

# CHURCH OF SAINT VALENTINE

Corner of East Passaic Avenue and Hoover Avenue, Bloomfield, New Jersey

**First Sunday of Advent**

**November 29, 2020**



## Masses

Saturday Evenings ----- 5:30 pm  
Sundays ----- 10:00 am  
Mondays to Saturdays in the Chapel ----- 12:00 pm  
Holy Days ----- Consult the bulletin



Rectory Office Hours ----- 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Rectory Telephone ----- 973-743-0220

Rectory Fax ----- 973-743-2041

Parish Web Site:--[www.stvalentinechurch.com](http://www.stvalentinechurch.com)

Parish Email:---[stvalentinechurch@yahoo.com](mailto:stvalentinechurch@yahoo.com)

## Welcome to our Parish

### Served By

Fr. Basil Lek ----- *Pastor*  
Fr. Dennis Reiff ----- *In Residence*  
Joan Luisi ----- *Secretary*  
Robert Bulkowski ----- *Maintenance*  
Gary Sabak ----- *Music Director*  
John Yannuzzi ----- *Financial Trustee*  
Kevin Amahit ----- *Financial Trustee*  
Jean Frucci ----- *Food Pantry Coordinator*

### Our Mission Statement

Our Parish Family of Saint Valentine is a local Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of Newark. The celebrations of the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith as a community of believers in the Kingdom of God present among us, yet ever growing as a reality, as we follow Christ, proclaiming and witnessing to his Gospel in our lives. THEREFORE, we the Parish Community of Saint Valentine, are called to serve God and others, as we grow in the Holy Spirit.

## Sacraments

### RECONCILIATION

Before or after the Mass, or any time on request. During the week, you may make appointments with Fr Basil Lek (Call 201-364-9808).

### BAPTISMS

Parishioners who want Baptism for their children need to be registered, active members of the Church for at least 6 months. The Baptism will be celebrated at the 10am Sunday Mass. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a meeting in the Rectory. All Godparents must have received the sacrament of Confirmation.

### MATRIMONY

All Catholics should only marry in the Catholic Church. A Catholic marriage requires a time of preparation of at least one year. Therefore, parishioners should first meet with the priest before making any arrangements of date and time, or booking of the banquet.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If someone needs the sacrament of the sick, please call Fr Basil Lek (cell: 201-364-9808). It is preferable for family members to join in prayer in the liturgy of the Sacrament of the Sick.

### CATECHISM (AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH)

St Thomas the Apostle and St Valentine is cooperating synergistically in the New Energies sharing of resources for their Catechetical Program. All Catechism Children of St Valentine will register with the Religious Education Office of St Thomas the Apostle. You can register online at: <https://www.stachurchbloomfield.com/web/religious-education/>

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

**Saturday, November 28 (Vigil, 1<sup>st</sup> Advent Sunday)**

5:30 pm Rebecca Miranda  
(From: Myrlla Rueda)

**Sunday, November 29 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

10:00 am Edna Tomosieski  
(From: Kathleen Tomosieski)

**Monday, November 30 (St Andrew, Apostle)**

10:00 am Funeral Mass  
  
12:00 pm José & Conchita Nebiar  
(From: Nebiar Family)

**Tuesday, December 1**

12:00 pm Margie Ocariza  
(From: Nick & Eunice Creer)

**Wednesday, December 2**

12:00 pm Patricia Spahle  
(From: Krawiec Family)

**Thursday, December 3 (St Francis Xavier)**

12:00 pm Tirselia Sosa  
(From: Krawiec Family)

**Friday, December 4 (St John Damascene)**

10:00 am Memorial Mass: Rafael delos Santos  
  
12:00 pm Filomena Gonella  
(From: Farella Family)

**Saturday, December 5**

12:00 pm Altar & Rosary Sodality  
(From: Altar & Rosary Sodality)  
  
5:30 pm Robin Sarno  
(From: Rusty & Josephine Sarno)

**Sunday, December 6 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

10:00 am John Balcki and John & Nettie Muluhill  
(From: Stanley Balicki and Maryanne Witkos)

The Sanctuary Lamp, the Bread & Wine are offered this week in memory of  
**The Deceased Members of the Athletic Club**  
(Offered by the Athletic Club)



**Bread, Wine & Flower Donation**

If you would like to sponsor the purchase of altar bread, wine and flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact the Rectory Office.

*Thanksgiving*

Thank you to Jean Frucci and all our Benefactors and Volunteers who have contributed to the success of our St Valentine's Thanksgiving Food Drive. May God bless you and give you the heavenly treasure!

**St Valentine's Fundraising & Special Events**



Support the Valerie Fund to help children with cancer and blood disorders. This year, because of the Coronavirus, we invite you to donate **GIFT CARDS**, drop them in the Church Collection Baskets.

