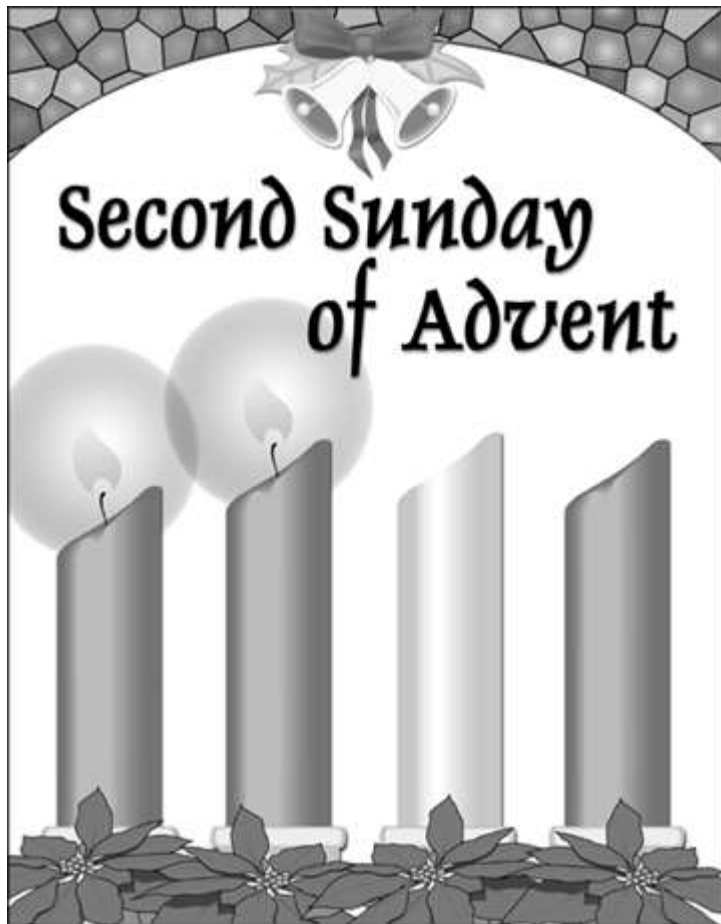


Blessed Sacrament Church

"I am the Living Bread come down from Heaven. If any man eats of this Bread, he shall live forever; and the Bread I will give, is My Flesh." John 6:51-52



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ...Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Matthew 24:42; 44

Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place in the side chapel twenty-four hours a day, every day. All are welcome to come and worship and adore our Eucharistic Lord.

"Could you not watch one hour with Me?" Matthew 26:40

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

LORD'S DAY: Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
HOLIDAYS: Vigil: 6:00 p.m.
Holyday: 9:00 a.m.
WEEKDAYS: 9:00 a.m.
SATURDAYS: First Saturdays only: 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. and by appointment

BAPTISM: As part of the preparation process an interview with the Pastor and two instructional sessions are required. Please contact Laurie at 774-2918.

ENGAGED COUPLES: Arrangements for your marriage must be made at least nine months in advance of the marriage date.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome you and ask that you register at the Rectory. We want to know and serve you! We hope that you will favor your parish with your prayers, your presence and your talents.

Pastor

Rev. Timothy J. Campoli

Church

221 Federal Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
blessedsacramentgreenfieldma.org

Rectory

182 High Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
(413) 773-3311

Deacons

Deacon John Leary
(413) 219-2734 (C)
deaconjohnleary@gmail.com

Deacon George Nolan
(413) 523-3394
gnolan5366@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Laurie Tilton
774-2918
ltilton2@gmail.com

Organist Choir Director

Stephen Glover
772-0532

Alternatives Pregnancy Ctr.

Pregnancy Tests, Counseling, Support
Post Abortion Support
(413) 774-6010

Calvary Cemetery

Wisdom Way
Greenfield
773-3311

Hispanic Ministry

Sr. Caritina Olmos, M.P.S.
413-777-5115
Sr. Rosa Torres, M.P.S.
413-459-7052

Natural Family Planning

Ed & Suzi Cottrill
413-772-6062



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH (Deacon Leary)
 4:00 Annie & Andrew Dedinas – by Birute Hanley
SUNDAY, DEC. 9TH – Second Sunday of Advent (Vocations)
 10:30 George F. Nolan – by Family
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH (Deacon Bucci)
 9:00 Larry Gagnon – by Wife
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH – Pope St. Damasus I (Deacon Bete)
 9:00 Charles F. McCarthy, Sr.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH – Our Lady of Guadalupe (Fr.
 9:00 Kersavage – Toomey Family Bermudez)
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13TH – St. Lucy (Pope Francis)
 9:00 Helen Drews Keough – by daughter, Ann Keough
FRIDAY, DEC. 14TH – St. John of the Cross (Fr. Lisowski)
 9:00 Francis Paul Keough – by daughter, Ann Keough
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH (Fr. O’Mannion)
 4:00 Campbell and Clark Families – by Family
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH – Third Sunday of Advent
 (Clergy who are sick)
 10:30 Pam Simanski-Page – by Family

