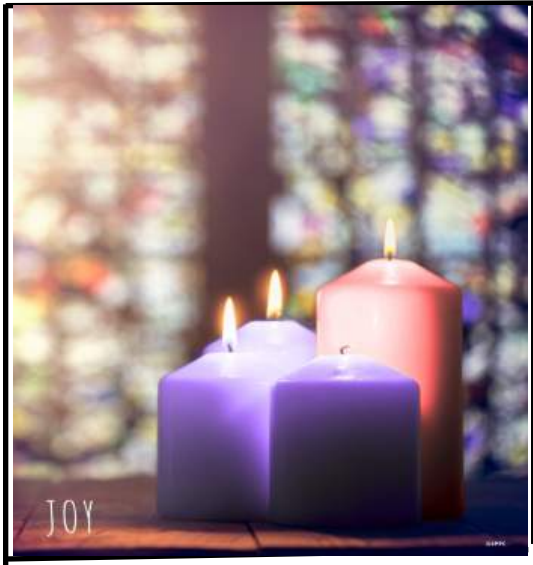


SAINT CASSIAN PARISH

187 Bellevue Avenue Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 • (973) 744-2850 • stcassianchurch.org



3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day

Saturday: 5:30PM

Sunday: 7:30AM; 9:30AM; 11:30AM

Weekdays: Tuesday through Saturday: 8:15AM

Holydays: 8:15AM and as announced

Office Information:

Served by:

Rev. Steven D'Andrea, Parish Administrator
Rev. Msgr. Anthony Kulig, Weekend Assistant
Deacon Roberto Demetillo
Stephen Powers, Director of Music
Keri Misurell, Director of Faith Formation
Maria Llanes, St. Cassian School Principal

Parish Phone Numbers

Parish Office(973) 744-2850
Fax..... (973) 744-6187
Email.....parishoffice@stcassianchurch.org
Websitewww.stcassianchurch.org
Religious Education Office.....(973) 744-2850
Music Office(973) 744-7864
St. Cassian School.....(973) 746-1636
Fax.....(973) 746-3271
Email.....info@stcassianschool.org
Website.....www.stcassianschool.org

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00AM—3:30 pm

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation, formerly RCIA) Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Were you baptized Catholic but never received First Communion or Confirmation? Call the parish office for details.

The **Sacrament of Baptism** is celebrated one Sunday each month except during Advent, Lent and the summer months. In order to baptize your child at St. Cassian, the family must be registered parishioners. Parents, and godparents if available, must attend a preparation class (7:00 PM) prior to the date of baptism (1:00PM). Once registered, contact the Parish Office, (973) 744-2850, to make arrangements for the date of baptism. See schedule on the next page. Scan here to download Parish Registration Form



Arrangements to celebrate the **Sacrament of Marriage** must be made at least one year before the desired date. Do not make firm plans for the reception prior to speaking with a priest. Call the Parish Office, (973) 744-2850, to speak with a priest.

The **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** brings the Holy Spirit's gifts of peace and courage. It is not necessary to wait until the point of death for anointing. Contact a priest through the Parish Office, (973) 744-2850.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is celebrated every Saturday between 4:15PM-5:00PM in the church or at another time convenient to the priest and penitent.



Mass Intentions for the Week of December 17

For those who are ill: Cassie Lopolus
Marcia Mann

John Anderson	Leigh Major
Alesia Maria Andras	Sr. Idoia Martinez
Mary Blatz	John McCarthy
Leo Botwin	Patricia Melo
Frank Briamont	Mary McGuire
Penelope Brisco	Frank Mongioi
JoAnne Callahan	Thomas Nelson
Dominek Capela	Dr. David Pallotta
Frank Caprio	Mildred Pasino
Marilyn Castellano	Rosemary Raleigh
Dennis Gannon	Ronald Rego
Virgilio Geulen	Dr. Lorraine Reyes
Dan Greiner	Jaxson Rivera
Steve Grube	Rhonda Sen
Jennifer Gullace	Elizabeth Smith
Jyce Hakimian	Olaf Stechow
David Hogan	Dennis Swanson
Noel Jordan	Lindsay Trembulak

For those who have died:

**Julia DeArca, John W. Flynn, Jaydn Post,
Gerard LePore, Sharon Snarr, Carole Bosco**

THE ALTAR BREAD IS OFFERED IN MEMORY OF
JOANN MCCLEAR

THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS IN MEMORY OF
JOANN MCCLEAR

Please remember these names in your daily prayers.

