

December 17th & 18th, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

12/17 4:00 PM John Terranova - 1st Anniv.
 12/18 9:00 AM Stephen Corr - 1st Anniv.
 Noon John F. Lemanski - 5th Anniv.

Masses for Christmas

All Masses are for the People of the Parish
 and those remembered at all Christmas Masses

December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Fr. Schatzel (new church)
 4:00 PM Fr. Hobson (old church)
 6:00 PM Fr. Lee
 8:00 PM Fr. Hobson
 (Choir Concert Prelude starts at 7:30 PM)

December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 AM Fr. Lee

at *Our Lady of the Lake*

December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Fr. Lee
 6:00 PM Fr. Buckley

December 25 - Christmas Day

8:30 AM Fr. Hobson

If school is cancelled due to a snow storm, there will not be a daily Mass at either parish.

PARISH CALENDAR

Every Mon	6:00 PM - Teen Pizza & Prayer in Halifax
Every Tues	7:00 PM - RCIA
Every Wed	6:00 PM - Confessions heard 6:00 PM - Adoration for one hour
Every Thurs	3:45 PM - Youth Choir 6:00 PM - Adoration for half hour 7:00 PM - Adult Choir 7:00 PM - Gamblers Anonymous
2nd Wed	6:30 PM - Sodality of Our Lady
1st & 3rd Thurs	6:30 PM - Prayer Shawl Ministry
1st Fri	8:00 PM - Teen Movie Night
3rd Friday	7:30 PM - Baptismal Preparation Class alternating with Our Lady
Last Fri	8:00 PM - Teen Can of Worms
2nd Sat	1:00 PM - Monthly Baptism 4:00 PM - Anointing of the Sick Mass

Parish Prayer Line - 781-293-7592 or 781-447-3247. Your intentions, needs and petitions will be remembered prayerfully and confidentially.

Offertory Collection: The December 10th & 11th collection amounted to \$5,284.00. Thank you.

Upcoming Collections:

Christmas Collection - This Christmas, the collection will once again benefit the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the needs of our priests. Our priests are always there for us; they share Christ's good news, perform good works, and build communities of good faith. All are welcome to learn more and make a gift online at clergytrust.org. And don't forget to find the Trust on Facebook by searching "@ClergyTrust." Thank you in advance for your prayers and support.

2016 Grand Annual - The initial results of our 2016 Grand Annual Appeal are extremely encouraging! To date we have raised over \$25,000. Many parishioners have already pledged their support. A follow-up mailing has been sent to those who have not yet pledged to the Grand Annual. Please consider making your gift this week. Pledge cards are available in the gathering area.

The Grand Annual collection allows us to both balance our budget and continue on-going maintenance at the parish. This year we have the need to enhance our security system. Recent events in our community have made this a priority. We would also like to improve our landscaping and make some additional repairs to our facilities.

Fourth Sunday of Advent Today's readings are so full of hope! "and they shall name him Emmanuel", which means "God is with us." This week will see the darkest / shortest day of the year, but then, second by second, each day is longer. Even in the darkness, God is with us - Emmanuel. The world is moving at warp speed - shop, buy, return, shop, buy again, wrap. The noise is constant - and not all from celestial angels. But, God is with us. Like Paul, we are called to be disciples, and set apart to share the gospel - the Good News - of God.

Due to the Cold and Flu Season, the Precious Blood will not be distributed until further notice. During the Sign of Peace, some may prefer not to offer a hand-shake as a sign of peace during cold and flu season. A nod or simple wish: "The peace of Christ be with you." is most appropriate.

"Parishioners should be reminded that if they are ill or suspect they are ill with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass Obligation. They should remain at home and return to church when they are well."

Are you getting married or know someone who is? - St. Joseph the Worker and Our Lady of the Lake Parishes are offering the Archdiocesan marriage preparation program *Transformed in Love*, in the spring of 2017. For more information and registration visit RCAB.org and search Marriage Preparation. Please contact Deacon Kevin Winn at kjw-amdg@comcast.net if you have any questions.



A collaborative Christmas Festival, this Sunday December 18, from 2-3 PM in the Parish Hall at our Lady of the Lake, Halifax. The children will present a Christmas Pageant. The St. Joseph the Worker and Our Lady of the Lake Adult Choir and Youth Choir will sing sacred Christmas Music. A sing-along will complete our joy-filled, faith-filled Christmas Festival. Refreshments will be served.

St. Thecla's Annual Christmas Concert, Wednesday, December 21, 7:00PM in the church. The concert includes traditional favorites and new works. All are welcome.

Christmas Eve Children's Nativity Story - Please join our Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Family for a wonderful presentation by our children and youth telling the story of the Birth of our Lord Jesus. **This will take place at 3pm on Saturday, December 24th, followed by songs from our Youth Choir and the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass.** Please come early and watch the Holy Spirit inspire our youth in reflecting this beautiful account of the Incarnation of our Lord. O Come, O Come Emmanuel (God With Us)!

Need a night out after ringing in the New Year? Come join St. Joseph the Worker's Adult Social Committee for a Winter Pot Luck, Saturday, January 21st from 5:15 p.m. to whenever we are done having fun. Bring your favorite entree, salad, side, or dessert to share with family and friends of our parish. All adults are welcome and bring some friends along to share Christmas stories, funny thoughts, and just to have a great night out! Questions, contact Maureen O'Neil at maureen335@comcast.net. Plates, cups, and utensils will be provided as well as warming trays and crock pots to keep the food warm.

The 60th Annual Red Acres Christmas Sing, West Washington Street, Hanson is this Sunday, December 18th from 2-4PM. This is an open and free activity for the whole family.

HANSON FOOD PANTRY at 228 High Street. Hours are Tuesday 10 AM - Noon, and 6 - 8 PM. **December: crackers, cookies, microwave popcorn, brownie, pudding and jello mixes, etc.** These items may be left in the Food Pantry baskets in the gathering area. **Your donations are always greatly appreciated.**

When donating food items, please be sure to check the expiration dates. The Food Pantry is not able to give away food that has expired. Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

2016-2017

The Faith Formation Office wishes all of our families the gifts that Jesus brings...Joy, Love and Peace.



CLASS SCHEDULE

Grade 9 December 18 -- 9 a.m. Mass followed by class in the upper hall 10-11:30 a.m.
 Grade 6 December 19 @ 5:15-6:45 p.m.
 Grade 7 December 19 @ 7:00-8:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS VACATION

No classes will be held, Saturday, December 24 through Monday, January 2.

During this Advent Season, our students have been giving witness through their good deeds to lead others to Jesus Christ, our Savior. We are very thankful to all!

Blue Sheet/Community Service Opportunity

First Reconciliation is Saturday, January 14, 2017. Student volunteers are needed from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Please call/email if you can help. Thank you.

Mary Lewek - Coordinator of Faith Formation
 Kevin Mossman-Confirmation Coordinator/Gr. 6-8
 Faith Formation Office - 781-293-1293
 Email: reled.sjtw@comcast.net