

*So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."*

*Jn 18:37*

**Readings for the Week of November 26, 2006**

Sunday:	Dn 7:13-14/ Rv 1:5-8/ Jn 18:33b-37
Monday:	Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/ Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Rv 14:14-19/ Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Rv 15:1-4/ Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Rom 10:9-18/ Mt 4:18-22
Friday:	Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/ Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Rv 22:1-7/ Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16/ 1 Thes 3:12—4:2/ Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

## Religious Education News

### Question of the Week

**Adults:** To what extent are my social views and values formed by Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of God?

**Children:** In what way can I pray this week for those who are in positions of leadership in the world?

There will be **no Religious Ed. classes in Gloucester and Rockport next weekend, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>**. There will also be **no classes on Wednesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> in Gloucester**. Religious Ed for everyone will take place on Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> during Whole Parish Catechesis. We will begin with the 10 a.m. Mass in St. Ann Church and gather in the parish hall afterwards to reflect on "lighting your path through advent with Mary our mother." Everyone is invited for our intergenerational parish gathering. Together, let us begin our journey into advent by lighting our path in recalling the birth of the Lord and anticipating his return.

**FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS:** Please mark your calendars! Celebration of First Reconciliation is scheduled for **6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> in St. Ann Church**.

**JR. HIGH GATHERINGS:** **Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 a.m.-12 Noon**, no matter what the weather, hike at Ravenswood. Meet in the parking lot there by 10 a.m. Be sure to dress appropriately and bring a beverage and snack for yourself. As always, parents are welcome to join us for any meetings/outings! Questions can be addressed to Dawn Alves (978) 281-4820, x0119, Mark/Carol Bedrosian (978) 282-7421, or Andy/Jodi Bertolino (978) 281-1828 or email [HolyFamilyMSYG@yahoo.com](mailto:HolyFamilyMSYG@yahoo.com).

## Adult Education

**JESUS' GOSPEL OF LOVE IN JOHN'S GOSPEL AND EPISTLES** will be presented by Rev. Thomas L. Leclerc, M.S., Th.D., **Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-9 p.m.** in the parish hall at St. Rose of Lima, 12 Park Street, Topsfield.

## RCIA

RCIA will meet at **7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> in the parish office**.

## Child Safety Program

A parent meeting for all parents whose children attend either our Parish School or Parish Religious Education Program regarding the **Child Safety Program (CSP)** will be held this coming **Tuesday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> in the school gym from 7-8 p.m.**

## Reflections by Father Bullock

The story is told of an old man meditating on the banks of the sacred Ganges River in India. He sees a scorpion floating helplessly on the river and at once stretches out on one of a close-by tree's long roots, and reaches out to try to rescue the drowning creature. As soon as he touched him, the scorpion stung him. The man pulls away, but regains balance and again stretches out to save the scorpion. Again, he is stung for his efforts, so badly that the hand swelled up painfully.

A passerby seeing all this, called out, "Only a fool would risk his life for such a creature." The man calmly replied, "My friend, just because it is in the scorpion's nature to sting, that does not change my nature to save."

The teller of the story suggests that the symbol of the cross speaks a similar lesson. The majority of those crowding Calvary that first Good Friday, seeing the arms of Christ stretched out on the cross in order to save sinful humanity, would and did call out that "Only a madman would risk his life for the sake of such creatures." And one can almost imagine Jesus' response, "My friend, just because it is humankind's nature to sin and wound, that does not change my nature to save."

And so it was that sin and salvation met on the cross that long-ago day in Jerusalem. Salvation stretched out His arms to save those who had given themselves over to sin, and by that act of selfless love and through that sacrificial death, we are healed; we are saved. Scorpion-sinners all, we are set free from ourselves and our sin. Sign of our nature – yes, such is the cross. But it is also the sign of God's nature, and therein lies the cause of our exultation.

And so the dreadful instrument of a painful and degrading execution becomes the great instrument, the wondrous image of saving love.

And so because of what Christ did, the cross has become the truest I.D. card for a Christian, making us indeed card-carrying Christians and pointing out the path we must follow.