Also, the Valerie Fund has a hospital Amazon wish list. If people would like to order from there it gets delivered straight to them:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2M6P6QKI1EUFB?ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_wl\\_dp\\_r9VxK1xSwOnrT](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2M6P6QKI1EUFB?ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_dp_r9VxK1xSwOnrT)

Thank you for your kind donations. The child you love is the child you save in Christ.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

If you are new in the parish, we would appreciate it if you register. **[Please PRINT clearly]**

Name	Address
Phone Number	E-Mail

New Registration   
  Change of Address   
  Moving Out of Parish   
  Want Envelopes   
  Do Not Want Envelopes

Please cut out and drop in the collection or mail to the Parish Rectory.

READINGS OF THE MASS FOR THIS SUNDAY  
**First Sunday of Advent**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64: 2-7

You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever.

Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,  
 and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?

Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage.

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you,  
 while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old.  
 No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for  
 him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!

Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people,  
 all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves,  
 and our guilt carries us away like the wind.

There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you;  
 for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt.

Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter:  
 we are all the work of your hands.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19

**℟: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ  
 Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the  
 testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as  
 you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He will keep you firm to the end, irreprouchable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alleluia – Psalm 85: 8

℟: Alleluia, alleluia.

**Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.**

Gospel – Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: “Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work,  
 and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,  
 whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”





This Sunday, with the First Sunday of Advent, we begin the new Liturgical Year B. The Season of Advent is a celebration of the coming and arrival of Jesus Christ into our human history, into our lives. It is a season of joy, knowing that God is not indifferent to our situation of death from our sinful behavior. When we sin, we bring evil into our soul. That evil causes the death of our being. God created us with a soul that can only be nourished with the food that does not decay, that does not die. That's why only the Spirit of God can nourish the soul because God lives forever.

Our sins are the symptoms of our selfishness. But, God sent his Son to heal us from our selfishness, our inability to love selflessly; the effect of original sin is selfishness, ruled by our selfishness, we cannot love anyone. And as long as we cannot truly love like the way God loves us, we are not able to enter heaven, likewise, the eternal life cannot get into us. Our limited human efforts all fall short of the eternal, we were doomed to be devoid of the everlasting inside us. But thank God for Jesus Christ; he united the divine with the human. In Jesus, God's eternal life is given to those who do his will and acknowledge him as Lord.

In this Sunday's Gospel (Mk 13: 33-37) Jesus tell us to be watchful, to be alert; because the disciples should be faithful and obey God. Now that Jesus has shown us a new life to live, we should be careful not to fall back into our sinful, selfish ways. The one who is selfish is left alone to himself; he excludes God from his life because he prefers to listen to himself; he is imprisoned by his selfishness, locking out God and neighbor, and that is called "hell."

And when a person who is an egotist (selfish person) meets another egotist, all hell breaks loose. That's why there are so many divorces here in the USA (around 60%). When people fall in love and get married, they did not intend for their marriage to fail. The problem is the inability of the person to truly love anyone. If the soul is corrupted with selfishness, it is unable to truly love, because every act of love requires self-sacrifice, true love is totally unselfish. God loves us unselfishly. If you do not let God heal your selfishness, you will never love anyone. In heaven, every person is unselfish, and they love unselfishly. That's why getting rid of our selfishness is so important and critical, because we may lose our chance of going to heaven.

Be careful! You may have convinced yourself that you love God and neighbor, but in actual fact, you are full of selfishness. Be alert! This self delusion is a deception of the devil. Satan has convinced you that are good and that you can love everyone; that you don't need to go to confession because you are convinced that you have no sins. God has sent Jesus precisely to burst your bubble; to break you out of your prison, so that the love of God can enter.

### *In Memory of All the Faithful Departed*

If you wish to have your loved ones remembered at all the Masses on All Soul's Day and throughout the month of November, please use the envelope provided in your envelope packets. Also, write the names of your loved ones in the Book of Remembrance that they may be included in our prayers.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May they rest in peace!*

*May the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

### *From the Pastor's Desk*



#### **Sainthood is our Destiny**



This Thursday (December 3<sup>rd</sup>), is the feast day of St Francis Xavier. With St Ignatius of Loyola, they are the first founders of the Jesuits. Born on April 7, 1506 in Xavier Castle, near Sangüesa in the Navarre kingdom of Spain, he lived a privileged life in a noble family until the death of his father.

Studying at the University of Paris, St Francis met St Ignatius, and they became friends and were the first seven Jesuits to take the vows of poverty and chastity, and also pledge allegiance to the Pope.

St Francis Xavier was ordained priest in 1537, and in 1540, was sent by the Pope to be the first foreign missionary to India. He followed Portuguese ships sailing from Lisbon, Portugal to India. When he landed on the island of Goa, there was already a thirty year old Portuguese settlement there. Although not very good with languages, he started to learn the local language, and began preaching, caring for the sick, and teaching children.