 REMINDER: ♦ Please join with us in praying the **Rosary** before each daily Mass at 8:15 a.m., before the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.
 ♦ **Confessions** after each weekend Mass.
 ♦ The **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** will be recited Fridays at 3:00 p.m. in the Adoration Chapel. All are invited to come and pray with us.
 ♦ Blessed Sacrament has a **Prayer Chain** which is available for anyone. Simply contact Marie Boynton at 413-772-5858 or memeboynton@comcast.net with your petition.
 ♦ **Sponsor Certificates** - Many parishes require certificates of sponsorship for Godparents and Confirmation Sponsors. These will be issued only to those who are confirmed adult Catholics, registered in the parish, regular participants at Mass, validly married in the Church (*if applicable*) and providing for the religious education of their own children (*if applicable*).

Liturgical Roles

Weekend of December 15 and 16
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Saturday, December 15
 4:00 Deacon George Nolan Jason Semaski
 Deacon John Leary Kerry Semaski
 Monica McCarthy Bill Randall
 Joanne Yestramski Hannah Lively
 Winston LaBelle

Sunday, December 16
 10:30 Deacon George Nolan Bob O’Connor
 Joyce Thibodo Suzanne Hunter
 Bob Page Mary Jane Bardwell
 Judy Lapointe Lionel Martin

Holy Trinity Church Weekend Mass Schedule
 Sunday: 8:00 a.m and 10:30 a.m.

Poet’s Seat Nursing Home:

Sun., December 16 Cynn timer Erho

Lectors/Cantors

Sat., Dec. 15 4:00 Jason Semaski / Betsy Grybko
 Sun., Dec. 16 10:30 Bob O’Connor / Brenda Hill

Greeters: 4:00 Prima Chadwick, Hannah Lively
 10:30 Alex Duda



Mass Servers

Saturday, December 15
 4:00 Lauren Semaski, Jason Semaski
 Sunday, December 16
 10:30 Jacob Christi, Ezra Christi

The **Sanctuary Candle** will burn this week in memory/honor:
Albert LeBeau, Sr. - from Marie Boynton

The **Adoration Chapel Candles** will burn this week in memory/honor of:

- 1.) **Pat Duffey** – from Bob Earley
- 2.) **For the end of abortion and Planned Parenthood** – from the Pierce Family
- 3.) **Leona & Lafave Gammell** – from Rod Gammell
- 4.) **Joseph Brozo, Jr.**-from Wife, Daughters and Grandchildren

Holy Hour for Vocations

Please come to a Holy Hour for Vocations on Sunday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Adoration Chapel. Join us to pray for good priests and to thank Him for the good priests we now have. Call 773-8890 with any questions.

ALTERNATIVES Gifts for the Manger

As we remember the Infant Jesus in the Manger, please remember the women in unplanned pregnancies and their babies who are made in the image of Jesus. The generous parishioners of Blessed Sacrament are again sponsoring “Gifts for the Manger” to support the work of ALTERNATIVES Pregnancy Center. A list of items needed by the mothers, babies, or by the office staff to do their work is next to the manger. Choose a gift from the list, wrap it up in any kind of pretty paper, and place it in the manger. These gifts will help ALTERNATIVES continue to be a presence in Franklin and Hampshire Counties, reaching out to women who are lonely, afraid, desperate, and in need of emotional and material support. Please pray every day for these mothers, babies and staff of ALTERNATIVES. Thank you!

Large Paper Grocery Bags Needed for Food Pantry

We are in need of LARGE paper grocery bags for our Food Pantry. If you can help, please drop the bags off by the back door of the church by the parking lot. Thank you!

A Pilgrimage to Greece, Patmos, Ephesus Oct. 11-21, 2019

Join us on a spiritual journey to many towns of the New Testament where St. Paul first spread the Good News. Also visit Patmos where St. John wrote Revelations and Mary’s House in Ephesus. Included is a three-day cruise to the Greek Isles. Fr. Timothy Campoli and Msgr. Ronald Yargeau are our Spiritual Directors. Daily Mass will take place. The cost is \$4199 but if you register before January 31, 2019 you will receive a \$200 Early Bird Discount. A bus to Logan will be arranged if there is interest. For a flyer and more info., please contact Helen Shea Murphy at 413-824-8733 or helensheamurphy@verizon.net. View the website at www.pilgrimages.com/helensheamurphy.