## Holy Family Parish Guild

The next meeting of the parish guild will be **6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall**. The group will celebrate Christmas with a gift exchange, entertainment, and Chinese buffet. New members are welcome!

## St. Ann School

Christmas Cards designed and painted by Fr. Gariboldi are on sale for \$10/packet at St. Ann School. Cards will also be on sale after the Masses this weekend. This is a limited edition and will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. All proceeds will benefit St. Ann School.



There are still a few Christmas Calendars available at \$15 each. The drawing will be on January 14<sup>th</sup>. These make wonderful Christmas gifts, call and reserve one ASAP!

St. Ann School donated hundreds of dollars worth of food for our St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you St. Vincent de Paul for taking care of our needy.

## Christmas Concert

On Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> the Holy Family Choir will perform its second Advent-Christmas concert. The music has been selected to embrace this holy season, as well as to bring us closer to the arrival of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Our choir members have been very busy preparing for this joyous occasion and look forward to your presence. We have also planned a sing-a-long for our parishioners who love to sing praise! **On Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m. in St. Ann Church**, please come and share in this holy seasonal event. We look forward to seeing you!



## Memorials & Donations

Holy Family Parish gratefully acknowledges the following donations in memory of:

**Rosalind Ballarin Agastini**  
MOTHER & FATHER

**Alfred Ballarin**  
MOTHER & FATHER

**Nina Benson**  
FELICIA AIELLO  
VITO & ROSEMARIE ASARO  
BEA & JIM CIARAMITARO  
MARY CIARAMITARO  
MR. & MRS. JOSEPH CIOLINO  
FRANCES D'AMICO  
NINA DANNA  
PHIL & FRANCINE DENCH  
GRACE & VITO FAVALORO  
NINA FRANCIS  
JOE & MARIE GIACALONE  
MR. & MRS. JAMES INTERRANTE  
NANCY & GORDON KINGHORN

**Nina Benson Cont'd.**  
ROSALIE LAIACHINO  
FRANK & LAURA ORLANDO  
JOSIE PALLAZOLA  
NANCY PARISI  
PAULINE CATANIA PELOSI  
FRANCESCA PIRAINO  
PHYLLIS QUINCE  
MR. & MRS. WILLIAM RUBINO  
FRANK & MARIA SANFILIPPO  
GRACE VERGA SCOLA  
MR. & MRS. CARL SILVA  
FENA SOUZA  
ERIC SPEAR  
MARGARET STRESCINO  
MR. & MRS. BILL TOPPAN  
ROSIE & JIMMY VERGA

**Arnie Carrico**  
ROSIE & JIMMY VERGA



## Congratulations

Holy Family Parish wishes to express our sincere congratulations to four of our young people who received awards at the annual Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Awards Banquet this past Friday evening. Marc Piscitello, Samantha Alves, Tom Prybot, and Jessica Parisi were all honored at this annual celebration for their substantial contributions to promoting Youth Ministry and parish outreach both locally and abroad. It is wonderful to have such dedicated and talented young people in our midst. Please make it a point to affirm the good work they have done when you see them!

## Free Flu Clinic

**GLOUCESTER RESIDENTS: Thursday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2-6 p.m. in City Hall, Kyrouz Auditorium.** The following persons are encouraged to attend this clinic:

- Those 50 years or older
- All adults with chronic medical conditions (i.e. heart or lung diseases including asthma, metabolic disease-e.g. diabetics, blood disorders like anemia, weakened immune system-such as by cancer, steroid therapy, HIV/AIDS)
- Women who will be pregnant during influenza season
- At risk children who have not yet received vaccine
- Those needing Portuguese, Spanish, or Italian translation

**Questions? Contact the Gloucester Health Dept. (978) 281-9771.**

## Tree of Lights

Honor someone special this holiday season. Hospice of the North Shore will hold its 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree of Lights Ceremony at three separate locations this December to invite members of the community to sponsor a light on a holiday tree in memory or in honor of a loved one. The ceremonies will be held at 5 p.m. **Wednesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at the Danversbank in Danvers Square; 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at the Swampscott Town Hall; and 5 p.m. Tuesday Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at the Gloucester Cooperative Bank.** A reception will follow each ceremony. For more information about sponsoring a light or attending one of the ceremonies, please contact Angel Rogalski (978) 750-9357 or visit [www.hns.org/treeoflights](http://www.hns.org/treeoflights).



