

**DECEMBER 18, 2016  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sunday (December 18) Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 8:00 Giuseppe Pascetta  
*Requested by: Family*
- 10:00 All Expectant Mothers  
*Requested by: Priests of the Parish*
- 12:00 Pro Populo
- 7:00 Spanish Mass

**Monday (December 19)**

- 7:00 Stephen Sidorik  
*Requested by: Assumption Pray Group*
- 9:00 Robert Schuyler  
*Requested by: A Friend*

**Tuesday (December 20)**

- 7:00 Samuel W. Mascalino  
*Requested by: MaryLou Mascalino*
- 9:00 Elaine Valente  
*Requested by: The Brady Family*

**Wednesday (December 21) Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor**

- 7:00 Catarina Clemente  
*Requested by: Lucia Clemente*
- 9:00 Sam Mascalino  
*Requested by: Mother*

**Thursday (December 22)**

- 7:00 Stephen Sidorik  
*Requested by: Father Higgins*
- 9:00 Edward Schuka  
*Requested by: Mr. and Mrs. Carmine DeLuca*

**Friday (December 23) Saint John of Kanty, Priest**

- 7:00 Constancio Clemente  
*Requested by: Lucia Clemente*
- 9:00 Loretta Donohue  
*Requested by: Family*

**Saturday (December 24)**

- 9:00 Joseph LaDuca  
*Requested by: Dennis and Barbara Egitto*
- 4:00 Deceased Members of the Hrdlicka and Wassily Families  
*Requested by: Henry and Nancy Hrdlicka*
- 7:30 Spanish Mass

**Sunday (December 25) The Nativity of the Lord**

- 12:00 Victorina and Emilio Juarez  
*Requested by: Juliet Juarez*
- 8:00 Dominick and Mary Santulli  
*Requested by: Family*
- 10:00 Pro Populo
- 12:00 Karol and Marta Hönisch  
*Requested by: Adriana Sarova*
- 2:30 Spanish Mass
- 7:00 Spanish Mass

*Please notify an usher if you would like to bring up the gifts during a Mass for your loved one.*

**MEMORIALIZATIONS**

**ALTAR CANDLES**

In Memory of the Carey & Eible Families  
*Requested by: Family*

Gilda and Nicola Pertelesi  
*Requested by: Elena and Ray Matheson*

Mary Ann and Clifford Matheson  
*Requested by: Elena and Ray Matheson*

**ALTAR BREAD AND WINE**

Bob Booth  
*Requested by: Judy Toivo Merend*



**DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE**

December 18 – No Holy Hour –  
December 25 – No Holy Hour –  
January 1 – No Holy Hour –



**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

<b>Vigil Mass</b>	Saturday, December 24	4:00 pm
	<i>In Spanish</i>	7:30 pm
<b>Midnight Mass</b>	Sunday, December 25	12:00 am
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Sunday, December 25	8:00 am
		10:00 am
		12:00 pm
	<i>In Spanish</i>	2:30 pm and 7:00 pm

*Our Adult Choir will conduct a Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve starting at 3:30 pm.*

*Before Midnight Mass, everyone is invited to join in singing Christmas Carols, starting at 11:30 pm.*

**PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD**

This **Monday, December 19**, our parish will once again participate in Advent Reconciliation, a day when all parishes in the Archdiocese, in preparation for Christmas, are offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4:00 pm through 8:00 pm. No matter how long it may have been since your last confession – weeks, years, even decades – there's no time like Advent to experience the mercy of God in the Sacrament of Penance. Seize this moment of grace!

**ADVENT WREATH PRAYER – THE FOURTH WEEK**



Stir up thy might, we pray Thee, O Lord, and come; rescue us through Thy great strength so that salvation, which has been hindered by our sins, may be hastened by the grace of Thy gentle mercy. Who livest and reignest for ever and ever. Amen.

