

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23, 2012

## From the Pastor's Desk

Christmas, more than anything else, is a time of hope. Our celebration of Christ's birth captures our personal hope for wholeness and meaning in our lives. Mary's 'yes' to the Lord stirs in our hearts the hope that we too, will find a way to make our 'yes' a reality. We long to know our God and be secure in God's love.

Our celebration of Christ's birth captures our hope for the world. The horrible massacre in Connecticut last week is a wake-up call for all of us. Yes, it seems that the world is slipping away from God, yet in this birth, we discover courage and encouragement. We reaffirm our belief in the power of good over evil. Emmanuel, God Is With Us, opens hearts that the world has closed. We are blessed, in the celebration of His birth, to desire more to know the kingdom and the Creator. Also, we hope that as Christ uses us in ways we could never imagine, we will touch and transform other hearts to seek the Savior.

As we all know, God helps those who help themselves; with this in mind, I'd like to remind all of you that **it is our responsibility to keep the children who attend our elementary school safe and secure. Please remember that our school is a closed campus. No parishioners should seek entrance to the church via the parking lot on school days, (Mondays through Fridays) from 6:00 PM to 6:00 PM.** For rectory business, please use the entrance on Martin Luther King Blvd. Rectory hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM with a lunch break from 12 noon to 1:00 PM. **Please do your part to safeguard our children!**

Tomorrow, Christmas Eve, the rectory office will close at noon. We have several liturgies in the next two days to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord. The 5:15 PM Mass on Christmas Eve is geared towards families with young children; there will be a special visitor from the North Pole and a reception in the parish hall with hot chocolate and cookies after Mass.

At midnight, we are honored to welcome Bishop Edward Clark, Auxiliary Bishop of Our Lady of the Angels Pastoral Region, as principal celebrant of our liturgy. Christmas Carols are at 11:30 PM. For your convenience, there are two other Masses Christmas Day, 10:00 AM and 12:15 PM.

On behalf of the parish staff, Deacon Greg Patterson, Fr. Joseph Idomele, our priests in residence, Fr. Lawrence Seyer and Fr. Michael McCullough, I wish all of you a most joyous and happy Christmas!

*Father Michael Tang*

### SAVE THE DATE!

The AACCFE's Annual MLK Prayer Breakfast will be held on Monday, January 21, 2013, at St. Mary's Academy - 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM. **Our dynamic Keynote Speaker is Dr. C. Vanessa White who will speak on the theme: "Reconciling Wisdom, Justice and Love."** Dr. White is an Assistant Professor at Chicago Theological Union in Chicago and Director of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program. Stay tuned for further details!



### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

#### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Children Mass: Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 5:15 PM

Christmas Carols at 11:30 PM

Midnight Mass - Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

*Bishop Edward Clark, Presider*

#### CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM & 12:15 PM

**No 8:00 AM Mass on Christmas**

### NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

*The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

Tuesday, January 1, 2013 at 10:00 AM

#### CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

We are asking that you be as generous as possible with your giving. Envelopes are in the pew. We will place the envelopes on the altar for prayer in Memory of, or in Honor of, your love ones.

### RECTORY OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

#### Christmas Week

Mon 12/24	Tue 12/25	Wed 12/26	Thur 12/27	Fri 12/28
9am-12pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-5pm	9am-5pm

#### New Year's Week

Mon 12/31	Tues 1/1	Wed 1/2	Thur 1/3	Fri 1/4
9am-12pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-5pm	9am-5pm

### SAVE THE DATE

Virtus Re-Certification Class at Transfiguration

**Thursday, January 24, 2013**

from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the hall.

### PETITION FOR THE SICK

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Veronica Bearce, Stephanie Bell, Sr. Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Mary Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Barbara Butler, Joyce Burnett, Brownie Cain, Dorothy Campbell, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, John Crear, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Anita Finie, Edith Foster, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Lauretta Jackson, Robert Jordan, Maggie Lacour, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sr. Marianna, Vydred Manor, Yvonne Morgan, Muriel Meyers, Dorothy Okoye, Paula Osborn, Dale Payne, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Barbara Samuels, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, David Tureaud, Iris Turner, Lubertha Weathers, Doris Whayne, and Lilla Williams.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## School News

*Celebrating 75 Years*  
*A Legacy of Making a Difference*  
Serving the Community Since 1937

There will be NO BINGO January 6, 2013. Bingo resumes in February 2013. Wishing you Happy Holidays from Transfiguration School family!

