

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 4, 2016



Second Sunday of Advent

Note from Fr. Joe ...

Each year on this 2nd Sunday of Advent we're introduced to a central figure of the season – John the Baptist. In our Gospel, Matthew uses these simple words – “John the Baptist appeared.” And, quoting from the prophet Isaiah, the passage further tells us that he was “A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord.” Among other things, John the Baptist reminds us of the importance of the virtue of humility in our lives, as well as the difference that one person can make in the lives of others.

In terms of humility, here's how St. Augustine puts it, “We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory...He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself. He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.” (*Sermon 293, 3*)

Yet, to deny one's talents and abilities would be false humility, since, as a virtue, humility actually entails acknowledging our gifts and from whom they come – and then using them. But do we sometimes hold back? Do we doubt the difference that we can make? John the Baptist humbly, but forcefully calls us to “bear good fruit,” as we prepare the way for Christ in our lives and in our world. Each one of us can make a difference – and many do in this parish. Just look at the “Turkeys to the Table” project from a few weeks ago; hundreds of families in need were fed through your stewardship. And, currently, angels are flying onto the trees at the back of the Villanova Church and the Rosemont Chapel as we participate in the “Advent Giving Tree” campaign.

One gentle reminder regarding stewardship is related to how Christmas falls this year. Since it's on a Sunday, we'll lose an entire regular Sunday collection. Please try and keep this in mind as you consider your gift of treasure to the parish this holiday. Thank you! And one other reminder – please be careful as to where you park during the Sunday 10:30am Masses. I understand that things have been in a state of flux, given the construction at the University, but spaces around the Church are meant for those with special mobility needs. In addition, spaces near the Monastery are reserved for the friars who live there. I found myself up on campus at the end of the 10:30am Mass the past couple of weeks and noticed cars parked even in areas clearly marked with yellow lines. If at all possible, use the new surface parking areas off of St. Thomas Way.

Finally, don't forget to take a break and enter more fully into the season this Tuesday evening, December 6th at 7:30pm in the Villanova Church. It's “Lessons and Carols,” featuring our Parish Choir & Children's Choir. Hope to see you there!

God Bless!
Fr. Joe

Stewardship Thought for the Week

“Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” Matthew 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk. Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

ADVENT SEASON



DECEMBER 7th—VIGIL MASS
5:30PM - Rosemont Chapel

**DECEMBER 8th - FEAST OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
Holy Day Masses

12:05PM - Villanova Church
12:05PM - Rosemont Chapel
5:30PM - Villanova Church
7:00PM - Villanova Church

**COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 7:30pm
in the Villanova Church.

We will also have Reconciliation after our 12:05pm Mass in the Rosemont Chapel every Friday during the Advent Season.

Every Tuesday thru Saturday morning during Advent, we will have Morning Prayer in the Rosemont Chapel at 7:30am during the week and 8:30am on Saturdays.



During the season of Advent, Fr. Michael will be conducting two classes on the Infancy Narratives as found in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. These talks will be focused on the scriptural accounts of the birth of Christ, which will serve as the basis for the Gospel readings at the Sunday and weekday Masses during the Advent and Christmas season.

The object of these talks is to enhance your understanding and greater appreciation of the great Mystery of the Incarnation: The eternal Word of God becoming Flesh and dwelling amount us. "For God so loved the world that he have his only begotten Son." John 3:16

Classes will be offered on Monday evenings December 12th and 19th. Both classes will be conducted at 7:00pm in the Parish Center PC1. Mark your calendar. Please join us!



CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Friday in Advent following 12:05 Liturgy
Every Saturday following the 9:00am Liturgy

Communal Reconciliation

Wednesday, December 14th
7:30pm Villanova Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th

Daily Mass & Reconciliation - 9:00am -
Rosemont Chapel

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM (Villanova Church)

4:00PM (Rosemont Chapel)

(Please bring a baby gift for the
Presentation of the Gifts.)