St Francis Xavier often criticized the Portuguese sailors and settlers because they did not go to Church, and were slave traders, pirates, married men who made concubines of the local women. He visited Indonesia and even Singapore, and founded missions in India, Malaysia and Japan. He wanted to go to China but only got to the island of Shangchuan, and died there on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1552.

# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today

First Sunday of Advent | Mark 13:33-37

### BE AWARE & KEEP WATCH!

Always be ready for the day and hour when God comes again. No one knows when, not even Jesus or the Angels in Heaven.

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## FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

ARRIVAL OR COMING OF CHRIST

### WEEK 1, evening lighting prayer

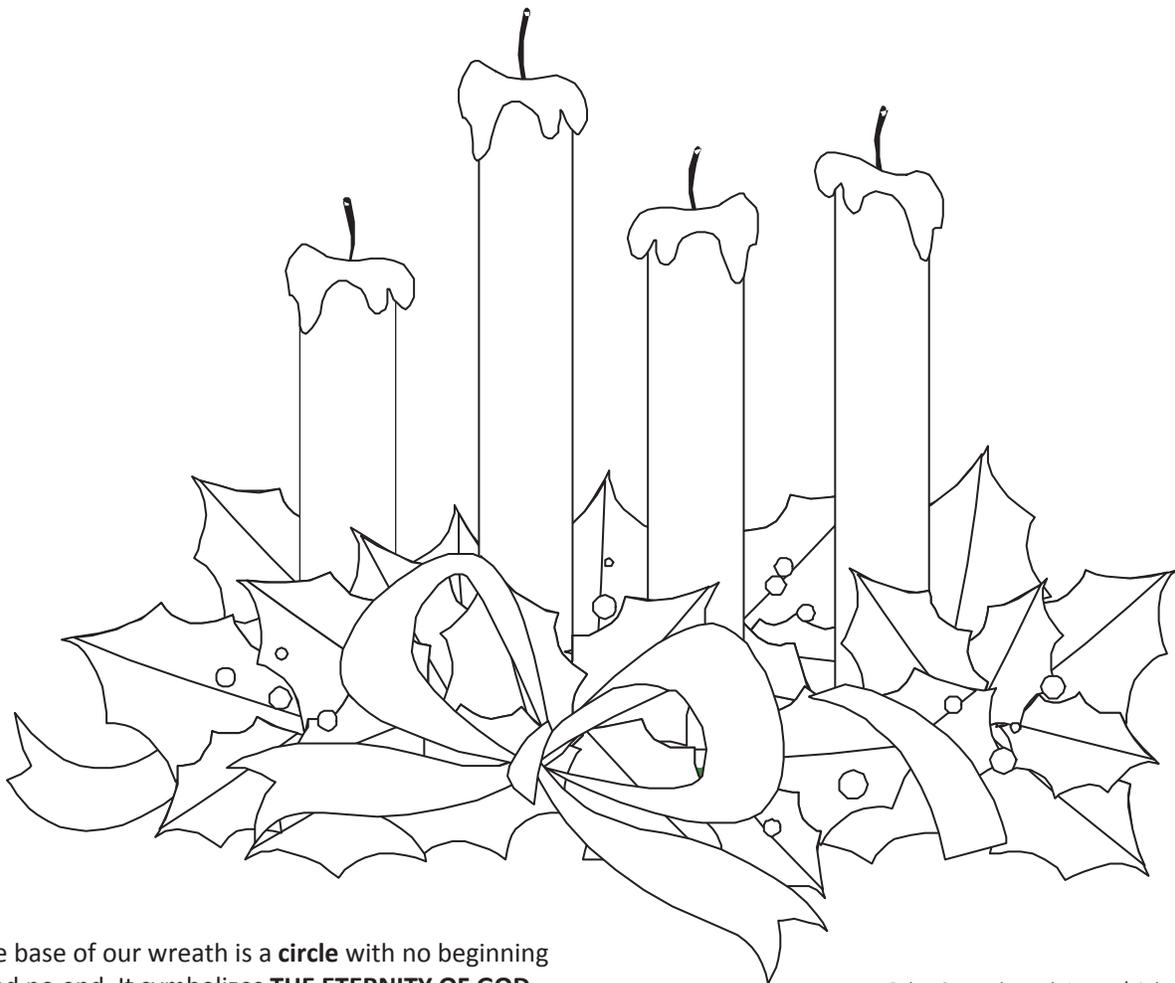
Prayer said by Father or head of household

"O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ our Lord, Amen". Youngest child lights 1 purple candle.

### BLESS THIS WREATH

Prayer said by Father or head of household

"O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessings upon this wreath and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord, Amen."



The base of our wreath is a **circle** with no beginning and no end. It symbolizes **THE ETERNITY OF GOD**.

We decorate the base with **EVERGREENS** which represent **CONTINUOUS LIFE**.

Color 3 purple and 1 rose/pink candle.  
Draw a flame on 1 purple candle and color the holly leaves green.



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