

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (DECEMBER 1, 2019)

Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606
www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason A. Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy:
Monday - Friday at 8:00AM

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 4:00PM
Sunday at 9:30AM

Holy Days of Obligation: 5:30PM (Vigil) & 8:00AM
Confessions: Saturday at 3:30PM (or by appointment)



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671
www.holytrinityrc.org
email: parishoffice@holytrinity.org

Fr. Jason A. Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Mary Ann Merski, Office Manager
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy:
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00AM

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:00PM
Sunday at 10:00AM

Holy Days of Obligation: 5:30PM
Confessions: Saturday at 4:30PM (or by appointment)





Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

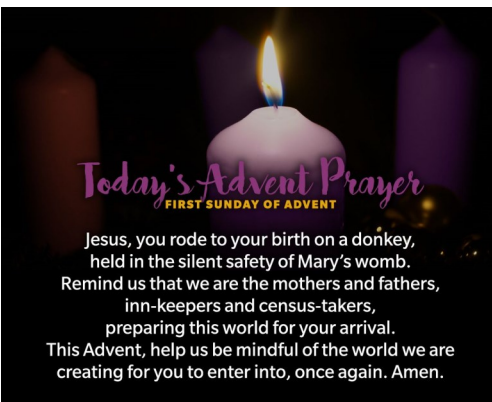


1st Sunday of Advent December 1, 2019

"I'm never getting enough rest! How can I possibly be 'asleep'?" In a world of jam-packed schedules and high anxiety levels, physical rest may be hard to come by. Yet relentless pursuit of our to-do lists and social calendars may keep our minds off of the things that really matter. Jesus knows all too well a pattern of busy, harried ignorance. *"In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage ... they did not know until the flood came and carried them all away ... two men will be out in the field ... two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left."* When it comes to the spiritual life, we can be at work or at relaxation and still be spiritually asleep.

Each year, we are called back to remember the essential things. God comes to save His people. He becomes flesh to dwell among us. Supernatural light pierces the world's darkness and our own. Advent wakes us up. *"Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."* Every Advent, we prepare to celebrate Christ's first coming at Christmas, and we anticipate his second coming at the end of time.

"At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." There's another hour, too, both known and unknown. It's the present moment. Whether it's a lazy Saturday morning or a major business proposal, whether it's attending a kindergarten play or an elderly relative's bedside, at every moment the Lord wants to enter into our hearts. This Advent, let's pray for the grace to stay alert. Christ is coming soon.



WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of December 1, 2019

Sunday:	Is 2:1-5/ Ps 122:1-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44 [1st Advent]
Monday:	Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24 [St. Francis Xavier]
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 15:29-37 [St. John Damascene]
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118: 1, 8-9. 19-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1-4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31 [St. Nicholas]
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 [St. Ambrose]
Next Sunday:	Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-13, 19/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12 [2nd Advent]

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint John's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.454.2873).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Fr. Michael Polenik, at 1.800.374.3723.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members to notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Rose Marie at 814.923.4438.

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452-3395) from Saint Stanislaus, or Kathy Benes (898-1091) or Kathy Smith (392-8974) from Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Linda at 814.864.8476.

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray Luniewski at 882-1032.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

December 2nd, 8:00AM - Vargo Family (Family)
December 3rd, 8:00AM - Rita Przepierski (Marie Przepierski)
December 4th, 8:00AM - William "Bill" Post (Dave & Ruth Jurkiewicz)
December 5th, 8:00AM - Frances Piatkowski (D. & L. Bargielski)
December 6th, 8:00AM - Ergist Family (Family)
December 7th, 4:00PM - Parishioners of Saint Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
December 8th, 9:30AM - V. & E. Gambill and Linda Love (P. & R. Gambill)

THIS FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT marks the beginning of a new Liturgical Year. Having listened to the voice of the Parish Council, and the casual conversations among parishioners, we are going to introduce some *subtle* changes to our liturgical celebrations in order to enhance our prayer and "freshen up" our worship experience. As we implement these changes, please share any feedback, or other ideas you may have, with members of the Parish Council.



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 30th
Servers: K. & K. Danowski
Lector: Ed Czulewicz
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Macie
Sunday, December 1st
Server: G. Widomski
Lector: D. Valahovic
Gifts: The Leretsas Family
Saturday, December 7th
Servers: C. & H. Rohrbach
Lector: Stephanie Wycech
Gifts: Pedersen Family
Sunday, December 8th
Servers: Shane Green
Lector: David Kurutz
Gifts: Dave Lesnieski

WOMENS' SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY



... will be held on **Sunday, December 8th** at the Polish Falcons on East Third Street. A social will begin at noon, with dinner served at 12:30PM. The price is \$15/person. Guests are WELCOMED and ENCOURAGED. Contact Nancy (454-4046) or Diane (825-5748) to make reservations.