## Advent

The first week of Advent begins Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. We invite you to step into this season of preparation by attending Whole Parish Catechesis, **LIGHTING YOUR PATH THROUGH ADVENT WITH MARY OUR MOTHER**, next Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at the 10 a.m. Mass in St. Ann Church and followed by a gathering in the parish hall. We encourage you to embrace this season with prayer and preparation for the Lord's coming again. Advent is a season of "hope and longing: Advent is an opportunity for the people of God to once again rekindle our hope and longing for the day – the day of Christ's return.

It is a good time for us to ask ourselves, What would our life be like, how would we live in the world, in our communities, in our workplaces, in our homes, if we lived out of the hope that maybe, just maybe, this year will see the coming of The Day? Maybe, just maybe, *this* will be the year in which Christ returns. Can we imagine this? Advent is the season to do just that." *Sourcebook For Sundays And Seasons 2007.*

## New Year's Resolutions

### 10 SIMPLE LITURGICAL RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR:

1. I resolve in the next year to treat each Sunday Eucharist as *the most important event of that week.*
2. I resolve in the next year to do all I can to participate more fully in the celebration of the Sunday Mass. For example:
  - I resolve in the next year to sing all the songs and acclamations.
  - I resolve to respond in the liturgy with conviction and whole-heartedness.
  - I resolve to make use of the liturgical silences by praying as I've been invited to do.
3. I resolve in the next year to get a copy of *at least one* of the Eucharistic Prayers used at Sunday Mass and to reflect prayerfully upon it during the week, so that I may enter more fully when it is prayed on Sunday.
4. I resolve in the next year to read prayerfully and carefully the Sunday scriptures *at least once* during the week before Mass.
5. I resolve in the next year to arrive before Mass begins and to leave the church only after the liturgy has ended.
6. I resolve in the next year to read *at least one book* on the topic of the *Sunday Mass.*
7. I resolve in the next year to take part in at least two other liturgical celebrations of the Church as they are celebrated in my parish, *in addition* to Sunday Mass (e.g., one of the sacraments, seasonal Reconciliation services, prayer services, Morning or Evening Prayer, blessings, Eucharistic devotions, etc.).
8. I resolve in the next year to take the dismissal of the Mass – "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord" – seriously, and to somehow make it *real* in my life during the week.
9. I resolve in the next year to pay careful attention to the homily during Mass in an attempt to hear the voice of the Lord speaking to me in relation to that day's scriptures.
10. I resolve in the next year to explore the praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, either in private or in a communal celebration.



# Mass Intentions

November 25 - December 3, 2006

**Saturday, Nov. 25, 2006**

4 p.m. (St. Ann Church)  
**Anthony Piraino, Joseph & Stephanie Piraino, and Grace Piraino**  
*From Family*

**Sunday, Nov. 26, 2006**

8 a.m. (St. Ann Church).....**Pro Populo**  
 9 a.m. (St. Joachim Church).....**Michael Mortillaro**  
*From Wife & Children*  
 10 a.m. (St. Ann Church).....**William & Rose Morrison**  
*Edwina MacDearmid*  
 11 a.m. (St. Joachim Church).....**William & Rose Morrison**  
*Edwina MacDearmid*

**Monday, Nov. 27, 2006**

9 a.m. (St. Mary Chapel).....**Maria Giovanna Frisella**  
*From Children*

**Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006**

9 a.m. (St. Joachim Church).....**Mary Casey**  
*Marianne Watts*

**Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2006**

9 a.m. (St. Ann Church).....**Habeeb & Rosa Sallah**  
*From Family*

**Thursday, Nov. 30, 2006**

9 a.m. (St. Joachim Church)