6:00PM (Villanova Church)

6:00PM (Rosemont Chapel)

10:30PM (Villanova Church)

(Musical Prelude begins at 10:00PM)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30AM - Villanova Church
(Only one Liturgy on Christmas Day)

Masses for the January 1, 2015 Holyday

Thursday, January 31st: 5:30PM Vigil Mass

Friday, January 1st: 9:00AM Mass

Both Masses are in the Rosemont Chapel

Mass for the Intentions Week

Mon., Dec. 5th 12:05PM-RMCH	Advent Weekday Mr & Mrs. John Bright - Ximena Coriat
Tues., Dec. 6th 12:05PM-RMCH	Advent Weekday; Saint Nicholas Jeanne Stokes - Powers Family
Wed., Dec. 7th 12:05PM-RMCH	Saint Ambrose Deceased Members & Benefactors of O.S.A.
5:30PM_RMCH	Ecock & Seeds Families
Thurs., Dec. 8th 12:05PM-RMCH 12:05PM-VNCH 5:30PM-VNCH 7:00PM-VNCH	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother
Fri., Dec. 9th	Advent Weekday; Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
12:05PM-RMCH	In gratitude to St. Joseph for a favor
Sat., Dec. 10th 9:00AM-RMCH	Advent Weekday
5:00PM-RMCH	Kathleen Segelmilch - Family
Sun., Dec. 11th 7:30AM-VNCH 9:00AM-RMCH	Third Sunday of Advent For the Parishioners of St. Thomas Ann Marie Rodolico - Hennessy & Rodolico Families
10:30AM-VNCH	Philip Sharkey - Moran Family

Thank you for your participation in God's Plan for Giving. Your generosity for the weeks of

November 19 and 20, 2016

Number of Envelopes	449
Envelope Amount	\$16,355.13
Loose Cash	\$2,377.51
Electronic Offerings	\$18,124.00
Other	\$110.00
Total	\$36,966.64
10% Tithe	\$3,696.66
Income for Nov. 22, 2015	\$35,788.60

November 26 and 27, 2016

Number of Envelopes	294
Envelope Amount	\$13,686.00
Loose Cash	\$1,691.88
Electronic Offerings	\$1,819.10
Total	\$17,196.98
10% Tithe	\$1,719.70
Income for Nov. 29, 2015	\$20,597.19

CENTERING PRAYER ROSEMONT CHAPEL

Centering Prayer is held on Monday mornings at 7:30am in the Rosemont Chapel. All are welcome... even if you have never been in a Centering Prayer group.

Schedule of Events for the week of: December 4, 2016 Recitation of the Rosary after the daily Liturgy.



Monday, December 5, 2016

Centering Prayer—RMCH	7:30AM
Golden Living Ministry	10:15AM
Art Class - PC1	11:00AM
Advent Giving Tree Wrap Session	12:30pm-3:00PM
Pastoral Council Mtg - PC1	7:00AM
Food Addicts in Recovery - PC2	7:00PM

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

Morning Prayer-RMCH	7:30AM
BP Screening after 12:05 Mass	
SFC Mentors	12:45PM
Lessons and Carols - VNCH	7:00PM

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Women's 11th Step Spirituality - PC1	6:00AM
Morning Prayer-RMCH	7:30AM
Food Addicts in Recovery - PC2	9:30AM
Honickman Ministry	10:15AM
Exercise Class	10:00AM
Religious Education Program	4:45PM
Vigil Mass-RMCH	5:30PM

Thursday, December 8, 2016—

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Morning Prayer-RMCH	7:30AM
Walking with Purpose - Aud	9:00AM
Holyday Mass-RMCH	12:05PM
Holyday Mass-VNCH	12:05PM
Holyday Mass-VNCH	5:30PM
Holyday Mass-VNCH	7:00PM
Walking with Purpose - Aud	7:00PM
RCIA- PC2	7:00PM

Friday, December 9, 2016

Morning Prayer-RMCH	7:30AM
Reconciliation after the 12:05 Mass	

Saturday, December 10, 2016

Morning Prayer-RMCH	8:30AM
Habitat for Humanity (offsite)	8:30AM-3:30PM
ADVENT GIVING TREE	

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Mass with 5th Graders	9:00AM
Religious Education Program	10:10AM
RCIA - Aud	10:30AM
Rosemont Village Eucharistic Prayer Service	10:30AM
Youth Gathering	
ADVENT GIVING TREE	

DEVON PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Devon Prep, an all-boys, private, Catholic school will be hosting a Scholarship/Entrance Exam for students in grades 5-8 on Sunday, December 11th at 8:30AM.

You can pre-register at www.devonprep.com.

Walk-ins are welcome. For more information:

Email: kmulholland@devonprep.com



We wish a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish:

Michael & Christin Alekna of Bryn Mawr
Andrew & Melissa Stagliano & Family of Media

Congratulations to the newly Baptized member of our parish:

Emily Christine, daughter of Christopher & Susanne Riley

Resting in Peace:

Rev. Eugene DelConte, O.S.A.
Ms. Alexis Mahady

Remember those in need of our prayers, especially:

Julia Barlow, Frank Beston, Katherine Breck, Eileen Gillen,
Patricia Ann Harley, Bridget Kelly, Jerry O'Connor, Bert
Rodgers, Annie Sears, and Robert J. Wahl.