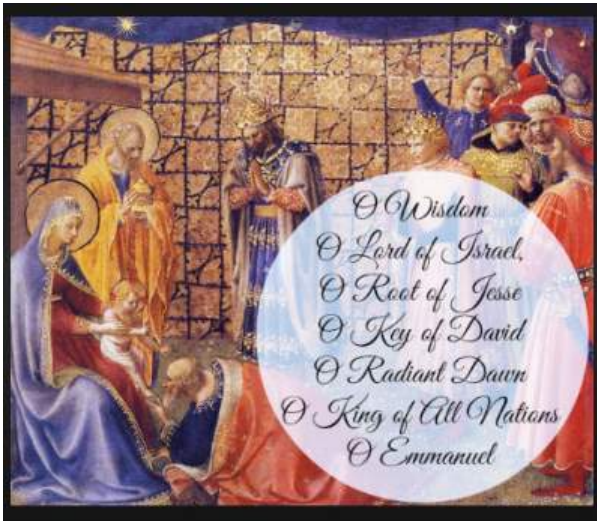
ROSARY INTENTIONS...

<i>Monday</i>	For safety and freedom for the people of Ukraine
<i>Tuesday</i>	All military and protective services especially in areas of violence; protect them, grant peace to their loved ones
<i>Wednesday</i>	Respect for sanctity of life from conception to natural death
<i>Thursday</i>	Unity among churches and nations
<i>Friday</i>	Vocations to the priesthood and religious life; all parishioners living and deceased

Sunday December 17th Third Sunday in Advent	5:30PM 7:30AM 9:30AM 11:30AM	JoAnn McClear 20th Anniv James McHugh People of the Parish Linda Loverro
Tuesday - Saturday morning masses are celebrated at 8:15AM; Monday morning mass is private		
Monday Dec 18th Advent Weekday		Mary Catherine Peterson
Tuesday Dec 19th Advent Weekday		Robert Goldstein
Wednesday Dec 20th Advent Weekday		Armando Velezdevilla
Thursday Dec 21st St. Peter Canisius		Inez & Leo Schwartz Bette Davis
Friday Dec 22nd Advent Weekday		Souls in Purgatory
Saturday Dec 23rd St. John of Kanty		Joseph Kinney
Sunday Dec 24th Fourth Sunday in Advent	5:30PM 7:30AM 9:30AM 11:30AM 4:00,6:00 10:30 pm	Colleen Mahoney James McHugh People of the Parish No Mass For the People of the Parish For the People of the Parish

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
MON.	Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 Mt 1:18-25
TUES.	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25
WED.	Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 Lk 1:26-38
THUR.	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45
FRI.	1 Sm 1:24-28 1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd Lk 1:46-56
SAT.	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 Lk 1:57-66
SUN.	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Third Week of Advent



Rejoice!

The third week of Advent begins with *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, meaning “rejoice”, is the first word of the opening antiphon for the Mass on this day: *Gaudete in Domino semper* (Rejoice in the Lord always). The joy of *Gaudete Sunday* shows in the use of rose as the liturgical color—for example, on the Advent wreath and the priest’s vestments. The gospel readings for this Sunday reveal to us the reason for our joy: the identity of Jesus. He is the Word made flesh, the Christ, the Son of the living God.

From December 17 to 23, the “O Antiphons” are chanted during Vespers (evening prayer) in the Liturgy of the Hours. They have been sung by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

The titles of Jesus used in the antiphons are all titles of the Messiah, rooted in the prophecies of Isaiah. Easily incorporated into individual or family prayer, they are the most important of the Church’s unique prayers during these days:

December 17: O Sapientia (O Wisdom) O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18; O Adonai (O Adonai) O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse), O Root of Jesse’s stem, sign of God’s love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20 : O Clavis David (O Key of David), O Key of David, opening the gates of God’s eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21: O Oriens (O Morning Star); O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22: O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations), O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23: O Emmanuel (O Emmanuel). O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!