LECTOR & EUCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULES

... for January through March, 2020 are currently being prepared. If there is a weekend you are not available, please call Katherine (864-9144) by **December 4th**.

BEGINNING THIS FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, we will offer our parishioners the opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one by dedicating a sanctuary candle. The candles cost \$10 and burn for a period of two weeks. Contact the parish office if this is of interest to you.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEEDED

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers will be needed for Christmas and New Year's Masses. A sign-up sheet is in the vestibule if you are able to help up in these ministries.



CLEANING TEAM B will be cleaning the church on December 10th, starting at 9:30AM. Many thanks to those who serve our community in this capacity!



CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Please consider joining us on Sunday, December 22nd, following the 9:30AM Mass as we "deck the halls with boughs of holly" in preparing our worship space for our Christmas celebrations.

TRADITIONAL POLISH OPŁATKI is available in the vestibule for a free-will donation. Enjoy sharing this custom with your loved ones!



Bobby Sulecki continues to gather photos and personal memories of St. Stanislaus, as well as other Polish parishes, schools, and neighborhoods. If you have any photos, news articles, or memories you would like to share with him, he would be most grateful.

All items will be returned to you. You can contact Bobby at 899-2731 or by email (suleckibobby@gmail.com). Visit his Polonia website at www.eriepoloniahistory.com

31 DAY LOTTERY — JANUARY 2020

The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a **NEW RAFFLE** throughout the month of January. The winner will be determined by the 7:00PM PA Daily Number drawing. \$500 will be awarded the first day of the month; \$100 each Sunday of the month; and \$50 the other 6 days of the week. [There will **NOT** be a "Grand Raffle" this year]. The cost per ticket is only \$5. See Chris Brocious or any Holy Name member.



NOVEMBER 1st LOTTERY WINNER #631
Chris Brocious

Holy Trinity Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

5:00PM - December 7th

Lector: Jack Kempisty

Server: Nina & Mia Mangini

EM: S. Trochowski & S. Carpenter

10:00 AM - December 8th

Lector: Steve Rimpia

Servers: B. Lazar & R. Luniewski

EM: E. Luniewski, L. Sebastian, & D. Carlson

MASS INTENTIONS

December 2nd, 8:00AM - Mass at Saint Stanislaus

December 3rd, 8:00AM - Norbert Ropelewski (J., M., & E. Ropelewski)

December 4th, 8:00AM - Mass at Saint Stanislaus

December 5th, 8:00AM - The Souls In Purgatory

December 6th, 8:00AM - Al & Carolyn DiMattio

December 7th, 5:00PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)

December 8th, 10:00AM - Ed Lackovic (Terry & Sons)

ADVENT WREATH & OFFERTORY

During the Season of Advent, individual PCEP families have volunteered to join in the opening procession and light the Advent Wreath, as well as present the offertory gifts:

December 7th - The Otto Family

December 8th - The Brieger Family



The **PURZYCKI & SEBASTIAN FAMILIES**, representing our PCEP program, will present the Advent Candle at Mass, as well as the offertory gifts at this weekend's Masses.



December 3rd: Roman Luniewski

Mary Ann Merski

December 7th: Eric Kempisty

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS MEMORAL

Parishioners are invited to memorialize their loved ones by contributing to our Christmas flowers & decoration.

Please return your envelope to the Parish Office by

December 16th and we will include your memorial in our Christmas Remembrance bulletin insert.

THE BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS will take place at Mass on December 14th & 15th. An insert describing this prayerful ministry will be in next weekend's bulletin.



Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers when the youngest

one began praying at the top of his lungs. "I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE...I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE...I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE..." His older brother leaned over and nudged the younger brother and said, "Why are you shouting your prayers? God isn't deaf." To which the little brother replied, "No, but Gramma is!"

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

12/1 Kathy Smith & Debbie Majewski;

12/2 Patty Czulewicz; 12/3 Judy Tucceri;

12/4 Ed Czulewicz; 12/5 Mary Ann Merski;

12/6 Msgr. Magraw; 12/7 Ed Korytowski

PLEASE OFFER PRAYERS FOR OUR PRIESTS THIS WEEK:

12/1 Fr. David Renne; 12/2 Fr. Bill Rice;

12/3 Fr. Paul Siebert; 12/4 Fr. John Murphy;

12/5 Fr. Glenn Whitman; 12/6 Fr. Howard King;

12/7 Msgr. Joe Wardanski



Pre-orders for this year's Christmas Market, which will be held on December 20th & 21st, **must be turned in by next Sunday (December 8th)**. Please support PCEP and the children who benefit from this Catholic School tuition assistance program.

