

The Parish Community of St. Padre Pio

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PARISH TEAM:

Father George Parayil - Pastor

Deacon Gary Thibodeau - Deacon Assistant

Deacon Curtis Boone - Deacon Assistant



Oh Come
Let us Adore Him

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Sat. Dec. 23

5:00pm – +Giuseppe Miceli

Sun. Dec. 24

8:00am – +Lucia Dippolito, +Natale Dippolito,
+Angela Dippolito

Sun. Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve Mass)

9:00pm – For the Deceased Members of the
Amahan, Coloma, Cajuday Families

Mon. Dec. 25

9:15am – +Anna Maria Smeets

10:30am – Blessings for the Sansone Family

12:00pm – +Benjamin, +Clotilde and +Eric Cruz

Wed. Dec. 27

7:00pm- Monthly Memorial Mass

Thurs. Dec. 28

9:00am – + For the Deceased Members of the
Virgilio and Romanelli Families

Fri. Dec. 29

9:00am – For the 50th Anniversary Blessings
for Elemar & Mariza Cassol

Sat. Dec. 30

5:00pm – +Alfieri Digiusto

Feast Days This Week

Mon. Dec. 25 – The Nativity of The Lord

Tues. Dec. 26 – St. Stephen

Wed. Dec. 27 – St. John

Holiday Office Hours

The office will be closed on:

Sat. December 23 closed at 12:00noon

Mon. December 25

Tues. December 26

Sat. December 30 closed at 12:00noon

Mon. January 1

Children's Liturgy

There will be no children's Liturgy from Sunday,
December 24 – Sunday, January 14. We wish you and
your families and Merry Christmas and a Blessed New
Year.

Offertory Envelopes for 2024 are available in the
narthex. Please note that there has been a re-
organization of Offertory Envelopes. Please refer to the
list found on the tables that are in Alphabetical order
by name and it will indicate your new number for
2024.

Please see an usher or volunteer that will be able to
assist you. Thank you for your generous donations
and understanding.

Monthly Memorial Mass – Families are invited
to our monthly memorial mass in commemoration
of the loss of a loved one. The memorial mass
will be celebrated on the last Wednesday of each
month. A family member will be invited to light a
candle and gather around the altar in honor of a
loved one when the names are called. Anniversary
Mass Donation envelopes are available in the
narthex. Our next mass will be held on
Wednesday, December 27, at 7:00 pm

Nativity Scenes – St. Padre Pio presents its
Annual Display of Nativity Scenes, entitled 'Joy to
the World. You will find displays, representing
many different countries and cultures, artistic
styles and materials. All of them present the
different ways that artists have interpreted the
birth of Jesus through the ages. Jesus was born
for all people, so his birth is depicted reflecting
the different artistic styles found in many cultures.
The display, in the cabinets at the side entrance of
the church, will continue until Sunday, January 7,
2024 the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and the
end of the Christmas season.

Re-Direction of the PILGRIMAGE TO France, Spain & Portugal APRIL 7- 18, 2024 \$4,290.00

Under spiritual direction of Fr. George Parayil,
Pastor he will be leading a group on a 12 Day
Marian Pilgrimage to France, Spain & Portugal.
Price includes Flight, Hotel, 2 Meals Daily,
Sightseeing as per itinerary, Tips to driver,
guides, restaurants and hotels. For more
information and registration call:
Stan – 647-463-9057 stan@ihtours.com
Please see the flyer that can be found in the
narthex for more information.

Gift Store

St. Padre Pio Gift Store will be closed for
Christmas and New Year's beginning Monday,
December 18, 2023 - Friday, January 5, 2024.
During this time, if you wish to purchase items,
please visit the Parish office between Monday to
Friday from 9:00am – 4:00pm.

Thank You

I would like to extend a very special thank you
to all those who helped in any way with the
Christmas celebrations, especially those who
decorated the church, our musicians and
singers, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers. Banner
Bearers and Alter Servers.

Masses for Christmas

Christmas is the feast of The Nativity of the Lord. Masses will be celebrated: Sunday, December 24 at 5:00pm Children and Families, the Children's Nativity Play will follow the Homily. 9:00pm, 12:00midnight Monday, December 25 at 8:00am (Italian), 9:15am, 10:30am and 12 noon.

Masses for New Year's

New Years is the feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. It is a major feast. Masses will be celebrated: Sunday, December 31 at 5:00pm Monday, January 1 at 8:00am (Italian), 9:15am, 10:30am and 12 noon.

First Friday

Friday, January 5 is the First Friday of the month. Mass will be celebrated at 9:00am, followed by the Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Eucharistic Adoration will be available for personal prayer time until 6:30 pm with Benediction, followed by the 7:00 pm Mass.

"Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". (Mt 11:28)

First Friday of the Month Adoration Adorers needed for the hours from 2:30pm - 5:00pm. For more information, please contact Anna 416.471.6585.

An Hour with Jesus

Can you spend an hour with Jesus? What would you talk about? Come and find out. Beginning at 6:00pm on every first Friday the month, you can come and spend an hour with Jesus in praise and worship music, meditation, reflection and adoration – all in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. At the heart of Eucharistic Adoration is our Lord Jesus Christ – so come and spend some time with him. No formal prayer is needed. Just a willingness to meet with Jesus. People of all ages are welcome to attend, to sing, praise and have a dialogue with Jesus straight from their hearts.

ShareLife wishes you a blessed Christmas

As we shelter from the winter cold, the ShareLife team thanks you for your faithful support. We wish you a warm and safe Christmas season, grateful for the enduring compassion you extend to those less fortunate. You are igniting hope for a better future.

If you wish to share your blessings this Christmas, your contribution will double in value. Your year-end gift to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched up to \$500,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or at sharelife.org/donate.

Dear friends,

Christmas is finally here. All four weeks of Advent we have been waiting and praying for the coming blessings of Christmas. And now Christmas is here. Today the angels are bringing us the good news of great joy for all the people, for to us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. This good news of great joy is for all the people of God. As people of God we have a claim to the joy and the peace that the birth of Christ brings to the world. But how do I personally enter into this "great joy" of Christmas? Christmas rings out "joy to the world," yes, but how do I make this joy my own? This is an important question, for, even though God has declared joy to the whole world, there are still many among us who do not flow in this joy, many among us who do not know how to claim this joy and make it their own personally.

Look at the word JOY. You see that it is made up of three letters: first J, then O, and lastly Y. J stands for Jesus, O for Others, and Y for You. Joy therefore is: **Jesus, Others, before You**. To know joy in our lives we need to place Jesus first in everything. Secondly, we need to try to please others before trying to please yourself. That is the recipe for joy. That is how we can convert Christmas "joy to the world" into a personal "joy in my life" now and always.

In the Christmas story we have the innkeeper who turned Joseph and Mary out in the cold night while he enjoyed the warmth of the inn. There's also Herod who wanted above all his job security as king to the point that he was prepared to kill Jesus and others. These people never get to experience the joy of the good news. On the positive side, consider the shepherds who leave everything they own, their flock, in the bush and go to adore Jesus first. Or the magi, the wise men from the East who leave the security of their homeland and make a long and dangerous journey to Bethlehem just to worship the new-born Jesus and give him gifts. These are the ones who receive God's favour, the ones who experience in their hearts the true peace and joy of Christmas. Let us today resolve to follow their good example by always placing Jesus and others before self and then the joy of Christmas will always be ours. Wish you Merry a Christmas and a Joyful New Year.

Fr. George Parayil

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