The Sunday liturgies during Advent feature the tune of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” . This song does anchor us firmly in the longing and anticipation of Advent. But the original hymn, with its pleading for Christ’s coming, connects us to the evening prayer of the whole Church in the last week of Advent.

According to Professor Robert Greenberg of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, the Benedictine monks arranged these antiphons with a definite purpose. If one starts with the last title and takes the first letter of each one -

Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia - the Latin words *ero cras* are formed, meaning, Tomorrow, I will come. Therefore, the Lord Jesus, whose coming we have prepared for in Advent and whom we have addressed in these seven Messianic titles, now speaks to us, Tomorrow, I will come. So the O Antiphons not only bring intensity to our Advent preparation, but bring it to a joyful conclusion. Acknowledgement Saunders, Rev. William. “What are the O Antiphons?” Arlington Catholic Herald.

On December 16, 1995 the Archbishop of Newark dedicated the new church of St. Cassian. On December 17, 1995

(Gaudete Sunday) the parish clergy celebrated St. Cassian’s first Sunday Mass in the church. We have much to rejoice about.

Christmas Carols - the Backstory



"Joy to the World" was written by English minister and hymnist Isaac Watts, based a Christian interpretation of Psalm 98. The song was first published in 1719 in Watts' collection *The Psalms of David: Imitated in the language of the New Testament, and applied to the Christian state and worship*. The paraphrase is Watts' Christological interpretation. Consequently, he does not emphasize with equal weight the various themes of Psalm 98.

Watts also didn't write this to originally be a Christmas carol, as the lyrics do not reflect the Virgin birth of Jesus, but rather Christ's Second Coming. The nations are called to celebrate because God's faithfulness to the house of Israel has brought salvation to the world. As of the late 20th century, "Joy to the World" was the most-published Christmas hymn in North America.



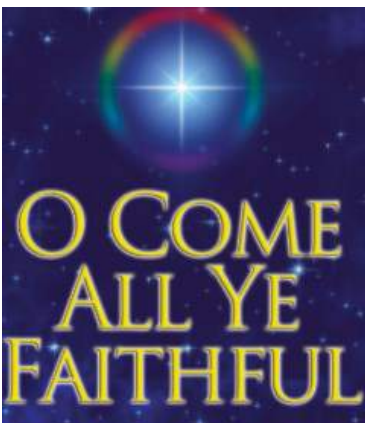
I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day

'I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day' is a beloved Christmas carol that has touched the hearts of many for over 150 years. The story behind this beautiful song is one of hope, resilience, and the enduring power of faith.

The song was written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, one of the most famous poets in American history. Longfellow was born in Portland, Maine in 1807. He was known for his poetry and fiction, and his works have been widely read and admired for their beauty and insight. Longfellow wrote "Christmas Bells" in 1863, during a time of great turmoil and division in the United States. The country was in the midst of the Civil War, and the conflict had taken a heavy toll on Longfellow's personal life. In 1861, his wife Fanny died in a tragic accident, and just a few

years later, his son Charles was severely injured in the war.

Despite these personal tragedies, Longfellow remained resilient and found solace in his faith. He was deeply inspired by the Christmas season and the message of hope and peace that it brings. In "Christmas Bells" Longfellow expresses his desire for peace and reconciliation and his belief that one day, all will be made right in the world. The last verses says: "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The Wrong shall fail, The Right prevail, With peace on earth, good-will to men!" There is always hope for a better future. He believes that, through faith and determination, we can overcome any obstacle and create a world of peace and love.



"O Come, all Ye Faithful" appeared in a book created by John Francis Wade – one of the two composers the hymn has been credited to – in the early 1750s. 100 years later, Catholic priest and convert Frederick Oakley translated "Adeste fideles" into English. Already a very popular carol, it only became even *more* popular with its translation!

This Christmas Carol originally had four verses, but somewhere along the way, it doubled in size! Three verses were written by a French Catholic priest named Jean-François-Étienne Borderies, but the last verse's writer remains a mystery. All of them were written in Latin and later translated. Source: Relevantradio.com Rev. Francis J. Hoffman Carols of Comfort & Joy Dec. 7, 2023

Will YOU make a good Confession this Advent?

How are you preparing your heart for Christmas? Is Confession included, or does something stand in the way - time, fears, or questions?