Lessons and Carols

The 18th Annual Festival of Lessons & Carols will be celebrated on Saturday, December 15th, 7:30 PM, at the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel, 260 State Street in Springfield. Join the Cathedral Choir of Boys & Adults for this annual service that has become a central part of Christmas preparation for many. The Cathedral Choir will be accompanied by strings, hand bells and the mighty cathedral organ. Highlights of the service will include the Gloria and Et In Terra Pax from a rarely heard Gloria by Vivaldi and the original version of Rejoice in the Lord Always by Henry Purcell. The service consists of seven scripture readings of the season paired with congregational carols and choral anthems. The service begins in darkness and as the story of the nativity progresses the candles and lights of the cathedral are lit. For further information contact the Office of worship at worship@diospringfield.org, or by calling (413) 452-0839

Spiritual Food for Thought

“Our works of charity are nothing but the overflow of our love for God. Therefore, the one who is most united to God loves others the most. To understand and practice this, we need to pray, for prayer unites us with God and overflows upon others.”

— Bl. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Advent Wreath Prayers for Home

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE

Leader: The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. It is sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle to remind us of the place in which preparations were made to receive and cradle the Christ child. Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him in faith.

VOICE: The prophet Isaiah calls Christ “the Prince of Peace.” Through John the Baptist and all the other prophets, God asks us to prepare our hearts so that he may come in. Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. Our peace is found in him. We light this candle today to remind us that he brings peace to all who trust in him.

(Light Advent Candle Two - Purple)

Leader: Let us pray - Loving God, we thank you for the peace you give us through Jesus. Help us prepare our hearts to receive Him. Bless our worship. Guide us in all that we say and do. We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord. Amen.



Bell Choir Prelude – December 15th

The Blessed Sacrament Bell Choir will be playing a 30 minute musical prelude before the 4:00 p.m. Mass – Saturday, December 15th. The musical prelude will begin at **3:30 p.m.** and will embellish the sounds of Advent. Please join us!

Saint Michael Catholic School

Enrolling now for 2018-2019 School Year!

This Christmas, we want you to give The Gift of Catholic Education. We invite your family to experience Saint Michael Catholic School. Students in grades K-12 are invited to enroll for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. Tuition is \$2,000 for one student, and \$2,500 for a family of two or more. For information, please visit www.saintmichaelschoolvt.org or call to speak with the Director of Admissions, Lindsay O’Neil, at (802)254-6320.

A GoFundMe Campaign for the Dominican Nuns!

The Lay Dominicans of the Mother of God Chapter in West Springfield are sponsoring a **GoFundMe** campaign for the Dominican Nuns of the Mother of God Monastery in West Springfield. Your donations would help defer the huge costs of repairs and renovations to the lower level of one section of the Monastery. Structural damage to the foundation, water, mold and asbestos issues need to be repaired and replaced (concrete floors and walls, excavation, water drainage) and other issues including repairs to the steeple and possibly a wheelchair ramp. Know that the Lay Dominicans would be so grateful to everyone for any donations to help the Nuns. As, in their cloistered vocation, the Nuns intercede with the Father of Mercies for the universal Church, as well as for the needs and salvation of the whole world, we, in turn, want to support them in any way that we are able. Again, thank you! See the link: <https://www.gofundme.com/dominican-nuns-ws-renovation>.

THE DARK NIGHT OF THE SOUL

by St. John of the Cross

1. *One dark night,
fired with love's urgent longings
-- ah, the sheer grace! --
I went out unseen,
my house being now all stilled.*

2. *In darkness, and secure,
by the secret ladder, disguised,
-- ah, the sheer grace! --
in darkness and concealment,
my house being now all stilled.*

3. *On that glad night,
in secret, for no one saw me,
nor did I look at anything,
with no other light or guide
than the one that burned in my heart.*

4. *This guided me
more surely than the light of noon
to where he was awaiting me
-- him I knew so well --
there in a place where no one appeared.*

5. *O guiding night!
O night more lovely than the dawn!
O night that has united
the Lover with his beloved,
transforming the beloved in her Lover.*

6. *Upon my flowering breast
which I kept wholly for him alone,
there he lay sleeping,
and I caressing him
there in a breeze from the fanning cedars.*

7. *When the breeze blew from the turret,
as I parted his hair,
it wounded my neck
with its gentle hand,
suspending all my senses.*

