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Prayer Line 860-649-5449 or 860-643-2837



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 13, 2015

# Good News!

December 13, 2015

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)**

Zep 3:14–18a / Phil 4:4–7 / Lk 3:10–18

I love waterfalls. When I am out hiking, I will take any side path that leads to a waterfall. The first time I swam in a waterfall pool was memorable. I am not sure where this love came from, but there is something about the motion and sound of the water as it is falling that soothes my mind and enlivens my soul. I also know that waterfalls can be dangerous: The force of the water can sweep everything over the edge. Still, when Jesus refers to his living water in the encounter with the woman at the well (John 4), I immediately think of water falling into a pool and the abundant life that grows around the area.

For Christians, water signifies both life and death. At creation, God said, “Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures” (Genesis 1:20). God then used the waters of a flood to destroy wickedness on earth (while saving Noah and others). Water washes us clean and keeps us alive. On a recent trip to Israel, I had an opportunity to stand in the Jordan River and renew my own baptismal vows. I was struck by the power of the words and the coolness of the water. It also occurred to me that simply renewing my vows was not enough. Our promise, inherent in the Creed, is that we will live a life transformed by grace with the help of the Holy Spirit. That is both comforting and challenging. But Jesus, who is living water, whose Spirit brings us life and whose fire is ready to purify and make us ready, is with us now and forever.

Mary Katharine Deeley  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)

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#### Prayer Line

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#### Administrator and Director of Faith Formation

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Don Benevides 860-871-0752

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#### Sick/Shut-Ins

Patricia Cinea 860-646-0564

#### Fair and Workshops

Dorli Cloutier 860-649-6255 Beth Harney 860-649-1331

Kathy Prentice 860-742-7175

#### Website

[www.saintmauricebolton.org](http://www.saintmauricebolton.org)

#### WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

#### WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

#### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

#### VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

**THIS WEEK****3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT****DECEMBER 12 — DECEMBER 13, 2015****USHERS GROUP III****SATURDAY, DEC 12****4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for †Steve, †Mary & †Dave Jr.  
request of Charles and Shirley Brown*Altar Servers:* Maria Cinea  
*Lectors:* Georgette Pelletier  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Annedda Stiller**COFFEE SOCIAL** after Mass in the Church Basement**SUNDAY, DEC 13****7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners  
of St. Maurice Church*Altar Servers:* Lynn Mancino  
*Lector:* Judy Trzcinski  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Arlene Giglio**8:00 A.M. — 12:00 noon**  
**SLEIGH BELLS RING MINI FAIR****8:00 A.M. — 12:00 noon**  
**TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ BREAKFAST**  
at the Parish Center.**8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR** in the Church**9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES****10:00 A.M. YOUTH MASS**  
Mass offered for †Departed souls  
of the Anna Czercowy Family  
request of Andrzej and Anna Czercowy*Altar Servers:* Alex Czercowy  
*Lector:* Rita Sheetz  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Rita Sheetz**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**COFFEE SOCIAL** after Mass in the Church Basement**MONDAY, DEC 14****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners  
of St. Maurice Church**TUESDAY, DEC 15****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for †Howard Shirley  
request of Louis and Dorli Cloutier**7:15 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL****WEDNESDAY, DEC 16****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for †Samuel Gugliemino**THURSDAY, DEC 17 — NO MASS****FRIDAY, DEC 18 — NO MASS****SATURDAY, DEC 19****3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS****STEWARDSHIP****Last week's Offertory: December 6 — \$2,767****Projected Amount needed \$3,370**

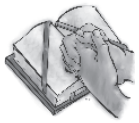
"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."  
(Philippians 1:9-10)

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

**NEXT WEEK****4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT****DECEMBER 19 — DECEMBER 20, 2015****USHERS GROUP IV****2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION — ST. MAURICE FUEL FUND****SATURDAY, DEC 19****4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for †William & †Marion Miller  
request of the Family*Altar Servers:* Maria Cinea  
*Lectors:* Bert Flynn  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Linda Wiley**COFFEE SOCIAL** after Mass in the Church Basement**SUNDAY, DEC 20****7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners  
of St. Maurice Church*Altar Servers:* Shirley Warbeck  
*Lector:* Joel Cohan  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Arlene Giglio**8:30 A.M. — 8:50 A.M. YOUTH CHOIR** in the Church**9:00 A.M. FAITH FORMATION CLASSES****10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for Deceased members of the  
†Maratta and †Quagliano Families  
request of Josephine and Silvio Maratta*Altar Servers:* Lee Ann & Ben Snuffer  
*Lector:* Paul Brown  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Kathleen Smythe**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**COFFEE SOCIAL** after Mass in the Church Basement**11:00 A.M. CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE** in the Church  
**FOOD & GIFT DISTRIBUTION** in the Parish Center**MONDAY, DEC 21****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for †Samuel Gugliemino**TUESDAY, DEC 22****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners  
of St. Maurice Church**7:15 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL****WEDNESDAY, DEC 23****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners  
of St. Maurice Church**THURSDAY, DEC 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE)****2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION — POOR & NEEDY****4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for †William & †Jessie Rosewell  
request of the Snuffer Family**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT****10:00 P.M.** Mass offered for All Parishioners  
of St. Maurice Church**FRIDAY, DEC 25 (CHRISTMAS - HOLY DAY)****2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION — POOR & NEEDY****10:00 A.M.** Mass offered for Lois Dunham  
request of Linda Wiley**SATURDAY, DEC 26****3:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE 4:00 P.M. MASS****Readings for the Week of December 13, 2015**

