If you use WeShare, kindly submit the names separately to the office via email or note in the collection box so that they can appear in the booklet.



Here's an early gift for envelope users (and the office!): You will never again read a bulletin blurb pleading with you to pick up your envelopes!! Your envelopes will now be mailed to you every two months directly from Our Sunday Visitor. Not only is this more convenient for *everyone* involved, but it's actually more cost efficient



If you ordered a festively-decorated wreath to benefit the American Heart Association, it will be available in the parking lot after Mass on either Saturday or Sunday.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



Heritage Feed & Supply

Largest Selection of Natural Pet Foods in Bullville!!

Pet Food & Supplies:
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We fill BBQ Tanks! • Mon.-Fri. 8-6; Sat. 9-5
845-361-4081 • Corner of Bullville Rd. & 17K
Dominick Zigrossi - Owner/Parishioner

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE



"The Power of Gratitude," a power-point presentation prepared by Deb Harrison, opened the pre-Thanksgiving virtual gathering. While turkeys play a role this time of year, she and Chris Worthington wanted to serve up more than a meat-and-potatoes illustration. The real gravy is in appreciating all for which there is to be thankful, followed by action that honors that appreciation.

One of the slides, for example, discussed choice. Complaining is a choice. So is choosing to be grateful instead for what is right - even in the midst of challenges. A student might not be a fan of school but can still be grateful for friendships, lunch period - and that occasional nugget of information he or she might not have learned if not for school. One participant coincidentally shared that he just became aware of the many people without access to clean water - when all he has to do is turn a knob.

The participants were grateful for their families, food in the fridge, their homes - and the break from school because of holidays. Once focus shifts from negativity to counting all the many blessings, it is easier to spread the light of Christ with acts kindness. Simple gestures - helping a friend, giving up a seat or smiling - make a difference. That's the power of gratitude.

Some of the Scriptures that were then shared:

2 Samuel 22:20 - He brought me out into a broad place; He rescued me, because He delighted in me.

Genesis 1:3-4 - And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness.

2 Chronicles 15:7 - But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

PASS THE PARAPROSDOKIAN

Here's this week's paraprostdokian - a figure of speech with an unexpected twist - from Ronald Reagan and sure to bring a chuckle regardless of political affiliation:

"Thomas Jefferson once said, 'We should never judge a president by his age, only by his works.'
And ever since he told me that, I stopped worrying."