### TITHING REPORT

Third Sunday of Advent 2016 (Dec. 11).....\$11,713.43  
 (includes Parish Pay amount of \$781.25)  
 Second Collection (School Support).....\$2,371.00

Third Sunday of Advent 2015 (Dec. 13).....\$15,212.74  
 (includes Parish Pay amount of \$665.74)

If you would like to enroll in Parish Pay, please go to [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com) OR call the Rectory.

### RESPECT LIFE



**All Oppression Shall Cease.** The Christmas song *O Holy Night* includes the following words: "Truly He taught us to love one another/ His law is love, and His gospel is peace./ Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother/ And in His name all oppression shall cease." This is a reminder that, as we celebrate Christmas, we renew our commitment to ending all oppression, particularly of those who are most oppressed: the children living before birth within their mothers, children who have been deprived of legal protection and are oppressed by the mythology of choice. In the name of the newborn Christ, the oppression of our unborn children will cease. May Christmas give us the strength to be silent no more, and more active than ever in the pro-life cause.

**The next Respect Life Holy Hour – which is also the National Night of Prayer for the Unborn (SEE article below) – is Wednesday, December 28 at 7:00 pm.**

### NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR THE UNBORN

December 28 marks the Feast of the Holy Innocents when, during the Octave of Christmas, we commemorate those infants slaughtered by King Herod. Fittingly, our Respect Life Holy Hour this month will remember other innocent babies who have died through miscarriage, illness and, of course, abortion. The Gospel for this Feast reminds us as well of the loss experienced by the mother: "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be consoled, since they were no more." (Matthew 2:18, quoting the prophet Jeremiah) Several women will share their personal stories with us, including Regina Higgins Syversen (sister of Father Higgins); Mrs. Syversen will speak of her own experience, including the loss of a full-term baby shortly after birth. Please join us on **Wednesday, December 28** from 7:00 pm through 10:00 pm for this bilingual night of prayer, including Eucharistic Adoration, music, praying of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet. Confession will also be available. Let us ask the modern-day Innocents, who have perished through abortion, to intercede for babies in the womb and for their mothers.

### MARCH FOR LIFE 2017

The annual March for Life in Washington, DC takes place on **Friday, January 27, 2017**. Forty-four years ago, the Supreme Court handed down its decision in *Roe v. Wade*, legalizing abortion and leading to the deaths of 60 million babies in the USA. Please join hundreds of thousands from around the nation as we march, hand in hand, to stop abortion. More details to follow in upcoming bulletins.

### PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL



Gladys Latimer, Catherine Chesser, Janet Fortier, Linda McGarr, Andrew Muller, George Strumke, Cecilia Murphy, Mario Garziona, Catherine Gleba, James Brian Dolman, Suzi Jo Bondra, Sheila Fleitz, Tony DeMilio, Margaret Kang and Carli Hermina.

### PRAY ALSO FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Robert Ernest Booth  
 Eric Smith  
 James Ross  
 Patricia Hoff  
 Alphonsus J. Collins  
 Carol A. Rohrbacher  
 Maria Victoria Villa Ayavaca

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."*

### PROCESSION IN HONOR OF THE CHILD JESUS

Each year on **Christmas Day**, our Spanish community celebrates the *Pasada del Niño*, a parade-like procession beginning at 1:00 pm at the Peekskill Train Station and continuing up Central Avenue to the Church. This procession consists of "Allegorical Cars" – elaborately-decorated vehicles accompanied by family members dressed as characters in the Gospel infancy narratives. The final figure in the *Pasada* is the statue of the Child Jesus, which was donated to Assumption in 2008 by the Archbishop of Cuenca (Ecuador). A solemn Christmas Mass will follow in the Church at 2:30 pm. All are welcome to experience this festive display of faith and devotion.



### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE

*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

<b>Vigil Mass</b>	Saturday, December 31	5:00 pm
	<i>In Spanish</i>	7:00 pm
<b>New Year's Day</b>	Sunday, January 1	8:00 am
		10:00 am
		12:00 pm
	<i>In Spanish</i>	2:30 pm and 7:00 pm

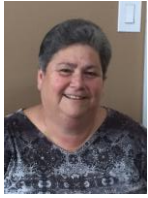
### THAT'S THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!

*"Whatever you did for one of the last of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)*

A big "Thank You" to the more than 100 Assumption parishioners who participated in our annual Giving Tree, buying Christmas gifts for the neediest children of Peekskill. By taking a Giving Tree "ornament" listing a particular child's wishes, these generous parishioners can be assured many children will wake up on Christmas morn, overjoyed that their fondest dreams were fulfilled.

## BEHIND THE SCENES AT ASSUMPTION

It takes many people to see to it that a parish runs smoothly. In our continuing series highlighting parish employees and volunteers, we focus this week on Catherine Bischoff, Coordinator of Religious Education.



*"Hello, my name is Catherine Bischoff. I was born and raised in Peekskill and have been a parishioner of Assumption Church all my life.*

*Assumption has always been home for me and my family.*

*I graduated from Assumption School, as did my mother, Jackie Salicco, and received all my sacraments here.*

*I have two children, Christine and John. (John currently works at Assumption Cemetery.) I also have two grandchildren, Bennie and Ziva. Both of my children went through the Religious Education program at Assumption Church, and now my grandson attends it.*

*I began working in the Religious Ed program here 20 years ago as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade catechist and was asked to step in and run the entire program when the previous coordinator became ill.*

*I subsequently went through the six-year certification program from the Archdiocese of New York and am now a Certified Coordinator of Religious Education.*

*When I started with Assumption's Religious Ed program, there were 150 students, and our current enrollment is 672 students! My most rewarding and memorable moments as a CRE are when the students receive their sacraments – First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation."*

## DISCOVERING CHRIST 2017

*"Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst."*

(John 4:14)

Come and quench your thirst! Please join us on Monday evenings for "Discovering Christ," a seven-week series at Assumption beginning **Monday, January 23, 2017** and continuing through March 6 (with a life-changing retreat on Saturday, February 25). Share a meal, listen to a dynamic teaching and explore answers to questions about God and the meaning of life. As the group of participants is limited in size, reservations are required, and you must be at least 18 years of age. To reserve your place, please go to [www.dcassumption.eventbrite.com](http://www.dcassumption.eventbrite.com) OR you can e-mail [discoveringchrist.assumption@gmail.com](mailto:discoveringchrist.assumption@gmail.com) OR telephone (914) 402-4439.

## 96% AND CLIMBING...



We're overwhelmed with the generous response of our one-of-a-kind Assumption parishioners, who have to date pledged a total of \$1,075,100 toward our "Renew + Rebuild" campaign, bringing us within striking distance of our goal of \$1,115,500. Just this past week, an additional \$30,460 was pledged, meaning we have just \$40,400 to go before achieving our goal. If you wish to contribute, please contact the Rectory at (914) 737-2071.

## NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Carols – The Music of Christmas  
December 2016

*"Here we come a-caroling!"*

Of French and Anglo-Norman medieval origins, the "carol" describes a joyous "dance song" or "circle song," originally associated with pre-Christian observations of the arrival of the seasons.

Carols fall into a variety of classifications and moods.

SPANISH CAROLS, like the 16<sup>th</sup> Century *villancico* "Riu, Riu, Chiu," are festive and accompanied by clapping, whereas those of eastern Europe tend to be more poignant.

NATIVITY CAROLS, the largest group, herald the birth of the Christ Child. Luther's cradle hymn "Away in a Manger," the Polish favorite "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" and the German "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" are prime examples. "Joy to the World" – more a hymn than a carol – takes its cue from the opening notes of "Lift Up Your Heads" from Handel's "Messiah."