Fr. John Gordon, Secretary of Evangelization for the **Archdiocese of Newark**, joins *Morning Air* to tackle the anxieties of Confession with the peaceful reality of the Sacrament.

You can hear Father's discussion on the relevant radio app. Download Dec 4, 2023.

Christmas Carols - the Backstory



The lyrics of **"Silent Night"** were originally written in German just after the end of the Napoleonic Wars by a young Austrian priest named Joseph Mohr. In the fall of 1816, Mohr's congregation in the town of Mariapfarr was reeling. Twelve years of war had decimated the country's political and social infrastructure. Climate changes around the world impacted Europe. Mohr's congregation was poverty-stricken, hungry and traumatized. So he crafted a set of six poetic verses to convey hope that there was still a God who cared.

"Silent night," the German version states, "today all the power of fatherly love is poured out, and Jesus as brother embraces the peoples of the world."

In 1817, Mohr transferred to the parish of St. Nicholas in the town of Oberndorf, just south of Salzburg.

There, he asked his friend Franz Xaver Gruber, a local schoolteacher and organist, to write the music for the six verses. The church organ was not in a playable state. On Christmas Eve, 1818, the two friends sang "Silent Night" together for the first time in front of Mohr's congregation, with Mohr playing his guitar.

The lyrics of "Silent Night" have always carried an important message for Christmas Eve observances in churches around the world. But the song's lilting melody and peaceful lyrics also reminds us of a universal sense of grace that transcends Christianity and unites people across cultures and faiths.

Almost 100 years after 'Silent night, holy night' was performed for the first time, something as extraordinary as it was moving happened in Flanders on Christmas Eve 1914. The Christmas song from Austria played an important role in this event.

The First World War was mired in the trenches at Ypres; on both sides the men were sitting in mud and slush, their dead comrades lying in the no man's land between the opposing positions. Christmas seemed a million miles away. And yet, on that starlit night, the magic of Christmas unexpectedly touched the soldiers.

It's not clear exactly where the Christmas truce started. Witnesses reported that candles were lit in the trenches and on Christmas trees. The warring parties were at such a short distance that they were able to talk to each other. A spontaneous ceasefire occurred. British and German soldiers crawled out of their trenches, shook hands and sang Christmas songs together. Along with German and English songs, of course, 'Silent night, holy night' also resounded across the ghostly tranquility of the battlefield.



"We Three Kings" is a staple in Christmas pageants, and it was originally written for one, too. In 1857, John Henry Hopkins Jr., an Episcopalian clergyman, wrote a hymn for the General Theological Seminary's New York Christmas Pageant. He had attended seminary there and wanted to give something back. Little did he know he was giving them a Christmas carol that would still be sung over 160 years later!



"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

Charles and John Wesley are known for founding the Wesleyan Methodist Protestant Church, but they are also very well known for giving us beautiful hymns that we're still singing centuries later. "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" was first found with the title "Hymn for Christmas-Day" in a 1739 collection of hymns by the Wesley brothers. It was based off of Luke 2:14, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

The hymn's title then became "Hark, how all the Welkin rings" – Welkin being the sky or the heavens – because it was Wesley's original opening line. How the heavens rang with joy at the birth of Christ! In 1754, Anglican cleric George Whitefield thought there might be. He finally gave

the song the title, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

But that wasn't the end of changes to this carol! In celebration of the 400th anniversary of Johannes Gutenberg's movable printing press, the lyrics of the Christmas carol were adopted for the *Festgesang*, or "Gutenberg Cantata". But fitting lyrics to a page wasn't an easy task: it was up to singer and organist William H. Cummings to make sure they fit with no missing words.

December 23rd through December 25th Liturgical Minister Schedule

Ministers for the Weekend of December 23/24

	5:30PM	7:30AM	9:30AM
Altar Servers	A. Costa O & E Zaccone		J. Misiukewicz
Lector	Mary Cavagnaro	Agnes Dembia	JB McCall
Eucharistic Ministers	Andy Kuziemko Marguerite Giustina Barbara Gregory Susanne Russo Regina Sammon	John Rogers Linda Melchiorre	Cynthia Demetillo Maryann Kuzel Diane Visscher 1 EM needed

