

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT****First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11**

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

**Second Reading: I Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ's arrival. He tells them to "avoid any semblance of evil" so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

**Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

©1999 Bon Venture Services, Inc.

***From the Pastor's Desk***

***Farewell to Fr. O'Hare*** - Our parish has been truly blessed over the past several years by the presence of Father Joseph O'Hare, S.J. He has traveled from Manhattan each Sunday to celebrate two Masses for us, and his homilies have been enjoyed by all our parishioners. His quick wit, dry sense of humor and team preferences was his trademark. Unfortunately, Father O'Hare has indicated that the trip seems longer and more burdensome as the years go on, and has asked to have his final weekend on December 21<sup>st</sup>. The people of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha will surely miss him, and I will surely miss him. There will be a farewell reception for him following the 10:30am Mass on December 21<sup>st</sup>. I want him to realize that he is always welcome to visit, and assure him of our prayers.

***As You Get Ready For Christmas, Restore Peace******Schedule of Reconciliation for Christmas*****Opportunities for Confession at Blessed Kateri:**

**Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 4pm - 5pm**

**Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 7pm - 8pm**

**Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, after the 9am Mass**

**Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 4pm- 5pm**

**Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, after the 9am Mass**

**Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, after the 9am Mass and 7pm – 8pm**

***Schedule of Masses for Christmas***

**Christmas Eve Masses: 4pm + 6pm + Midnight**

*Come enjoy Choir Concerts (at 3:20 and 11:30) before the 4pm and Midnight Masses*

**Christmas Day Masses: 9am + 10:30am + 12:15pm**

## Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church

### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Classes meet this week and then we break for the Christmas recess. Classes resume on Monday, January 5th. We wish all of our families a safe, blessed and peaceful Christmas Season.

One 8th grade catechist is needed to teach the Wednesday evening 6:30-8 pm class, beginning January 7th. If your New Year's resolution is to become more involved in your parish, here is your chance! Call Mary Biasotti, 223-3767, for details.

A reminder to all of our parents not to park in the bay closest to the Faith Formation Center. For the safety of our children, especially now that it's dark, **the area closest to the building should be used for drop-off only.** Please park beyond the first bay when picking up your children.

Our Family Catechesis Sessions are now over for the fall and were instructional and fun for everyone. If you were unable to attend any of these sessions, you'll have another chance in late winter or spring. Detailed information will be available in late January.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This week the items needed by the SVDP food pantry are laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet paper, and mustard. Please leave your items in the **new church** narthex (vestibule). For those in need of assistance, the SVDP hotline number is 227-7863.

### IN SEARCH OF ANGELS

If you would like to donate an angel that will decorate the two Christmas trees to be placed in the narthex, please bring your angel to this weekend. These angels will be used every year; they can be new, old, handmade, store bought, with your family name or without. Place your angel in the bin in the narthex and be a part of our angel family!

### FAREWELL TO FR. O'HARE

Our beloved Fr. O'Hare will celebrate his last Mass at Blessed Kateri on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am. After the 10:30am Mass we will gather in the meeting room to bid him farewell. Please contact the rectory at 227-1710 if you are interested in planning this bittersweet celebration. *Read Monsignor Desmond's message about Fr. O'Hare on the preceding page.*

### BLOOD DRIVE SIGN UP NEXT WEEK

Please help us help others and possibly even save lives this Christmas season by participating in Blessed Kateri Parish's annual **CHRISTMAS BLOOD DRIVE**, to be held this year on December 30th. You can sign up next week after all Masses..

Hudson Valley Blood Services constantly needs donors, but especially at this time of the year. This year the blood drive will be held in our meeting room. All the necessary equipment will be rolled in and set up for fast, safe donations.

## Third Sunday of Advent

### THE GIVING TREE

Once again, the **BKT Teen Group** Giving Tree is turning out to be a tremendous success. Please remember to bring your gifts and printed angels and place them in the designated bins this weekend. **Please be sure to tape your labeled angel to the unwrapped gift.**

### BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS

Representatives from Bethlehem Handicrafts will be at our church this weekend with handmade olivewood religious articles carved by Christian carvers in Bethlehem. These religious articles will be displayed and available for purchase after all Masses.

### HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET APPEAL

Christmas is approaching and it is time once again to ask for Holiday Baskets for our less fortunate families. If you would like to donate a holiday basket, or would like more information about this program, please call Linda at 227-7863. Baskets are to be dropped off on December 21<sup>st</sup> between 10am and 12 noon at St. Columba. Basket pick-up is also on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm, following the blessing.

If you can't do a complete basket, feel free to donate one or more of the following needed items: milk, eggs, canned vegetables, salad mix, turkey, ham, white and sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, rolls, fruit, beverages, dessert, coffee, tea and aluminum pans.