**Please pray for our soldiers assigned in Afghanistan
and in other parts of the world. Please also pray
for the soldiers who are returning from
their assignments, especially the wounded.**

*Villanova Celebration of
Nine Lessons and Carols*

Be part of a Villanova Holiday Tradition

Join the St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Choir and
Children's Choir for an Evening of Advent and
Christmas Music and Readings

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 7:30pm

St. Thomas of Villanova Church

All are Welcome!!



**STV PRESCHOOL
NEWS**

The Children continue preparing for Jesus' birthday. In celebration of Advent, the children continue to join in prayer and song in anticipation of Jesus' coming.

It is time to register your children for the 2017-2018 School Year. Applications and tuition prices are available. Please call or email the office for more information at 610-525-7554 or stv.maryshouse@gmail.com or find out about our school at www.stvpreschool.org.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

PRAYERLINE

The parish prayerline is waiting for your prayer request. This week call Mary Ann Barrow at 610-525-4164 or email stv1964@verizon.net to activate the parish prayerline. Two parish teams are available for your special intentions.

PROJECT HOPE

This is a transportation ministry for our Parish. If you need a ride to your medical appointments or to food shop this week, please call Pat Herbison at 610-527-3556. Please give at least 3 days notice.

DINNERS TO THE DOORSTEP

This ministry is for parish families who are in crisis or for parish couples welcoming a new baby. Homemade dinners are delivered. Two parish coordinators keep a list of volunteers who are called as needed. If you are in need of this delicious community support, please call Sarah Breck at 610-975-0444.

ST. FRANCIS INN

We are forming a parish work group to serve the midday meal at the St. Francis Inn in Kensington on Sunday, December 18th. The Inn tries to meet the immediate daily needs of the poor and homeless people they serve with food, clothing and hospitality. This ministry is open to anyone 16 years or older. For more information and to sign up, contact our parish coordinator, Sheila Holst at 610-659-5828 or hagan1126@verizon.net.

CALLING ALL MEN!

Guys, please join us for our **next Men's Gathering on Thursday, December 15th**.

We'll have a **Communion Service**, led by **Deacon Don**, in the **Rosemont Chapel at 6:30am**. Then we'll head down to the Auditorium for some refreshments and pre-Christmas fellowship, before we go off to work or our other responsibilities.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, with **Fr. Joe**, also will be available after the **Service**. **Remember – invite a friend from the parish or otherwise!** We hold these gatherings the third Thursday of each month, so mark your calendars and plan ahead.



A big thank you from Carla Carple who runs the Food Pantry at ST. Cyprian's Parish....

"So many thanks goes to STV parishioners for all of the lovely gifts of food including the frozen turkeys and all the trimmings. Many people will enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving thanks to all of you. And we so appreciate all of the food you send to us **all year round!**"

A big Thank You for over 350 families from St. Cyprian's Parish Community enjoyed Thanksgiving Dinners because of YOU!!

Thank you.....

- To the St. Francis Inn Team who served the mid-day meal on November 20th to over 300 hungry people
- To the parishioners who dropped off hygiene supplies and diapers for the St. Francis Inn.



Active Mercy Opportunity

Join our parish team on Saturday, December 10th
From 8:30am-3:30pm

You must be 16 years of age. Philadelphia Build is breaking ground on a new affordable housing community at Diamond Park in North Central Philadelphia.

There will be plenty of inside and outside work to do. If you would like to carpool, meet at St. Thomas in the rear parking lot of the Rosemont Chapel at 7:30am. You can also drive directly to the site and park on the street. RSVP is required.

Contact our Parish Coordinator, Bob Schreiber. RSVP email: Robert.schreiber1@verizon.net or Call him at 610-649-7904 or cell: 610-357-2708.

THE INN KEEPER MINISTRY



"She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room at the inn." Luke 2:7

In 2015, we welcomed over 3,181 parishioners, extended family members and visitors to our parish churches on Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning.

Would You be willing to share one hour before and 15 minutes after the Mass you plan to attend to make each person who joins us for Christmas Liturgy feel....

* warm * welcome * wanted *worthy

What is the job description of an Inn Keeper?