WEEKLY OFFERING (NOVEMBER 17, 2019)

Regular Offertory	\$2,999.00	(57/146 mailed)
Loose Cash	\$81.00	
Total Offertory	\$3,080.00	
Church Heat Env.	\$154.00	
Votive Candles	\$35.00	
Mass Attendance: 5:00PM = 68 / 10:00AM = 105		

THIS WEEK		JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal	\$3,000.00	\$60,000.00
Amount we need	\$2,365.00	\$45,500.00
Amount Received	\$3,080.00	\$43,460.00
Net over/under	715.00	(\$2,040.00)

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL (2019) AS OF NOVEMBER 18:

Pledges:	\$26,185.00	Paid: \$24,310.00
Due:	\$1,875.00	Assessment: \$12,421.00
*80 Families have contributed to the CSA		

"You, too, must be prepared, for at a time you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

- Matthew 24:44



THE HOLY TRINITY PARISH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 2ND & DECEMBER 6TH.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Another year has passed, and we are again approaching the annual collection for our Retired Religious to be held in parishes on December 7th and 8th. This event has significant benefits for retired Sisters. Here in the Diocese of Erie, there are 175 religious women over the age of 70. That includes 65 from ages 70 to 79, 83 from ages 80 to 89 and 27 sisters over 90. There are 30,000-retired religious throughout the country. The Retirement Fund for Religious offers financial support for those Catholic Sisters, Brothers and Religious order priests who worked for years for little or no money. Your generous gift provides vital support for their health care. Last year the collection in this diocese netted nearly \$166,000 which when returned to the religious of this area helped defray costs of medication, nursing care, medical equipment, transportation, physical and occupational therapy and other necessary needs of our elderly Sisters. Senior Religious are a treasure in the Church. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, religious education programs, hospitals, social service agencies and countless other ministries, many of which still serve our Church today. This year we are celebrating 25 years of service by the Mercy Center for Women and Erie Dawn, which help with housing and other needs for women, as well as the St. Benedict Child Development Center. These ministries and many others are examples of the tremendous influence that women religious have had in this diocese. I join you in praising God for their faithful and generous service to the Church in the past and continuing in the present. Please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious. I understand that you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for an increase of vocations to the consecrated life and for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious.

+Lawrence T. Persico
Bishop of Erie

CORRECTION: ANOINTING OF THE SICK

... will take place during Mass at **Holy Trinity** on the December 15th, *Gaudete Sunday* - a Sunday of "Rejoicing." Please consider inviting anyone who desires to celebrate this sacrament to the 10:00AM Mass. Perhaps you can offer someone, who otherwise cannot drive, a ride to Mass. An Anointing Mass will be scheduled at St. Stan's during the season of Lent.

Since December 8th falls on a Sunday, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to December 9th and is **NOT** a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

CONFESSIONS IN POLISH OFFERED

Fr. Joe Gregorek has graciously made himself available at St. Stan's to hear confessions in Polish on Sunday, December 15th, starting at 3:00PM.

St. Stan's will host an afternoon of "Lessons & Carols" on **December 15th at 2:00PM**. This is a traditional Advent devotion where scripture readings are interspersed with Advent songs to help us better prepare for our celebration of Christmas.

THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH ORGANIZATION

... will host their annual clothing distribution party on December 7th from 10:00AM - 2:00PM at a *new location*: Saint Paul Center (453 West 16th Street). For more information, or to become involved in this ministry, call Tim Nowakowski at 566-6435.

DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Join over 500,000 people journeying through Advent together. Sign up for free today. Be inspired each day as you journey towards Christmas. Go to:

www.dynamiccatholic.com/

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: 4:00PM - St. Stan's / 4:30PM - Holy Trinity
Christmas: 9:30AM - St. Stan's / 10:00AM - Holy Trinity

SERVICE OF HEALING

An evening of prayer, music, laying of hands and quiet reflection. Monday, December 9, 2019 at 7:00PM at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church. All are welcome!

Content
NOT
Available

DUE TO AN EARLIER BULLETIN DEADLINES BECAUSE OF THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS, STEWARDSHIP/FINANCIAL REPORTS MAY BE UNAVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PUBLICAION. THEY WILL BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE BULLETINS.