Ministers for the Weekend of December 24

	4:00 pm	6:00 pm	10:30 pm
Altar Servers	A. Costa G. Horbal M & L Gimelli	O & E Zaccone	
Lector	Kathryna Demetillo Matt Hertzog	Lisa Higgins Bob Zaccone	Marie Badaracco Jason Lynch
Eucharistic Ministers	Andy Kuziemko Barbara Gregory Cynthia Demetillo Susanne Russo	Tom Higgins	

Ministers for the Monday December 25

	7:30 am	9:30 am	11:30 am
Altar Servers		J. Misiukewicz K. Tsikitas	K. Pantanilla
Lector	Agnes Dembia George Kenny		
Eucharistic Ministers	Sandy Kenny John Rogers		Maryann Kuzel

Hospitality will re-open January 7. Ministers of Hospitality should send in their availability for the next year—January thru June -by December 28.

Thank you for serving.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

PLEASE HELP HOWEVER YOU CAN!

We will be collecting cleaning supplies and any of the usual items we collect on the weekend of Dec 23/24 and Dec 30/31.



Mass Schedule for the 4th week of Advent and Christmas 4th Week of Advent

Saturday, December 23, 2023 @ 5:30 pm
(followed by Children's pageant)

Sunday, December 24 @ 7:30 & 9:30 am
(No mass at 11:30 AM on Dec. 24)

Christmas

Sunday, December 24 4:00 pm Children's mass
6:00 pm
10:00 pm Choir Carols
10:30 pm Mass

Parish Calendar

December 19	Confessions 6-8 pm
December 20	Advent Book Club 7:00 pm -8:30 pm
December 23	Children's Christmas pageant after 5:30 pm Mass
December 24, 25 & 26	No Faith Formation Class
Dec.31, Jan. 1 & 2	No Faith Formation Class
January 7	Epiphany of the Lord
	Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30
January 14	Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30

Gift of Treasure	
11/25—11/26	
SIGNS OF STEWARDSHIP	
<i>Minimum weekly needed</i>	\$16,250
<i>Regular Weekly Collection</i>	\$5,415
<i>Faith Direct Average</i>	\$6,765
<i>Weekly Total</i>	\$12,180

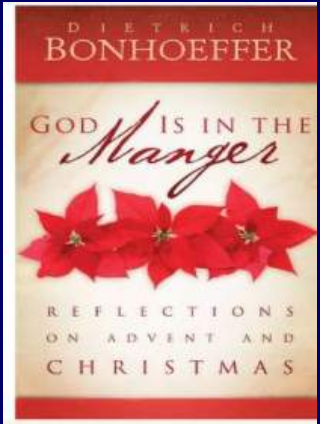
Children's Christmas Pageant



December 23, 2023
after 5:30 pm Mass
Please join us!



Advent Book Club Selection



The discussion /meeting dates are:
Wednesdays 12/13 & 12/20
at 7:00—8:30 pm
in Larkin Hall.
Limited supply of books available at the cost of \$10.
Contact the parish office to reserve your copy.

Dear Friends,

Many thanks to all of you who attended our 25th Annual Carol Sing. It was one of the most beautiful concerts I have ever attended. I'm not known to sing much, but I did sing the songs. My apologies to those who were sitting in front of me.

Special thanks to our Minister of Music, Stephen Powers, our Parish choir members, and our guest musicians.

It was very apparent that we are blessed to have many talented and gifted people here at Saint Cassian.

Students from Saint Cassian School once again made us very proud. The Hand Bell Choir and our Violinist were outstanding. This was a beautiful way to begin the Christmas season. All involved invested much of their time to gladden our hearts and lift us up.

I remember walking into church on Christmas Eve as a kid. The church was always beautiful with Christmas trees and lights.

The church smelled like candles and Christmas trees, mink coats and Shalimar.

For many years as a priest, I have always made decorating the church for Christmas a priority. I would not do anything else for all of you.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, I am aware that this is your parish, your spiritual home.

The church should not look ordinary at Christmas. I would like it to be a special place for you to come and encounter Christ during the Christmas season.

As we begin to prepare to decorate our beautiful church perhaps you can consider making a contribution for flowers and decorations.

You can memorialize a loved one with a Christmas plant around the altar.



OF PLANTS @ \$25.00 EACH _____

You can also donate to trees and other decorations in church. You can donate any amount of your choice.

IN MEMORY OF _____

REQUESTED BY _____

Total amount enclosed _____

Thank you for your generosity.



