

## 3rd Sunday of Advent

Who did you come to see? A version of this question is posed by Jesus many times in the Gospels. He asks it of Andrew and John when they begin to follow him. He asks it of Mary Magdalene in the garden of the resurrection. He asks it in today's Gospel. "What did you go out to the desert to see?" There is something innately human about "seeing." Animals have eyes — some with much more powerful vision than our own — but that's not the kind of seeing Jesus is talking about. We could phrase the question several other ways. "What are you looking for?" "What are you longing for?" "Whom do you seek?"

It is in seeing for ourselves that our suspicions or hypotheses are confirmed, that our desires discover their fulfillment, and that we can rest for a moment in certainty. John the Baptist sought certainty of Jesus' identity. "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus sends word to him based on the testimony of sight, observations of the mighty deeds Jesus has begun to work. "Go and tell John what you hear and see."

God recognizes our desire to see. In the Incarnation, the Word is made flesh. The invisible is made visible. The supernatural is made manifest in an infant who can do little more than the most natural of movements as he feeds, cries, sleeps. We don't need to wait for Christmas to see God. The work of God is all around us. Those blinded by sin "regain their sight." People overcome backgrounds of poverty and violence to make world-changing contributions. Addicts grow and heal. Truth is spoken, and people listen. Let's pray for the grace to see God's movement in our lives this week. How have you seen the work of God.

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**Collection:** For Nov. 30/Dec. 1, 2019 was \$2,943.00.

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### Advent Day of Reconciliation

**Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 3 pm to 9 pm**

Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, is the Advent Day of Reconciliation in our diocese. The Church of St. Francis of Paola will be open on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, from 3 pm to 9 pm and staffed by a priest to hear your Confession. Please invite Jesus in and take advantage of this opportunity to celebrate our Savior's offer of mercy in this Sacrament. **Fr. Tom**

## 3er Domingo de Adviento

El tercer Domingo de Adviento recibe el nombre de Gaudet, que significa alegría. "Estén siempre alegres en el Señor; se lo repito, estén alegres y tengan buen trato con todos" (Filipenses 4:4), dice la antífona de entrada. La oración colectiva también nos lleva a reflexionar en el significado permanente de esta alegría: "Mira, Señor, a tu pueblo que espera con fe la fiesta del nacimiento de tu Hijo, y concédele celebrar el gran misterio de nuestra salvación con un corazón nuevo y una inmensa alegría." El Profeta Isaías lo afirma con sus palabras de esperanza a su pueblo: "¡Animo! no teman. He aquí que su Dios, vengador y justiciero, viene ya para salvarlos."

La Navidad se acerca y su luz nos envuelve y llena de esplendor. Todo el ambiente es de fiesta y preparación. Las celebraciones Marianas nos han dejado ese gozo de albergue y acogida al que lo necesita. Ha, si comprendiéramos el motivo de alegría que decimos celebrar, entenderíamos perfectamente que se debe a que Dios y su salvación están cerca. La alegría y la salvación van juntas, no se pueden separar, nos dice la Liturgia. Por este motivo, Juan se alegra desde la cárcel al escuchar la respuesta que Jesús le envía: "Los ciegos ven, los cojos andan, los leprosos quedan limpios de la lepra, los sordos oyen, los muertos resucitan y a los pobres se les anuncia el evangelio. Dichoso aquel que no se siente defraudado por mí." Que la participación en la Eucaristía fomente actitudes que preparen a celebrar la Navidad en familia recordando y viviendo que Jesús nunca nos defraudará.

### Readings for the week of December 15, 2019

Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 [Is 35:4]/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. ]/Mt 1:18-25
Thursday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Friday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Next Sunday:	Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

### 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## A Message from Fr. Tom

If you have ever attended a live performance with a symphony orchestra, there is a wonderful moment of silence that comes just before the music begins. The musicians tune their instruments as the orchestra prepares to play. Then there is this wonderful pause—a moment of silent expectation—shared by all those present. That moment of silent expectation is something like the moment we are experiencing in this season of Advent and in the life of the church. This Sunday is also the day we light the rose candle of our Advent Wreath. This color symbolizes the nearness of the Lord, his birth and the source of our hope and joy. The joy that calls to us today does not demand that we put aside real problems or embrace naïve optimism. Rather, we are invited to affirm in our lives the source of our hope and joy which does not originate with us or with a particular state of mind. Rather, Christian hope is founded on the encounter with the person of Jesus and recognizing this presence comes to us also through the Body of Christ on earth—the church.