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18  
Monday: Nm 24:2-7/ Ps 25:4-9/Mt 21:23-27  
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23/Mt 21:28-32  
Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab, 10-14/Lk 7:18b-23  
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17  
Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25  
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

**FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH**



**ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE**

Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line, especially the new requests for this week.

Thank you. Carol and MaryAnn.



**On December 13<sup>th</sup>  
"Sleigh Bells Ring" Mini Fair**

**& the K of C Triple Play Café breakfast**

will take place at the Parish Center from **8 A.M. to 12 noon.** There are still gift items available along with mixes for your Holiday giving. Come take a look for those last minute gifts.



**Giving Tree**

**CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE**

is in the rear of the church and still has some bells for Bolton Families in need. We hope you will consider being a part of this worthwhile program of helping people of Bolton in need.

If you have any questions please call me at 860-649-6255.

Thank you for caring, Dorli



**To all of our parish family that helped with the Christmas Fair**

we give you our thanks for the job well done. Along many other contributors thank you to Georgina's Restaurant for the pizza, The Deerbuffers for apples and Larry Pesce for baskets.

**CHRISTMAS FOOD**

Food for the Christmas holiday will be delivered to local families in need next Sunday, December 20 starting at 11:00 from the Parish Center. We need food and we need drivers to help with the gifts to be delivered at the same time. To volunteer to drive contact: [tmanning818@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmanning818@sbcglobal.net)

**Christmas Pageant**

On Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th, at the 4:00 pm mass we will be having our Christmas Pageant!

There will be a practice on Sunday, December 20th at 11:00am. If you would like to take part in the pageant please let Sharon VanDine or Sherry Snuffer know asap.

**ALL YOUTH**

are invited to join the new choir. Practices are Sunday mornings from 8:30 - 8:50 in the church. Come when you can, all voices are welcome!

**FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH**



On **Sunday, December 13, 2015**, Bishop Cote will open the **Holy Year of Mercy** at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick 10:30 a.m. with a special celebration of the Eucharist. During this celebration representatives from every parish of the diocese will be commissioned as Disciples of Mercy. We will also have the traditional ritual of opening the Holy Door of Mercy. All parishioners are cordially invited to participate in this Diocesan Celebration of Mercy. Following the Mass, a reception will be held in the Cathedral Auditorium. All are invited to participate.

**CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPAIGN  
A GREAT SUCCESS!**

Thanks to the generosity of parishioners, both at parishes with schools and those without, the Catholic Elementary School Collection was able to raise over \$100,000 to help our 12 elementary schools. The fact that parishes with schools were able to receive their money immediately definitely made an impact on the collection and principals at all schools said they already have put some of the funds right to work for the students. By supporting Catholic education and recognizing how important our young people are to each of our futures, as well as to the future of our Diocese and the Church, you have given us all "Faith for the Future."

**Defending Our Religious Liberty**

During the Jubilee Year of Mercy, beginning December 8th, Pope Francis is asking us to practice both the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The corporal works of mercy are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs; while the spiritual works of mercy are actions that help our neighbors with their spiritual needs. As we keep this in mind, let us continue to pray for our religious freedom. That it be preserved so we never have to choose between helping our neighbors and following our moral beliefs.

All are invited to join Archbishop Leonard P. Blair on Sunday, December 13 for the opening ceremony of the archdiocesan Jubilee Door of Mercy at the Cathedral of St. Joseph at 3 p.m.

Religious freedom is a cornerstone of our democracy. The federal health care mandate fundamentally alters the fragile balance between government and religious groups created by the framers of our Constitution. The same First Amendment that protects religious freedom protects freedom of the press. We wouldn't stand for the government telling news programs whom to interview or what articles to write.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvania Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

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