**Friday Dec. 1, 2006**

9 a.m. (St. Mary Chapel)

**Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006**

4 p.m. (St. Ann Church).....**Antonio & Jennie Marino**  
*From Family*

**Sunday, Dec. 3, 2006**

8 a.m. (St. Ann Church)  
**Jerome & Ann Marie Loiacano and Anthony "Jike" Parisi**  
*From Family*  
 9 a.m. (St. Joachim Church).....**Pro Populo**  
 10 a.m. (St. Ann Church).....**Vincie Ciarametaro**  
*Pat Genest*  
 11 a.m. (St. Joachim Church).....**Joseph J. Laiachino**  
*From Family*



## Eucharistic Adoration

**Mondays – 7 to 9 p.m. (St. Joachim Church)**  
 7:30 p.m. - Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
 8 p.m. – Rosary

**Thursdays – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (St. Mary Chapel)**

## Nursing Home Masses

**Greycliff: 3 p.m., Monday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**  
*Families, friends, and parishioners are welcome!*

## Reconciliation Service

We will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday, **Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in St. Ann Church.** This will be the Advent Reconciliation Service as well as the time for 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders to make their First Reconciliation. Everyone is invited to share in this celebration!

## Christmas Giving Trees

Christmas Giving Trees, sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, have been set up in the vestibules of St. Joachim and St. Ann Churches. Each tree is decorated with colored stars describing a gift which may be donated for the people of Cape Ann. Each gift should be new and unused and returned unwrapped with the original star attached. The trees will be up until **Wednesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>.** All gifts should be returned to the parish office no later than **12 noon Thursday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.**

## Last Weekend's Collection

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Collection</u>
St. Ann (4 p.m.)	247	\$1,483.00
St. Ann (8 a.m.)	280	1,675.25
St. Joachim (9 a.m.)	185	1,189.00
St. Ann (10 a.m.)	290	2,259.50
St. Joachim (11 a.m.)	140	1,831.25
Office		<u>185.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>\$8,623.00</b>

November 2005 average weekly collection: **\$7,568.00**

Second Collection (Human Development) **\$2,263.75**

Average amount needed per week to sustain the current level of programs and services **\$11,500.00**

Grand Annual Total (as of Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>): **\$58,181.87**

This is 77.58% of our \$75,000 goal.

*Your contribution is greatly appreciated!*

## Christmas Brunch Meeting

The Madonna del Rosario Society will celebrate Christmas with a brunch meeting at the **Gloucester House Restaurant** on **Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>.** The meeting will begin at **noon** followed by brunch at **12:30 p.m.**

## Advent & Christmas Schedule

The Sundays of Advent will follow the regular Mass schedule with the exception of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent which is the weekend of Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Saturday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> the Mass schedule will remain the same, 4 p.m. Mass at St. Ann Church. On Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> the Mass Schedule will be as follows:

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**8 A.M. – ST. ANN CHURCH**

**9 A.M. – ST. JOACHIM CHURCH**

**CHRISTMAS EVE – DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup>**

**4 P.M. – ST. ANN CHURCH**

**5 P.M. – ST. JOACHIM CHURCH**

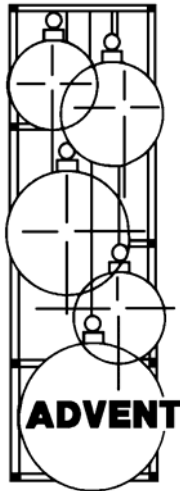
**6 P.M. – ST. ANN CHURCH**

**MIDNIGHT – ST. JOACHIM CHURCH**

**CHRISTMAS DAY – DEC. 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**10 A.M. – ST. ANN CHURCH**

**10 A.M. – ST. JOACHIM CHURCH**



## Bulletin Deadline

Please have all items for submission to next week's bulletin in our office by **12 noon on Tuesday.** Items submitted after that time will be considered for the following week. *Thank You!*

## Holy Family Parish Registration

If you wish to register as a member of Holy Family Parish, please print the following information and deposit in the offertory.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

*We look forward to hearing from you!*