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## Jubilee Year Indulgence at Brooklyn Visitation Monastery

Pope Francis has announced a Jubilee Year in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the canonization of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, who is known as the “Messenger of the Sacred Heart.”

Catholics can gain a plenary indulgence by visiting a Visitation Monastery Chapel between now and Oct. 17, 2020. You are invited to do this by coming on certain dates to Visitation Monastery at 8902 Ridge Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209.

For more information visit them at the below website:  
[www.brooklynvisitationmonastery.org/jubilee](http://www.brooklynvisitationmonastery.org/jubilee)

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## Christmas Lessons & Carols before Midnight Mass

The Divine Mercy Parish Choir invites you to come to St. Nicholas Church at 11:15pm on Christmas Eve for a short concert of lessons and carols prior to Midnight Mass. It is a wonderful way to spiritually transition from the Season of Advent to the Season of Christmas. We look forward to seeing you there.

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## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

## Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

### Mass Schedule at DMP

Tues., Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	5pm St. Francis of Paola
Tues., Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Midnight Mass St. Nicholas
Wed., Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am St. Francis of Paola
Wed., Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am St. Cecilia
Wed., Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am St. Nicholas
Wed., Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am St. Francis of Paola
No 7:00pm Mass at St. Nicholas on Wed. Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	

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## Thank You

Once again the Ricco Brothers and Broadway Stages made possible another wonderful charitable work by our parish providing generous Thanksgiving Day meals for over 20 families. Many volunteers came on Thanksgiving Day morning to help. These volunteers personally made the deliveries to our homebound and opened up bonds of relationship with them. May God Bless you all and reward you for your good work.

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## Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

“Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” Work to ensure your marriage bears good fruit by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend is Sept 18-20, 2020 in Huntington, NY. For more information, call Chuck & MaryJane Young at 877-697-9963 or visit them at <https://bq-wwme.org/>

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## Online Training for Lectors

Have you thought about becoming more active in your parish? Are you a lector who wants to learn more about the Scriptures? Give back this holiday season and sign-up for a new online training program, offered in English and Spanish! Through an instructional video and short quizzes, deepen your connection to this ministry and earn your certification in as little as two hours. Sign up at [nyliturgy.teachable.com](http://nyliturgy.teachable.com)

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## Mass Book 2020

The Mass Book for 2020 is open for intentions from January to June. Come to 219 Conselyea St. to book your Masses. The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8 pm and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm.

### 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Gifts of Love—Emergency Food Pantry At Divine Mercy Parish

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome... “(Matt 25:35-36)*

Dear Friends,  
Thank you for your continued generous support of this important ministry. Please be assured that every dollar donated and every item of food that you donate is a special gift to many of our needy neighbors and strongly demonstrates your commitment to living the gospel message given to us by Matthew.  
With gratitude, love and peace during this advent season.

Food Pantry Coordinator and Volunteers

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## St. Francis of Paola Church Memorial Gifts – December 15, 2019

### BREAD & WINE

Linda Anacrelico by Santaromita Family

### ALTAR CANDLES

James N. Puccio by Wife & Family

James N. Puccio by Wife & Family

### BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE

Robert Basile by Cousin Elizabeth

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## Support for

### Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio

We need to pray for and support our Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio and for all those affected by the sexual abuse crisis in our church. It is hard for me to believe this allegation in light of how open, proactive and strong he has been as a leader in addressing this issue. The timing of its release seems to me highly suspicious. The accusation against our Bishop was made while he was in Rome meeting with the Pope and came shortly after the conclusion of his investigation in the Diocese of Buffalo. Whatever the outcome may be—we owe him our prayers. Let us remember Jesus is with his faithful people and with his church; we will survive this difficult period by God’s grace and our faith and prayers.

## Mass Intentions for the Week St. Francis of Paola Church

### Saturday, December 14, 2019

5:00pm Salvatore Livornese by wife Gaetana

### Sunday, December 15, 2019

8:00am Anthony & Bettina Giudice by Children

11:30am Angelina & Ben Tizio by Family

### Monday, December 16, 2019

7:45am John Libretto

### Tuesday, December 17, 2019

7:45am Fortunato Aliperti by Wife & Children

### Wednesday, December 18, 2019

7:45am Donnanduono Family by Antoinette & James Long

### Thursday, December 19, 2019

7:45am Pietro & Johnny by Ada

### Friday, December 20, 2019

7:45am Cono Babino by wife Nicolina Babino

### Saturday, December 21, 2019

7:45am Linda Anacrelico by Family

5:00pm Dominick & Lena Perrotto by Marie & Dom Perrotto

### Sunday, December 22, 2019

8:00am Antonio Navarro by Daughter, Husband and Family

11:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

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## Congratulations

We congratulate the following students from our parish community who have received academic accomplishments at Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School, for the first quarter.