PRAYER CAROLS. The Italian "Tu Scendi dalle Stelle," composed by Pope Pius IX in 1878, sings of the sacrifice of the Heavenly King who *"camest down... from starry sky. Thy sacrifice, O love Divine, is all for me."*

MYSTERY CAROLS with medieval roots sing of legendary events associated with the Holy Family. England's highly imaginative "The Cherry Tree Carol" has the distinction of being both a ballad and a carol. It takes its story from the apocryphal Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew. (Our Choir sings a text more faithful to Matthew 1:18-24.)

SHEPHERD CAROLS celebrate the announcement of the angels to the shepherds – e.g., "Angels We Have Heard on High," "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" and "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night."

NOELS. The root for "noel" is the Latin *"natalis"* – i.e., birthday – specifically, Christ's. Hence, Christmas. "The First Noel" is indigenous to England and France.

MACARONIC CAROLS are written partly in Latin and partly in the vernacular. "The Snow Lay on the Ground" demonstrates this with its *"Venite, adoremus, Dominum"* conclusion.

LULLABY CAROLS draw upon the lullabies of Europe. "Lully, Lullay, Thou Littel Tyne Childe," "Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine," "O Come, Little Children" and Mozart's "Schlafe, mein Prinzchen" ("Sleep, My Prince") are illustrative of this international genre.

COMPANION CAROLS, originating mostly in Germany, Austria and the Tyrol, are exuberant and affectionate, even offering the Christ Child *"apples, butter, pears of yellow cheese, nuts or plums or whatever You please!"*

On Christmas Eve, our Carols services will begin at 3:30 pm (preceding the 4:00 pm Vigil Mass) and at 11:30 pm (preceding Midnight Mass).

Come early and enjoy!

# ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL



## SACRAMENTO DEL BAUTISMO

(Niños menores de 6 años)

Se celebran regularmente todos los días sábados a partir de la 1:00 pm. También ofrecemos el Sacramento del Bautismo el último sábado de cada mes dentro de nuestra Misa (7:00 pm). Se requiere llenar el formulario; asistir padres y padrinos a la catequesis pre-bautismal. Nota: deben traer al momento de la inscripción el certificado de nacimiento del niño (a). Los padres deben estar participando en nuestras Misas regulares.

## SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACION

Los días sábados desde las 4:00 PM hasta las 5:00PM. Los días domingos desde las 6:00 PM. en la Iglesia; y, todo el tiempo en la Casa Parroquial, previa cita.

**LUNES, 19 DE DICIEMBRE DEL 2016**

**4:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**TARDE Y NOCHE DE RECONCILIACION**

**SACRAMENTO DE LA CONFESION**

**SACERDOTES BILINGUES INVITADOS**

## MINISTERIO DE CUIDADO PASTORAL A LOS ENFERMOS-ANCIANOS Y PRISIONES

Llame a la Casa Parroquial para los arreglos, nosotros le asignaremos a un Ministro de la Santa Eucaristía para que lo visite ya sea en el Hospital o en la casa. En casos particulares de ancianos, enfermedad o de condición seria, por favor ponerse en contacto con uno de los Sacerdotes para que reciba el Sacramento de la Unción.



## SACRAMENTO DEL MATRIMONIO

Hacer los arreglos para la planificación seis meses antes de fijar la fecha de la boda. Llame a la Rectoría y haga cita con los Sacerdotes: P. Higgins, P. Vincent, o el Diacono Carlos Campoverde

## CATEQUESIS PRE-MATRIMONIALES (PRECANA) 2017

DIA 1 Sábado: 25 de Febrero 9:00 a 3:00 pm Anexo

DIA 2 Sábado 25 de Marzo 9:00 a 3:00 pm Anexo



## "NIÑO VIAJERO - 2016"

**IV - ANIVERSARIO DE LA CORONACION DEL NIÑO VIAJERO EN LA CATEDRAL DE SAN PATRICIO - NEW YORK**  
**SANTA EUCARISTIA, EN LA IGLESIA ASUNCION, PEEKSKILL - 2:30 PM**