### NEW STUDENTS TESTING & GUIDED TOUR

Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM

We offer guided tours and new student testing monthly. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Crockett in the main office for assistance at 323.292.3011.

### PAPER DONATION

Please continue to assist us throughout our school year by donating copy paper. Contact the office at 323.292.3011.

### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Shopping mall safety tips

It's easy for kids to get sidetracked with all the sights, sounds, and smells surrounding us at holiday time. It is especially important to monitor your children when taking them through the mall during the Christmas season. If children become separated from you, teach them to look for a "safe stranger" who can help them. For example, a mom with kids or the cash register person can help a child who is lost. Avoid telling children to go to the "manager." Any adult in a suit, who looks important, can look like the manager to a child. Children must be told never to leave the mall or store to go looking for you in the parking lot. Let them know that you would never go outside or leave until you are reunited -- no matter what anyone else tells them. For Assistance Ministry call 213.637.7650.

### MEN'S RETREAT

The weekend of January 18, 19, and 20, 2013 the Retreat for the men of our parish will be held at Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center in Sierra Madre. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayers, Mass, Confession and Stations of the Cross. This year's Retreat theme: *The Gift of Mater Dolorosa, the Memoria Passionis*. There will be someone in the patio area to give you more information or contact Greg Warner, your parish retreat Captain or Maurice Simon, Co-Captain.

**Lena Newell,**  
*we heard it's*  
**your 94 Birthday.**



*Blessing, from your Transfiguration Church Family*

## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 22</b>
5:15 p.m.	Soul of Manfred Rawles
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 23</b>
8:00 a.m.	Intention of all Parishioners
10:00 a.m.	Soul of Romalis Aguilar
12:15 p.m.	Soul of Lillian White
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 24</b>
5:15 p.m.	Soul of Angula Bates
Midnight	Intention of all Parishioners
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 25</b>
10:00 a.m.	Souls of Jackeline, Dilcia & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.
12:15 p.m.	Soul of Lillian White
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 26</b>
8:00 a.m.	Intention of Levonia George
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 27</b>
8:00 a.m.	Soul of Celeste Buford
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 28</b>
8:00 a.m.	Soul of Edmund Richards
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 29</b>
5:15 p.m.	Soul of Jeroline Richards
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 30</b>
8:00 a.m.	Soul of Yula Wilkes
10:00 a.m.	Intention of all Parishioners
12:15 p.m.	Soul of James Martin, Sr.

## Readings for the week

<b>Sunday</b>	Mi 5:1-4a, Ps 80:2-19, Lk 1:39-45
<b>Monday</b>	2 Sm 7:1-14, Lk 1:67-79
<b>Tuesday</b>	Is 9:1-6, Lk 2:1-14
	Is 62:11-12, Lk 2:15-20
	Is 52:7-10, Jn 1:1-18
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acts 6:8-59, Mt 10:17-22
<b>Thursday</b>	1Jn 1:1-4, Jn 20:2-8
<b>Friday</b>	1Jn 1:5-2:2, Mt 2:13-18
<b>Saturday</b>	1Jn 2:3-11, Lk 2:22-35
<b>Sunday</b>	Sir 3:2-14, Ps 128:1-5, Col 3:12-21

## Sacrificial Gifts

<b>Sunday, December 18, 2011</b>	<b>Sunday, December 16, 2012</b>
\$5,170.70 Sacrificial Gift	\$5,389.38 Sacrificial Gift
438.14 Building Fund	443.94 Building Fund
250.36 "We Care"	253.68 "We Care"

## THANK YOU

We thank Mr. and Mrs. Derek Madere and Family for their gracious Sunday Hospitality Services provided after each Mass. Their continued commitment throughout the year is warmly appreciated. No coffee and donuts on Christmas and New Year's Day.

## A CHRISTMAS WISH

The **RECTORY OFFICE** is in need of a **COMPUTER!** If you would like to be a blessing by purchasing a new computer, please call Jo Ann Levi at 323.291.1136. Your donation is tax deductible.