Vincent Gangone	Principal List
Joseph Nitti	Principal List
Genna Sgrizzi	Principal List
Antonio Cipriano	First Honors
Julia Costa	First Honors

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## Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office Jeremiah Project

High School & College Discernment Group  
January 24 – 25, 2020

For more information call: 718-827-2454

DECEMBER 15, 2019

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### St. Nicholas Church

#### Sunday, December 15, 2019

10:30am For The People of Divine Mercy Parish

#### Wednesday, December 18, 2019

7:00pm Pasquale Amato by Rina & Dominick  
Sciangula

#### Sunday, December 22, 2019

10:30am Carmelo del Cid  
Maria Celeste Martinez

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**Pray For the Sick:** Dorothy Madigan, Marlena Ferone-Washack, Patricia Clarke, Lori Sefcik, Trish Randall

#### **Pray For the Recently Deceased:**

Barry J. Crisciullo, RoseAnn Quintana, Josephine Beneventin, Rita DeMartino, James Sullivan

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### Transfiguration Men's Shelter

We have completed our fall week at the Transfiguration men's shelter and would like to thank everyone who participated in providing and serving hot meals for those who may not have had one otherwise.

We have been assigned our 2020 winter week for the Transfiguration Men's Shelter. The dates we will be needing assistance are:

Sunday, January 19, 2020 through

Saturday, January 25, 2020

If you can help us by providing a complete hot meal for 35 men consisting of salad, entrée, dessert and beverage, or if you are unable to provide the food but would like to help by serving, we can always use a helping hand.

Please contact Angela Scotti @ 718-782-3881 or the Parish Office @ 718-387-0256. Please be assured whether you do this personally, with your family, group or organization your kindness and generosity is always greatly appreciated.

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### Diocesan Pilgrimage Oberammergau

#### The Passion Play

Visits to: Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Rebensburg, Passau,  
Salzburg & Munich  
May 12 -21, 2020

Bishop Octavio Cisneros *Spiritual Director*  
For more information call: 516-605-1551 x 17

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### St. Cecilia Church

#### Sunday, December 15, 2019

9:30am Angie & Barney Cavallo

Lucy & Pete LaVeglia

Lupe Di Donno

Lucy Leone

Trudyanne (Cookie) Tropiano

7:00pm In Thanksgiving to St. Pius X

#### Monday, December 16, 2019

8:30am Eleanor Mongonia

#### Tuesday, December 17, 2019

8:30am Michael & Fannie Namorato

#### Wednesday, December 18, 2019

8:30am Patricia Fox

#### Thursday, December 19, 2019

8:30am Living & Deceased Members of the  
DeGruccio Family

#### Friday, December 20, 2019

8:30am Thanksgiving to My Friend

#### Saturday, December 21, 2019

8:30am Rev. Kaare Osorio

#### Sunday, December 22, 2019

9:30am Antonio Arlistico by Children

Jo & Ed Collins

Eamon & Ray McGinn

7:00pm Venerable Pius XII

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### Wednesday Prayer Group at St. Cecilia's

The Wednesday Prayer Group that meets in the Chapel at St. Cecilia's on Wednesdays from 3 to 4 pm will not meet for the winter months of January and February. Please mark this on your calendar.

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### St. Nicholas Raffle Winners

1<sup>st</sup> #76 St. Nicholas Church

2<sup>nd</sup> #40 Victor Sandoval

3<sup>rd</sup> #58 Gina

4<sup>th</sup> #22 Alma Sandoval

Thank you to Suzette Donato for her contribution of \$250.00.

**END OF BULLETIN**  
**ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE**  
**WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

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PHONE NUMBER: **718-389-0010**

FAX NUMBER: **718-389-5090**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

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**Comments:**

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### **RECENT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES**

Divine Mercy Parish is deeply grateful to Captain Williams Glynn and representatives of the 94<sup>th</sup> Precinct who took the time to speak at a few concerning public safety issues. The old adage applies—If you see something, say something. Following is some information about reporting criminal or suspicious activity.

Call 911—Emergencies

Call 311—Quality of Life Issues

P.O. Andrea Haro

Office: (718) 383-3879

Cell: (929) 371-4355

[Andrea.Haro@nypd.org](mailto:Andrea.Haro@nypd.org)

Also note that a local community meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month with local police to receive your input at 155 Milton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 at 7pm

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### **Receive Our Parish Bulletin** **Electronically**

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to “Parishesonline.com” to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.