- Stand outside the doors of the Church, open the doors, express a warm welcome, and hand out liturgy booklets.
- After Mass you will stand outside doors expressing a goodbye and asking our guests to "come back", distribute a Christmas Card, and make sure the luminaries are ready for the next Mass.

If you can be an Inn Keeper to welcome the Body of Christ this Christmas, contact

- 4:00pm Mass at Rosemont Chapel - Denise Dicarlo denisedicarlo@verizon.net
- 4:00pm Mass at Villanova Church - Lori Powers lori.powers@verizon.net
- 6:00pm Mass at Rosemont Chapel - Betty Ann Mazanek — mazaneks@aol.com
- 6:00pm Mass at Villanova Church - Jill Gilmore jgilmore209@comcast.net
- 10:30pm Mass at Villanova Church - Meg Clementi clementipm@aol.com
- 10:30am Christmas Day Mass at Villanova Church - Mary Eileen Manion joseph.manion@verizon.net

Women's 11th step meditation – each **Wednesday from 6am to 6:45am** in the Parish Center

Step 11 – Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out. Join us, even if you are not part of "program", for a great way to start our day as "we ask God to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest or self-seeking motives." Page 86 of AA Big Book



The Parish Community of St. Thomas of Villanova announces the Advent Giving Tree The First 3 Sundays of Advent, 2016

For many years our parish community has worked with Campus Ministry of Villanova University to buy hundreds of gifts of clothing and gift cards for children and adults in five faith communities listed below.

St. Cyprian Parish, our sister parish in West Philadelphia — Providence Center sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Child — St. Elizabeth's Community (Project HOME) — Holy Family Nursing Home in SW Philadelphia by the Little Sisters of the Poor Mercy — Neighborhood Ministries, in North Philadelphia by the Sisters of Mercy

Tin Angels will be available for purchase at the rear of both Churches on the weekends of **DECEMBER 4th**, and **DECEMBER 11th**.
Your gift will be used to buy a specific clothing item or a gift card.

Watch the Christmas Trees radiate with Angels throughout the Advent Season!

If you can wrap gifts on Monday, December 5th at 12:30pm in the Rosemont Auditorium, call Judi Samulewicz at 610-649-5433 or email jsamulew@gmail.com.

Service Opportunities for MS & HS Students

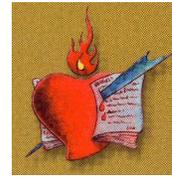
If you are MS or HS student is interested in volunteering, please contact Maria Luby @ 610-525-4801 or fl-youth@stvparish.org

Breakfast with Santa

December 17th — Saturday 9:30am-11:30am
We need volunteers to help out the Family Life Committee at our annual Breakfast with Santa. We need volunteers to help with crafts & serving breakfast.

Poinsettia Deliveries

December 21st — Saturday, 1:00pm
Please help deliver some Holiday Cheer to our bereaved and homebound parishioners! Each volunteer will receive a list of 3-4 parishioners to deliver poinsettias. Meet at the Rosemont Auditorium for Hot Chocolate & treats before setting out!



WHO ARE THE AUGUSTINIANS?

**A word from the Prior Provincial 2
... continued**

Saint Thomas of Villanova said in one of his sermons that Saint Augustine gave his followers the heart as a symbol so that they would always know that all of their energy was to be devoted to the perfection of the heart. Indeed, the principle symbol identified with Saint Augustine is the human heart, usually aflame, and oftentimes pierced by an arrow. This rich symbol recalls Augustine's prayer from the *Confessions*, "You pierced my heart with your word, and I fell in love with you" [*Conf.* 10, 6, 8].

If we wish to be true to Augustine's own example and teaching, there would be no more apt way for us Augustinians to describe ourselves than as people who are trying to be always *men of heart*. Augustine's *Rule* guides us on such a path by inviting us to appreciate our life together in community as an opportunity to live no longer for self alone, but to live and act always in consideration for the other. There is an asceticism in Augustine's *Rule*, but it is not the rigor of physical self-discipline or material self-denial. It is, rather, the sincere practice of selflessness, humility and charity exercised in order to achieve greater unity in God.

We Augustinians believe that the special gift we have to bring to the Church and to society is not, in the first place, one or another work we do or ministry that we perform, but the example of living together in unity and harmony, in love of God and neighbor, which is, after all, the heart of the Gospel, and the first thing asked of us in the *Rule*.

Fr. Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A.