## SABADO 24 DE DICIEMBRE/2016

6:00 pm Última Posada en el Templo Parroquial  
7:30 pm Misa de Noche Buena - Misa del Gallo

## DOMINGO 25 DE DICIEMBRE/2016

1:00 pm Pasada Navideña-Inicio en la estación del tren  
2:30 pm Misa en su honor - Templo Parroquial  
7:00 pm Misa de Navidad - Templo Parroquial

## DOMINGO 8 DE ENERO DEL 2017

*"Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor"*

## RENOVAR + RECONSTRUIR



Mi nombre es Elizabeth Recinos, soy guatemalteca y hace 14 años emigré de mi país para formar una familia.



El haber estado lejos de mi familia por 13 años y de no haber podido compartir con ellos fue uno de los momentos más dolorosos en mi vida. Y muchos de ustedes se identificarían conmigo. En el 2003, fue cuando por primera vez visite la Iglesia de la Asunción, a partir de ese momento he sido parte de esta Iglesia y la Iglesia a sido la familia que yo extrañaba y necesitaba, fui recibida y acogida con mucho amor desde el primer momento. Aquí he encontrado personas que he adoptado como mi familia, que me han brindado amor y apoyo en los momentos felices y difíciles en mi vida. He tenido la oportunidad de servir en diferentes ministerios a lo largo de estos años. Ministerio bautismal, Lectorado y ahora en la sacristía, en ella hemos recibido los sacramentos mi familia y yo, en Ella recibí el milagro de vida para mi hijo. Estoy muy agradecida porque he tenido la oportunidad de que mi fe vaya creciendo y fortaleciéndose espiritualmente a través de los años. El día de hoy quiero hacer un llamado especial y tocar sus generosos corazones para que se comprometan por 5 años a dar soporte económico a nuestra parroquia en esta campaña que se llama Renovar + Reconstruir. Yo le pregunto ... Usted ama a su iglesia? Yo amo a mi Iglesia, la Iglesia de la Asunción y le soy Fiel ... y por eso ya me comprometí. Y soy parte De esta campaña. Todos nosotros formamos la Iglesia. Todos contribuimos a su edificación y todos somos responsables de la misma. Nuestra Iglesia es pobre de medios materiales, pero es rica en esperanza, en mensaje... porque lleva en su seno el Evangelio, lleva en su seno a Jesucristo y para poder cumplir con su misión necesita de medios materiales y sin la ayuda de sus fieles, de todos nosotros; es imposible avanzar y atender todas las necesidades que la Iglesia tiene. Apoyemos a nuestra parroquia económicamente, todos sabemos el costo de mantener una casa. La Iglesia enfrenta costos aún mayores y sólo depende de sus fieles para financiarlos. Nuestra parroquia sobrevive con lo que usted y yo colocamos en el canasto al momento de las ofrendas ... seamos generosos con ella, demostrémosle cuanto la amamos y nos preocupamos por mantener su edificación. Esta campaña se centra en nuestra Iglesia, especialmente en las necesidades que tiene. Recordemos que en la parroquia vivimos los sacramentos, la eucaristía, toda nuestra vida espiritual, la catequesis, la caridad con los necesitados, en ella nos sentimos acompañados y a través de ella vivimos nuestra vida cristiana. Si ayúdanos a nuestra parroquia, ganamos todos. Es la mejor herencia que podemos dejarle a nuestros hijos ...nuestra Fe. Y que las futuras generaciones puedan ser parte y gozar de esta hermosa comunidad, que somos una sola familia en Cristo.

**NO SE QUEDE FUERA DE ESTE COMPROMISO DE FIDELIDAD PARROQUIAL**  
**INFORMES - RECTORIA (914) 737-2071**