25th Christmas Carol Sing



25th Christmas Carol Sing



25th Christmas Carol Sing





[[Saint Peter Canisius] photo by NG2000]

Saint Peter Canisius—Dec. 21

Peter Kanis—his name later latinized to “Canisius” was born at Nijmegen in the Gelderland (now part of Holland) in 1521. He studied at Cologne, entered the Society of Jesus, and was ordained in 1546. He was an important figure in the Catholic counter-reformation that responded to the 16th century spread of Protestantism, the priest and Doctor of the Church .

His efforts as a preacher, author, and religious educator strengthened the Catholic faith in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and parts of Central Europe during a period of doctrinal confusion. He maintained his commitment to religious instruction on the popular level – teaching children, giving retreats, and preaching carefully-crafted, doctrinally-rich sermons to large crowds. His tireless efforts over the next two decades contributed to a major revival of German Catholicism.

Peter suffered a near-fatal stroke in 1591, but recovered and continued as an author for six years. The Dutch Jesuit saw writing as an essential form of apostolic work, a view supported by the continued use of his catechism long after his death on Dec. 21, 1597. St. Peter Canisius was simultaneously canonized and declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI in May of 1925. I



St. John of Kanty—Dec. 23

John was a country lad who made good in the big city and the big university of Kraków, Poland. After brilliant studies he was ordained a priest and became a professor of theology. The inevitable opposition which saints encounter led to his being ousted by rivals and sent to be a parish priest at Olkusz. An extremely humble man, he did his best, but his best was not to the liking of his parishioners. Besides, he was afraid of the responsibilities of his position. But in the end he won his people’s hearts. After some time he returned to Kraków and taught Scripture for the remainder of his life.

John was a serious man, and humble, but known to all the poor of Kraków for his kindness. He kept only the money and clothes absolutely needed to support himself. He slept little, ate sparingly, and took no meat.



Poinsettias are one of the most popular plants during the Christmas season and can often be seen filling the sanctuary of churches everywhere. Surprisingly, there is a beautiful story behind this plant that points to a deeper spiritual reality.

Poinsettias are native to Central America and are a plant that flowers in the winter months. There is a legendary Mexican story from the 17th century about this plant that connects it to Christmas.

As Christmas drew near a poor Mexican girl was sad because she didn’t have anything to give to the baby Jesus. Her cousin tried to cheer her up and encouraged her to give even the smallest gift with great love.

Not knowing what to do, the poor girl gathered some weeds along the roadside and put them in a bouquet. She approached the nativity scene, slightly embarrassed, but confident that she was giving Jesus the best that she could give. After she placed them in front of the manger the weeds transformed into a beautiful red poinsettia and were later known as “Flowers of the Holy Night.” The star-shaped leaves were explained to represent the Star of Bethlehem and the red color was connected to the blood of Jesus’ sacrifice. Franciscan friars in Mexico began using the poinsettias in Nativity processions and over time the plant was introduced into the United States. Since then it has become a staple of Christmas decorations both in churches and homes.

Who Will Lead You to God?



Today's Gospel reading tells us about Saint John the Baptist, who prepared the people for the coming of Jesus. At first people thought that he might be the saviour they were all waiting for, but he was very clear when he told them that he wasn't- there was one coming after him Who would be the truly great One.

Sometimes we hear about great or important people. We know about movie stars and singers and government leaders. Who are some important people you know of?



Do those people that you've thought about help to bring you closer to God? Do they teach you well and give good example? Or do they lead people away from God by doing wrong things or making fun of God's truth?



We can know which people are really great by thinking about whether they lead us closer to God, like Saint John the Baptist did, or further away from Him. Which sort of people do you want to follow?



Answer to Word-find: brokenhearted

Saint Hildegard of Bingen December 17

ST. HILDEGARD OF BINGEN WAS BORN IN THE LATE 1000'S TO A WEALTHY FAMILY. AS A CHILD SHE WAS SICKLY BUT SHE WAS TAUGHT TO READ THE PSALMS IN LATIN.



AT THE AGE OF 18 HILDEGARD ENTERED A BENEDICTINE CONVENT, AND SOON BECAME SUPERIOR.



HER CONFESSOR TOLD HER TO WRITE DOWN THE VISIONS SHE HAD SEEN.