8. *I abandoned and forgot myself,
laying my face on my Beloved;
all things ceased; I went out from myself,
leaving my cares
forgotten among the lilies.*

*St. John of the Cross was a Carmelite friar and mystic born in Fontiveros, Old Castile, Spain, in 1542. He died on December 14, 1591. The poem, in 8 stanzas of 5 lines each, narrates the journey of the soul from its bodily home to its ecstatic union with God, the Supreme Beloved. St. John wrote two book-length commentaries on his poem: **The Ascent of Mount Carmel** ("Subida del Monte Carmelo"), and **The Dark Night** ("Noche Oscura"). The "dark night of the soul" refers to the necessary purgations on the path toward divine union. Such purgations are the first of the three stages of the soul's mystical journey: (1) Purgation, which is then followed by (2) Illumination and finally by (3) Union. John does not actually use the term "dark night of the soul" himself. His term is simply "dark night, noche oscura."*

Robert Moynihan, Founder, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Inside the Vatican magazine
MoynihanReport@gmail.com [via](mailto:MoynihanReport@gmail.com) icontactmail4.com

Quotes from St. John of the Cross

“The soul that is attached to anything however much good there may be in it, will not arrive at the liberty of divine union. For whether it be a strong wire rope or a slender and delicate thread that holds the bird, it matters not, if it really holds it fast; for, until the cord be broken the bird cannot fly.”

“The soul that is quick to turn to speaking and conversing is slow to turn to God.”

“It is great wisdom to know how to be silent and to look at neither the remarks, nor the deeds, nor the lives of others.”

“In the dark night of the soul, bright flows the river of God.”

Pope St. Damasus I

(305c.-384 A.D.)

When Constantine became Roman emperor in 312 A.D. and authorized the toleration of the hitherto proscribed Christians, these followers of Christ, no longer kept austere in faith by the threat of death, all too often began to swagger about. Even some of the bishops of Rome were not immune to the temptation to relax and live pompously. In fact, one pagan senator observed sarcastically, "Make me bishop of Rome and I will be a Christian tomorrow!"

Pope Damasus I held fast to the ideal for which the martyrs had died. He was a Roman deacon in the service of Pope Liberius. When Liberius passed away in 366 A.D., the choice of his successor occasioned an embarrassing dispute. Most of the clergy and laity chose Deacon Damasus, now a man of 60. But a small yet influential faction picked the Deacon Ursinus. The opposing factions even came to blows. The election of Damasus was finally upheld, but he still had to exonerate himself before state and church regarding a malicious charge brought against him by the stubborn partisans of Ursinus.

Even when he had been enthroned, Damasus was faced with 18 years of political and theological turbulence. He enforced with vigor various reform measures, but he was not always completely successful in his dealings with the emperors and the Eastern churches. All this ferment sounds rather familiar in our own day. However, Damasus defended the primacy of the bishops of Rome over the Church. He also became the first pope to apply to the bishopric of Rome the title "apostolic see" because it was founded by Saints Peter and Paul.

Pope Damasus was well versed in the sacred scriptures. The great scripture scholar St. Jerome, who was for a time the pope's secretary, bears witness to this. It was St. Damasus who commissioned Jerome to revise the then-current Latin text of the Bible. Before the pope died, St. Jerome

was able to put into his hands the corrected New Testament. This became part of the "Vulgate" Bible that remained the official Latin Catholic version of the Church until recently.

In spite of the worldliness of many contemporary Christians, Pope Damasus retained, as we have said, a reverent devotion to the Christians of the days of persecution. The Church in Rome would continue for several centuries to use the underground cemeteries ("catacombs") in which many of the local martyrs had been buried. Damasus was careful to maintain and adorn these sanctified places. In them he set up a large number of marble tablets bearing inscriptions that he himself had devised. His friend Furius Dionysius Filocalus carved them in one of the most beautiful typefaces ever designed.



Damasus dearly wanted to be buried in the little chapel of

St. Calixtus' catacomb where a number of his predecessors were interred. His wish was not fulfilled, but he was able to record on a tablet in that chapel: "I, Damasus, wished to be buried here, but I feared to offend the ashes of these holy ones."

For his actual burial place, he composed the following inscription that testified to his faith in the Child born in Bethlehem:

"He who walking in the sea could calm the bitter waves, who gives life to the dying seeds of the earth; He who was able to loose the mortal chains of death, and after three days' darkness could bring again to the upper world the brother for his sister Martha; He, I believe, will make Damasus rise from the dust."

We, too, express that faith in the power of our Savior whenever we profess the Nicene Creed, as St. Damasus did: "Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum et vitam venturi saeculi"; "I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen."

—Father Robert F. McNamara