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL NEWS

Country Day School of the Sacred Heart invites you to their Lower School Open House on Monday, December 12 at 4:00 p.m. There will be a special holiday performance of "Elflandia" by the Creative Little Hearts Club. Learn more about a K-4 Sacred Heart Education for your daughter and enjoy some holiday fun! Details and RSVP: www.cdssh.org CDSSH, 480 S. Bryn Mawr Ave. Bryn Mawr, PA 19010.

Mercy Ministry Education Corner

The cost of drug/alcohol use and abuse

- * Drug overdoses now cause more deaths than traffic accidents. (3)
- * Every day, 44 people in the U.S. die from overdose of prescription painkillers. More people die from abusing prescription pain relievers than cocaine and heroin combined. (3)
- * The number of overdose deaths caused by prescription painkillers alone quadrupled between 1999 and 2010. (4)
- * In 2013, nearly two million Americans abused prescription painkillers. Each day, almost 7,000 people are treated in emergency departments for using these drugs in a manner other than as directed. (3)
- * Addiction nearly always originates during adolescence. Ninety percent of those who are currently addicted began using alcohol and other drugs before the age of 18. The younger a person is when they have their first drink or drug, the more likely it is that they will become dependent on drugs or alcohol. (2)
- * In 2005, the most recent year for which the data was calculated, societal costs from alcohol and other drugs were \$416 billion: \$43.6 billion in health care, \$73.8 billion in criminal justice and \$299 billion in lost productivity. This figure does not include a family's expenses for counseling, rehab, theft or car crashes, or the incalculable cost of a family's despair or the loss of a child. (5)

++Statistics provided by the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, Shatterproof.org, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

1. 2014 Monitoring the Future report, a national survey of approximately 50,000 8th, 10th and 12th grade students
2. National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
3. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
4. Shatterproof.org
5. CASA Columbia.org

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL CORNER

Stewardship Council met on Monday, November 21, 2016. We began with our opening prayer of St. Theresa of Avila and welcomed representatives of two local non-profit organizations, The Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund and PAR Recycle Works. Each organization was invited to share additional information about their missions and ways in which grant money is used on an annual basis. The Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund lightens the burdens and lifts the spirits of families caring for children with serious illnesses, disabilities, and injuries, while respecting the pride and dignity of families in need. PAR Recycle Works is a social enterprise offering environmentally responsible recycling services of electronics while providing life-changing workforce training to formerly incarcerated individuals. Each presentation generated questions and comments from the Council. Each organization is invited to complete an application during our grant distribution process in May, 2017.

Meeting minutes from the previous meeting in October were reviewed and approved. Each meeting the Council has committed to reflecting on a chapter from the text, "Stewardship a Disciple's Response." This month we reflected on the concept best summarized by the following, "Once one Chooses to become a disciple of Jesus Christ, Stewardship is not an option."

A re-cap of the Parish Welcome Dinner of November 12th was provided. The Dinner welcomed over 45 new parishioners to the Parish Center after the 5pm Mass. The high turnout was credited to the Welcome Dinner being incorporated into the parish registration process, physical and electronic invitations, and personal calls from Council members.

We closed the meeting with the prayer led by Fr. Joe. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, January 23, 2017.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL GYM Bryn Mawr, PA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016 - 2:30pm to 7:30pm

To make an appointment, please contact Joe Betz at 610-525-4499 or joseph.betz@villanova.edu or Frank Quinn at 610-525-7262 or fc.quinn@verizon.net.

You can also visit [Www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and
Enter sponsor code: our mother of good counsel



*The Family Life Committee
Invites you to our Annual
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 17, 2016
10:00am - Rosemont Auditorium*

Make crafts with our parish teens.

SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA....

Bring your camera. Leave the Reindeer at home.

Sing-a-longs with Stephanie Twohig.



RSVP A MUST TO HELP US PLAN!!

RSVP: Number of Children and Adults to office@stvparish.org or call 610-525-4801.

Please bring a gift of boys or girls socks or a baby crib sheet for the children served by Cradles to Crayons — www.cradlestocrayons.org

Dear wonderful Butterfly Blessings Volunteers,

At this special time of year, we all have so much to be thankful for, but it is important to keep all who may be suffering in our prayers. Today, Jeanette, Katherine and I delivered 175 handmade gifts of love filling seven large bags draped over Katherine's wheelchair and filling a wagon to the Dupont Hospital for Children.