### BKT - TEEN GROUP - BKT

Today, December 14<sup>th</sup> after the 5:30pm Mass, the teens will have their Christmas party. All teens are welcome to join in the tree decorating and holiday cheer.

Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual ski trip. This is a holiday for Arlington Schools; save the date.

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to contribute a poinsettia plant that will adorn our sanctuary this Christmas, please complete the following form, place it in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket with your \$15 donation. All names will be listed in our bulletin after Christmas.



CHRISTMAS 2008  
Poinsettia Donation



In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your \$15 donation

# Blessed Kateri Church

LaGrangeville, New York

## R.C.I.A.

Join our R.C.I.A. program on December 18<sup>th</sup> as we discuss the Sacrament of Marriage. These instructional sessions are open to all each Thursday from 7 to 9pm in classroom one.

## YOUR 2008 CATHOLIC CALENDAR - READY TO READ AND TO HANG

You are invited to take home a beautiful Catholic calendar for 2009. The theme this year is *Stewardship*. These calendars are provided for our parishioners as a courtesy by our local funeral homes: McHoul and Auchmoody. On your behalf, we thank each of them for this gift.

You will enjoy the beautiful pictures that were all taken in the New York City area.

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES OPENS OFFICE IN EASTERN DUTCHESS

In response to the needs of families and individuals in the Eastern communities of Dutchess County, Catholic Charities Community Services will provide immigration and social services at Immaculate Conception Parish School on Rt. 22 in Amenia each Monday from 9:00-5:00pm.

Case manager, Elena Dalia (452-1400), helps vulnerable families solve crises and can assist with access to public entitlements, emergency food, shelter, eviction prevention, utility assistance and other family needs.

Immigration Counselor, Gloria Roman (499-1597), provides individuals with immigration legal assistance and/or representation involving such matters as family reunification, relative and marriage petitions, work authorization, naturalization/citizenship, political asylum and deportation defense.

### *Please pray for those who are ill*

Jackie and Joe DePalma--Marion Carney--Billy Jacobs  
 Marie Gauci--Johnny Romano--Amanda Jones  
 Fred Matthews--Victor Thomas--Wendy Sullivan  
 Raymond Trangalli--Caitlin Ann Martin--Rick Cole  
 Maria Sorrentino--Susan Lancella--Concetta Liccione  
 Mary Griego--Bob Wilson--Joseph Liccione  
 William Grafer--Deneé DeVizio--Mark Kearney

## PARISH INCOME REPORT

Last Week's Collection - \$9,838

Last Year's Collection - \$9,181

## PETITION OF THE WEEK

John the Baptist points us towards Christ. We pray that our lives might be always directed towards Christ and that our love and service to others, especially the poor, may lead others to a greater understanding of Christ's presence in the world. Let us pray...

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 14</b>
5:30pm Sat.	Lucy White by the Maddox family
7:30am	Robert Flanigan by the Flanigan family
9:00am	Patricia P. Hunt by the Hogan family
10:30am	Thomas Lowery by Lillianne Lowery
12:15pm	Joe and Cesare Tenuta by Antonia Tenuta
5:30pm	Elizabeth Fay by the Muller family
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 15</b>
9:00am	For All Parishioners
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 16</b>
9:00am	Andy Calamari by Gigi Storey
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 17</b>
9:00am	For All Parishioners
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 18</b>
9:00am	For All Parishioners
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 19</b>
9:00am	Eric Donaldson by the Dubowski and D'Angelo families
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 20</b>
9:00am	For All Parishioners

## BLESSED KATERI PRAYER NETWORK

If you have intentions or requests that you would like our Prayer Network to pray for, please call Nancy Vaughn at 226-4053, or Betty Paraggio at 223-5674.

## Liturgical Ministers for December 21<sup>st</sup>

	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30pm Sat Fr. Perez	Mary Beth Schmidt	Tara Izzo, Geraldine Natale Dennis Roseneld	Claire and Elizabeth Baxter Joseph Vales
7:30am Msgr. Desmond	Ed Leahy	Margaret DeSa, Sally Mastreani	Brandon and Brittany Tobin
9:00am Fr. O'Hare	Diana Schopen	Lorraine Travia, Robert Malara Suzanne Power	Courtney Meester, Christian Murphy Amanda D'Angelo
10:30am Fr. O'Hare	Kelly McMann	Rose Morse, Betty Perrino John McCormack	Kyle Ackley, Zack Reale Carolyn Newhard
12:15pm Fr. Perez	John Morgan	Ruth Recchia, Dave and Julie Borges	Alex Rodriguez Sean and Julia Sheridan
5:30pm Sun Msgr. Desmond	Teen	Debbie Scianimanico	Teen Group