This Advent, on December 4th, churches throughout the Diocese of Erie (including St. Stan's & Holy Trinity) will be open from 5:00 - 7:00PM for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Stop by any church and rediscover the healing power of God's love and forgiveness.

Sunday, Dec 01, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Twenty-five reasons to smile

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44.

"At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

It's Advent! Jesus is coming soon. Colored lights dance against the dark. Carols exalt us (and the "Jingle Bells" dogs make us laugh). John Lennon, who imagined a world without religion, couldn't imagine one without Christmas. Holiday cards keep on coming. Tinsel. Evergreens. Angels. Lighting family Advent wreaths. Sleigh bells. Generous hearts. Visitors. Parties. Cookies with sprinkles. Sparkly sweaters. Fuzzy mittens. Manger scenes. Nativity plays. Flash mobs singing "Messiah" at the mall. Children's faces. Reconciliations. The hope of peace on earth. Good will within reach everywhere.

Monday, Dec 02, 2019

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Warming up to Advent

Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11

"Many... will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob..."

Today is the first weekday in Advent, and the readings underscore the season's sense of warmth and joyful anticipation. As our days grow cooler, Isaiah provides an image of God protecting the Israelites from the elements: "the Lord's glory will be shelter and protection." The psalm, too, trumpets a sense of joy and protection under God: "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." Then the gospel brings us an Advent sense of happy expectation, with Jesus envisioning the faith-filled centurion at the heavenly banquet. Today, as you slip on a sweater to fight a chill, or share a meal with others, take heart in being part of the worldwide Christian community beginning our Advent season of warmth and joyful anticipation.

Tuesday, Dec 03, 2019

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Welcome everybody

Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24

"Blessed are the eyes that see what you see."

How can you live out Catholic teaching to defend the sacred life and dignity of every precious human being? In lots of way, of course. But one for today is the observance of International Day of Persons with Disabilities, promoted by the United Nations since 1992. Think about how you can support the rights and wellbeing of persons with disabilities and help include them "in every aspect of political, social, economic, and cultural life." Promote awareness and celebrate their achievements; and if you yourself have a disability, celebrate your own achievements as well! Order an event pack for your organization at idpwd.org.

Wednesday, Dec 04, 2019

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Come to your senses

Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

"They all ate and were satisfied."

Saint John of Damascus is famous for opposing the Iconoclast heresy of the 700s. Iconoclasts said it was wrong to venerate sacred images of any sort, but John wrote three different treatises to explain why ours is essentially a "smells and bells" religion, honoring the Incarnation by using all five senses God gave to both us and Jesus. "When we see the crucifix, we

remember Christ's saving Passion," he wrote. "We fall down to worship not the piece of wood, but the One who is imaged." And when one of John's mentors berated him for writing hymns—saying they weren't a worthy spiritual pursuit—it is said that the Blessed Mother berated the mentor in a dream! Be sure to enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of this holiday season—remembering our Creator, who asks that we don't love abstractly but "in the flesh."

Thursday, Dec 05, 2019

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Can you lend a hand?

Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

"None of those who cry out, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of God but only the one who does the will of my Father."

December 5 is the day set aside by the United Nations General Assembly as International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development. It is a long title but its purpose is something we all understand: to encourage governments to recognize volunteer efforts that promote development and peace. Advent is a season of hope, and volunteers by their generosity of hearts and hands give us reason to hope for this world. Say a prayer of gratitude for volunteers throughout our world whose sacrifices promote the common good. Ask for grace to be a sign of hope today.

Friday, Dec 06, 2019

MEMORIAL OF NICHOLAS, BISHOP

Protect the innocent

Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31

"But a very little while . . ."

In every household where children live, shoes could be lined up outside the door this morning, full of candy and tiny treats. This brief preview of Christmas is mercifully given to assuage the plaintive query, "Will we ever get there?" From spare biographical details about Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra in the fourth century, marvelous legends have arisen. All underline his protection of children, so let's invoke him during an era of terrible child exploitation. In his honor, place the National Human Trafficking Hotline in your phone or on your fridge: 888-373-7888. Call if anything seems amiss.

Saturday, Dec 07, 2019

MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Uproot income inequality

Isaiah 30:19-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5-8

"His heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd."

Saint Ambrose (c. 340–397) was the bishop of Milan and one of the four original doctors of the church along with Augustine, Jerome, and Gregory the Great. Ambrose taught the necessity of being united with the poor. He said that charitable giving was not an act of generosity but rather a restitution of resources that God had originally provided to all but have been taken over by the rich and powerful. Speaking in the United States in 2014, Pope Francis said that income inequality in our society was the "root of all social evil." Catholics need to fight against income inequality.

