

**First Sunday of Advent
28-29 November 2015**

JBM-HH Catholic Community
101 McNair Rd, Fort Myer, VA 22211
(703) 696-3532 www.jbmhhcatholicparish.com
Pastor: Fr. Fred Wendel 703-696-5688 or alfred.w.wendel2@mail.mil
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Joe Pak 206-549-6169 or 703-697-2066 or deacon@jbmhhcatholicparish.com
Emergency Contact: Marshall Desk SGT 703-696-3525
Mass: 5PM Saturday Vigil, 9AM Sunday, Noon M-F.
Daily Mass: Noon in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Reconciliation: 11:30-11:45AM Tuesday-Friday in Room 112
Catholic Coordinator: Pam Ortiz info@jbmhhcatholicparish.com
Registration: Forms available on website or from an usher
Sacraments and Sponsor Letters: Requires registration. Fr. Fred has pastoral jurisdiction only for active duty military and their family members
E-Bulletins: Available on website; e-mailed each Thursday. Please add @jbmhhcatholicparish.com to "safe sender" list. Contact Pam with registrations changes or to Opt Out of receiving the e-bulletin.

Clergy Notes

Dear Catholic Community,
This weekend we begin a new Liturgical Year with the Season of Advent. This season will be 4 weeks long and the color for the season is a purplish blue. Why that color? It's because during this season we are not only preparing for Jesus who will be King (purple symbolizes kingship); but we also focus on the person of Mary and her part in God's plan of salvation (Mary's color is blue). In the season of Advent we celebrate the three comings of Jesus: 1. in his birth, 2. in our lives now, 3. at the end of time.
This is a busy season because there's confusion between what the church is celebrating and what is focused on in our daily lives. We hear Christmas carols, we run around shopping, we put up Christmas trees, we decorate our homes, and we have parties. There's nothing wrong with this, but we need to remember that the Christmas Season really doesn't begin until Christmas Eve with the first Mass of Christmas and goes through the Baptism of the Lord.
I pray that, amid the busyness of our lives, you will take time to reflect on what it's really all about. The little blue book that you receive this Advent is a great opportunity to do just that. Take a few minutes EACH day to read, reflect and prayer.

Blessings this Advent Season,
Father Fred

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER--for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Military Chaplaincy; for our deployed troops and their families; for our parishioners who are ill; and for our deceased:

Deployed: FC2 Joseph Reed, USN; Ginny Ortiz, Peace Corps, AEAN AJ Ortiz, USN

Deceased: Wilbur Tucker, father of Dave Tucker

Healing: Buddy Craven, Joseph Toth, Jeanmarie Jonston, Jim Campbell, Alfred Prados, Jim Egan, Len Trahan, Bob Bowen, Kevin Tighe, Bob Schaaf, Alexis Coffey, Frank Bernardo, Nimpa Bautista, Bonnie Benne, Richard Wicks, Richard Brysacz (father of Margaret Asten), Morris McGregor, John Bikus, Suzie Kumashiro, Hamlin Ortiz (father of Ham Ortiz), Randy Krug, Justin Cimino, Jack Doyle, Virginia Hoh, Jeff Lepak, Al and Marilyn Hanson, Russell Plaisance, Warren Krug, Gigi Goode, Betsy Plowman, Warren Efting, Barbara Nestor

~ Please contact Pam to remove names from Deployed and Healing lists~

Introduction to Today's Readings

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-15 The prophet Jeremiah lived at a difficult time in Jewish history. Jerusalem, their beloved capitol, had been destroyed, and most of the people taken captive to far-off Babylon, which is in present-day Iraq. Despite this gloomy setting, Jeremiah expresses the conviction that the Lord will raise up a new leader from the line of David to restore and rebuild their native land.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 The date was some 30 years after Christ's death and resurrection. The place was a city in northeast Greece called Thessalonica, where Christians were being persecuted. Paul, who had brought the Gospel there, heard about their perseverance and sent a letter of encouragement.

To you, Oh Lord, I lift my soul. Psalm 25

Announcements

Holy Year of Mercy: On the **8th of December**, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica will be opened. Pope Francis stated in his letter *Misericordiae Vultus* that on that day The Holy Door will become a DOOR OF MERCY through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instills hope. On the following Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome will be opened also. In the following weeks, the Holy Doors of the other Papal Basilicas will be opened. We will see this happen at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. On the same Sunday, Pope Francis will announce that in every local church, at the cathedral of special significance, a Door of Mercy will be opened for the duration of the Holy Year which lasts until November 20, 2016. At the discretion of the local bishop, a similar door may be opened at any shrine frequented by large groups of pilgrims. In this Jubilee Year, let us allow God to surprise us. He never tires of casting open the doors of his heart.

Prayer for the Holy Year of Mercy: Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal; and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if address to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!" You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. AMEN.

Hanging of the Greens: Join us as the Protestant and Catholic communities gather together on Saturday, **5 December**, at 0900 to decorate the chapel for Advent and Christmas.

Advent Penance Service is Thursday, **10 December**, Memorial Chapel, beginning at 1900. Several priests are participating, allowing for the chance of individual confession. Whether it's been a long or short time since you've been to confession, plan to be present.

Registration is now open for **Mid-Atlantic Congress 2016, 4-6 February** at the Baltimore Hilton. A great opportunity to learn from, network and pray with some of the finest Church leaders from AMS and the mid-Atlantic region. Event details can be found at MAC 2016's website – www.midatlanticcongress.org. Contact Pam at info@jbmhhcatholicparish.com no later than **6 December** if interested in attending as she is coordinating group registrations and hotel accommodations.

Need a Christmas tree or wreath? St. Thomas Moore Cathedral Knights of Columbus is selling them in their parking lot starting 28 November through 20 December; 1800-2100 M-F and 0900-2100 weekends. The cathedral is located at 105 N Thomas St in Arlington.

Flower Dedication: A flower chart has recently been posted on the wall in Betsy Hendrix's office. You can request to have the flowers on a particular Sunday dedicated in honor of a loved one. There is no charge for the flower dedication. If you wish, you may add a bit to your regular donation.

November 28 through December 18

SAT & SUN		MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
28  29 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> NO Religious Education Classes	30 1800 RCIA	DEC 1 1100 Bible Study	2	3 1100 Daily Mass 1130 Advent Recital Series 1900 K of C Roundtable	4	
5 0900 Hanging of the Greens <i>DO: Holiday Voucher Program – Christmas Sat & Sun</i> 	6 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> Name Tag Sunday 1030 Baptism Class 1030 EPIC 1030 Pageant Rehearsal, Old Post Chapel	7 1800 RCIA	8 <i>Immaculate Conception</i> No Bible Study 1200 Mass 1800 Mass <i>Jubilee Year of Mercy begins</i>	9	10 1100 Daily Mass 1130 Advent Recital Series 1900 Penance Service	11
12 	13 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 0900 Christmas Pageant & Youth Mass	14 1800 RCIA	15	16	17 1100 Daily Mass 1130 Advent Recital Series	18

Offertory for 21-22 November 2015 Please make checks payable to C.T.O.F.

1700 Vigil: \$1,676.00 0900 Mass: \$2,897.50 **TOTAL: \$4,573.50** Attendance: 395
The next designated offering is the weekend of **5-6 December** for the Holiday Voucher Program – Christmas.