

Fr. Ken's "Korner"



Greetings and blessings of the week, I hope that the week has been a good one for you. Here we are in the season of Advent – a season of spiritual pre-natal care as we look forward in anticipation to the commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ. This hopeful season, as I am sure you noticed at Mass, is visible different as the color of the vestments has changed from the green of Ordinary Time to the violet of Advent. The Old Testament readings of Advent speak of the hopes of the people. “...Clearly, their hopes were no different from ours or from any human being’s: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, and an end to suffering, pain and misery...” Prominent in our liturgies of Advent are John the Baptist and Mary who “...serve as models for the Church in discerning the presence of our Savior in the world...”



“...Advent has a two-fold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming to us is remembered, and as a season when that remembrance directs our mind and heart to await Christ’s second coming at the end of time...”

The “Korner” may be shorter this week than usual due to the fact that the bulletin had to be emailed to Liturgical press on Monday, the 24th because the Thanksgiving holiday required that the bulletin be submitted on Monday instead of the usual day, Wednesday.

Thank you to everyone who donated time, monies and food to help our parish St. Vincent de Paul society to help provide a Thanksgiving meal with all the “fixins” to those we were able to help (the demand always exceeds the resources). We would like to extend a hearty

“Thank you” to Sacred Heart High School in Kingston for their efforts in collecting and delivering food to help stock our food pantry and provide assistance with the Thanksgiving provisions. We are grateful to those volunteers who spent Monday at the Parish Center putting together the food baskets that were picked up on Monday by those people who were in need. We are truly blessed by their efforts, as well as your generous and ongoing donations to our parish food pantry. This ongoing effort would not be possible without your cooperation and support.

There are still some tickets available for the parish trip to the Boston Pops on Friday, December 12th. The cost of the round trip motor coach and ticket to the Pops is fifty-five dollars. For further information, or to sign up, please call Terry Curley at the Parish Center.

We continue to ask for your prayers for our ill and confined parishioners who are not able to be with us as we gather to pray together at Mass. Kindly please remember a parishioner’s son-in-law who is

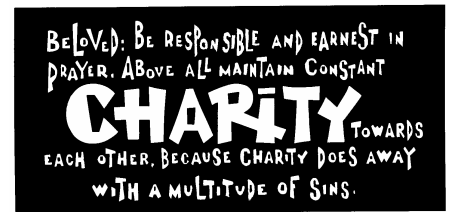
young and suffering with cancer that will require him to enter the hospital for a month of treatment. If you would, please also remember a woman in our parish who has been undergoing medical tests for the last couple of weeks.

Several of our parishioners have recently, or will this week, celebrate milestones in their lives. Happy fifty-second wedding anniversary to Louis and Edith Mark as they celebrate their day on Tuesday, December 2^d. Two days later, on December 4th, Terry Curley and her husband, Michael commemorate their thirty-seventh wedding anniversary. Friday, December 5th, twins in our parish celebrate their “jour de naissance”. Happy Birthday to Madeleine Butterfield and her twin brother, Ray La Forest. They are not the only people in the parish for whom December 5th is a milestone. We extend best wishes to Eda and “Sonny” Provenzano as they celebrate their fifty-fourth wedding anniversary.



The St. Peter’s Women’s League meets on Wednesday, the 3rd of December. Friday the 5th,

As we begin a new church year, we also celebrate the feast days of saints on the. Wednesday, December 3rd, we celebrate the feast the one who is the patron saint of the Apostleship of Prayer, and the foreign missions, along with the patroness Ste. Therese of Lisieux (the “Little Flower”). He was one of the founding Jesuits (in the original group, which, by the way, had its origins in Paris, France near Montmartre), who hailed from Navarre in Spain. He died in 1552 at the age of forty-six on the island of Sancion off the coast of China. He is the “other” St. Francis: St. Francis Xavier. His missionary endeavors brought him to India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Japan. Thursday, December 4th, we mark the feast of a saint who may be well be less known to most people. It is the feast of St, John of Damascus. The last of the Greek Fathers, he died in 749. He was the “...first of the East



to formulate a comprehensive synthesis of Christian dogma...” Saturday, December 6th, is the feast of a well known saint, although not many are familiar with his life story. It is the feast of St. Nicholas, who died in the 4th century. St. Nicholas was the bishop of Myra in Asia Minor. He was a “...model pastor noted for charity...” Known as “Sinter Claus” among the Dutch, he is the patron saint “... of children, bankers, pawnbrokers, sailors, perfumers, brides, unmarried women, travelers, fishermen, dock workers, brewers, poets and prisoners...” He is also a patron saint of “...Russia, Greece, Sicily, Lorraine, and Apulia in Italy where his relics are enshrined in Bari...” May the Lord’s blessings smile kindly upon you and your loved ones in the coming week. Your brother in faith, Fr. Ken.