I cannot thank you enough for your contributions to this Butterfly Blessings project, past and present, that has made it so successful!! The staff at the hospital are so appreciative and look at us with wonder as we bring in so many beautiful, handmade items!! I also know first hand how these gifts are enjoyed by the children and how grateful the parents are to know that someone is thinking about their child in a time of need. I am attaching pictures of just some of the beautiful items we collected, of my girls delivering them, and a sweet note that I was given by the hospital to say "thank you". It is a note for all of you as well!!!

Many, many thanks again for your generosity and compassion!! We will now begin collecting for the Spring delivery!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sarah, Jeanette & Katherine Breck



IHN CONFERENCE CENTER WINTER OFFERINGS:

December 6 - "St. Theresa of Avila, Teach Us to Pray Michele Wicks 9:30am-2:30pm

Stipend \$40 (includes continental Breakfast & Lunch)

December 7 - "Soup's On" (a bowl and a roll and dessert)... reflection: A Season of Wonder —

Sister Maureen Christi, IHM....private prayer time 6:00pm-8:00pm - Stipend \$15.

December 14 - Carol Night: "Journey through the mansion" celebrating Advent/Christmas Joy through song, prayer, scripture and fellowship" 7:00pm-8:30pm. A good will offering is appreciated.

To register, call 610-581-0120 or email imconferencecenter.org

**ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA
EVENTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS (21-35)**

**We will be holding events on the 2nd & 4th
Tuesday of each month**

- 12/13 2017 Planning Meeting, 7pm
- Parish Center
12/20 Dinner & Adoration 7pm
- Meet in Rosemont Auditorium

For more information, contact
stvyoungadults@gmail.com



Augustinian Mass Cards

The Augustinian Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova makes available a variety of sympathy and special occasion Mass cards through the Augustinian Guild which shares with others the spiritual richness of the Augustinian Friars. Order Mass cards online at www.augustinian.org/mass-cards/ or contact Maria Manna at (610) 527-3330, ext. 240, maria.manna@augustinian.org. Guild brochures are available in the back of the Church and in the Parish Office.

Introducing a new sympathy card featuring an icon of Saint Monica by Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A. and the words of Saint Monica at the time of her death, "Only this I ask of you, remember me at the altar of the Lord." Donations received from the Guild support the care of the elderly friars and the training of future Augustinians.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We appreciate advertisers who support St. Thomas of Villanova by advertising in our bulletin. Please patronize their business and let them know you saw their ad in our bulletin.

BYWOOD SEAFOOD MARKET
Wholesale - Retail
827 Conestoga Road
Rosemont, PA 19010
610-527-4465
Fax 610-527-5442

*****IMPORTANT VILLANOVA TRAFFIC & PARKING UPDATE*****

As you may have noticed, the intersection at Lancaster Avenue and Church Walk has closed and a new driveway & crosswalk – St. Thomas Way – has opened. This intersection is located across from Moriarty Hall, about 50 yards or so west on Lancaster from the previous intersection at Church Walk. St. Thomas Way, named after our patron saint, is clearly marked and features new traffic signals, as well as an improved driveway in and out of the recently created surface parking areas along Lancaster Avenue (designated as L-2 and L-3.) Work will be continuing in this area, as the previous driveway and intersection at Church Walk are removed.

In terms of Church parking, particularly for Sunday Masses, there are a few options. After entering St. Thomas Way, the preferred option is that you turn right at the top and head to the spaces behind Moriarty or beyond. You also can turn left and park in the spaces behind the old Visitor's Lot or proceed to the Main Lot, which will remain open until January when the new Pike Garage is due to be brought into commission. **As always, if you have special mobility needs, you can park on campus near the Church – but please be respectful of spaces near the Monastery reserved for the friars who live there.**

Please be sure to use the crosswalk and follow the pedestrian signals at the new St. Thomas Way intersection. This is the only safe way to cross Lancaster Avenue in that vicinity, as the signals at Church Walk have been removed and vehicular traffic will no longer stop at that location. **A new temporary walkway leads up to the Church from the St. Thomas Way crosswalk.**

As of now, the anticipated construction start

Congratulations to our Honor Students:

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OF SACRED HEART

Highest Honors:

Molly Elizabeth Murphy Grade 10

High Honors:

Caroline Hayden-Murray Grade 5

Madeleine Delaney Fitzhenry Grade 8

Boglarka Klaudia Kearney Grade 11

Joan Marie Costello Grade 11

Honors:

Isabella Anne Casale Grade 8

Anya Alexandra McDonnell Grade 9