SHE ALSO WROTE POETRY AND MUSIC AND BOOKS ON THE BODY AND MEDICINE.



WHEN THE EMPEROR WAS SUPPORTING MEN WHO WERE NOT THE REAL POPE HILDEGARD CORRECTED HIM.



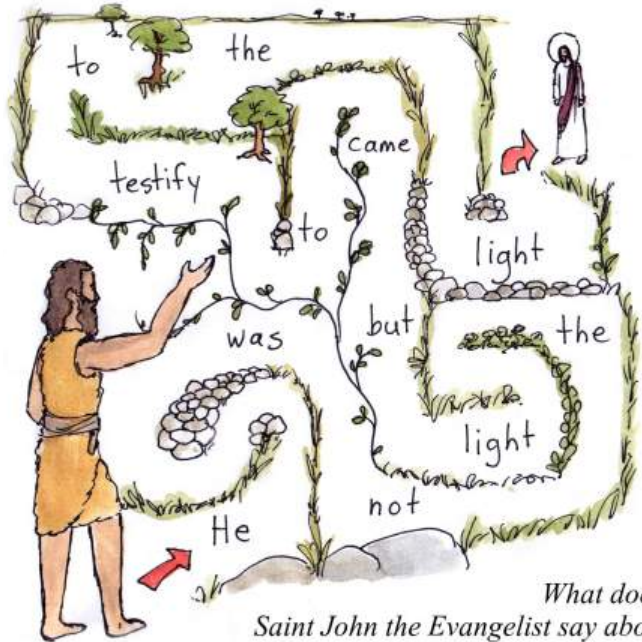
PEOPLE NEARBY AND FROM OTHER COUNTRIES SOUGHT HER ADVICE.



YOU CAN'T KEEP HIM BURIED HERE! HE WAS AN ENEMY OF THE CHURCH!



HILDEGARD DEFENDED THE BURIAL IN THE CHURCH CEMETERY OF A MAN WHO HAD EARLIER BEEN EXCOMMUNICATED BUT REPENTED BEFORE HIS DEATH.



What does Saint John the Evangelist say about Saint John the Baptist at the beginning of the Gospel? Read the words you pass as you go through the maze.

Was the priest who offered Mass today wearing pink vestments? The colour pink, or rose, is a sign of joy. We use it for the third Sunday of Advent because we are happy that we're half-way to Christmas! If you have an Advent wreath, it's time to light the pink candle!



The Messenger of Peace Word-find

V Y E A R P O O R B
I C S P I R I T R O
N A A N N O U N C E
D P K G F C E S L N
I T G O A L H E I T
C I L D V A E N B I
A V A N O I N T E D
T E D A U M R T R I
I S L O R D E D T N
O R E L E A S E Y G
N P R I S O N E R S

See if you can find the words in CAPITALS from today's first reading in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks in the reading.

The SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has ANOINTED me; he has SENT me to bring GLAD TIDINGS to the POOR, to heal the _____ to PROCLAIM LIBERTY to CAPTIVES



and RELEASE to the PRISONERS, to ANNOUNCE a YEAR of FAVOUR from the Lord and a day of VINDICATION by our GOD.



St. Cassian School

National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School
Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools



Mrs. Maria Llanes, Principal

Telephone (973) 746-1636



St. Cassian School Delivers an Unparalleled Faith-based Education While Building a Trajectory of Success for Each Student

Our students:

- Exemplify Christian leadership through service
- Score in the top 15% nation-wide on standardized test
- 100% are accepted to the most elite high schools
- 85% of graduates are placed in high school advance placement or honors classes
- 60% receive scholarships based on academic merit

The school:

- Provides faith formation and emphasizes moral development
- Prepares students to be productive citizens and future leaders
- Provides exposure to a STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) Curriculum
- Implements a Gifted and Talented approach to instruction

**If you would like to learn how we can maximize
your child's educational experience,
please schedule a meeting and a tour with Mrs. Llanes, our school principal, by
emailing info@stecassianschool.org or calling 973-746-1636.**



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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

S A M I

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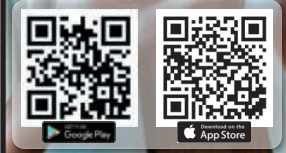
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