



A newsletter from
ST. MARY'S ABBEY

230 MENDHAM ROAD MORRISTOWN, NJ 07960-4899
P: 973.538.3231 W: WWW.STMARYSABBEY.ORG



December 2016

1. Chanticleer concert, 7 p.m.
3. St. Francis Xavier, *memorial*
4. **II Advent (Cycle A) (Fr. Michael)**
7. St. Ambrose, *memorial*
8. **Immaculate Conception, Solemnity**
 - ⊕ Mass, 9:45 a.m.
 - ⊕ Solemn Vespers 5:15 p.m.
9. 2nd Friday Adoration & Reconciliation, 3-5 p.m.
11. **III Advent-Gaudete! (Fr. Hilary)**
 - ⊕ Freshmen Retreat
 - ⊕ Oblate Meeting after Mass
 - ⊕ Harmonium Concert, 3 p.m.
12. Our Lady of Guadalupe, *feast*
13. St. Lucy, *memorial*
14. St. John of the Cross, *memorial*
17. Great Days of Advent Begin
18. **IV Advent (Abbot Richard)**
 - ⊕ Christmas Concert, 7:00 p.m.
21. Holiday Schedule of Prayer Begins
24. **Christmas Eve, 11:00 p.m. (Abbot Richard)**
 - ⊕ Reception in Estabrook Dining Hall follows
25. **Christmas Day, 11:00 a.m. (Abbot Richard)**
27. St. John the Apostle, *feast*
28. Holy Innocents, *feast*
30. Holy Family, *feast*

* This calendar follows the *Order of Worship* as approved by the Congregation for Divine Worship on 22 June 1972 in Rome for the American Cassinese Congregation of Benedictine Monasteries.

of the Bible and is as ancient as the monastic tradition itself. This is the daily routine of the monks. One way to share this ancient art of prayerful reading is to pray the Scriptures during the week in preparation for the Sunday Eucharist. The following is the schema of readings for this month:

- ⊕ **Dec. 4:** *Is. 11:1-10; Rom. 15:4-9; Mt. 3:1-12.*
- ⊕ **Dec. 11:** *Is. 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt. 11:2-11.*
- ⊕ **Dec. 18:** *Is. 7:10-14; Rom. 1:1-7; Mt. 1:18-24.*
- ⊕ **Dec. 24: (Eve):** *Is. 9:1-6; Tit. 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk. 2:1-14.*
- ⊕ **Dec. 25 (Day):** *Is. 52:7-10; Heb. 1:1-6; John 1:1-18.*

NEW HORARIUM: On the 1st Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2016, the monastic community began a new horarium (schedule), our 1st revision since the post-Vatican II era. Vigils, formerly prayed after dinner, and Lauds, prayed at dawn, will be prayed at 6:30 a.m., combining the two Offices with a 4-week cycle of Psalms. Compline, the Office traditionally prayed before bedtime, has been restored and will be prayed at 6:45 p.m. in the chapter room.

- ⊕ Sundays
 - Matins, 7:30 a.m.
 - Mass, 11 a.m.
 - Vespers, 5:15 p.m.
- ⊕ Monday-Friday
 - Matins, 6:30 a.m.
 - Midday Prayer, 11:50 a.m.
 - Vespers & Mass, 5:15 p.m.
 - Compline, 6:45 p.m. (**Chapter Room**)
- ⊕ Saturdays
 - Matins, 7:30 a.m.; Mass, ca. 8 a.m.
 - Midday Prayer, 11:50 a.m.
 - Vespers, 5:15 p.m.
 - Compline, 6:45 p.m. (**Chapter Room**)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: This is the titular patroness of the Abbey and the Catholic Church in

LECTIO DIVINA: This is the art of prayerful reading

the U.S.A., and a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 9:45 a.m. with the students and faculty. Solemn Vespers will be sung at 5:15 p.m.



OBLATES: The Oblates of Saint Benedict will meet this month on Sunday, December 11, 2016 on the lower level of Vincent House. New members are always welcome. For more

information call Father Hilary at 973.538.3231 [ext. 2019] or [email](#) him.

WINTER SKIES: On Sunday December 11, 2016 at 3 p.m. in the Abbey church, Harmonium Choral Society will present a luminous program featuring Frank Martin's double choir *Mass* and music by Esenvalds, Dove, Sweelinck and Fairouz; Swiss and Dutch carols, and multicultural gems. For ticket or more information visit their [website](#).

GREAT DAYS: The last days of Advent form a distinctive liturgical character and are commonly called "The Great Days of Advent." As the church prepares to celebrate the incarnation of Christ, the liturgy becomes more intense, with all the hopes of an expectant church. At the Eucharist, the Gospels relate the events leading up to the first Christmas. At Vespers special antiphons accentuates the church's call to Christ, using biblical titles: *O Wisdom, O Sacred Lord, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Radiant Dawn, O King of the Nations, and O Emmanuel*. The "O" Antiphons are a hallmark of Advent, with music and texts the church has treasured for generations. The popular hymn, *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, is based on these antiphons. At the abbey, these antiphons, with the *Magnificat*, are sung in Latin. Incense is used to add greater solemnity.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: The annual Christmas gift drive will be in conjunction with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Paterson. Distribution will be at the Fr. English Center,

Sunday, December 11, 2016. It will begin with Mass on the lower level of the Fr. Stephen Pavilion at 8:30 a.m. Anyone who would like more information or to lend a hand, contact [David Hajduk](#) in the campus ministry office.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: From December 21, 2016 through January 2, 2017, the monastic community will observe a holiday schedule of prayer Monday through Friday. Matins will be prayed at 7:30 a.m. The Conventual Mass with Vespers will be at 5:15 p.m. as usual. All are always welcome!

THANK YOU: Our heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the Thanksgiving Food Drive, which benefits 350 neighbors daily at the Community Soup Kitchen in Morristown! Over 50,000 lbs. was collected!

Retreat Center News

In December, the Retreat Center welcomes the following overnight groups:

- ⊕ Resurrection Parish Seek Retreat: Dec. 2-3.
- ⊕ Delbarton Campus Ministry Freshmen: Dec. 9-11.

The Retreat Center is proud to continue offering the following Small Faith Sharing Groups:

- ⊕ Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible: 2nd Tuesday.
- ⊕ Discussion of Sunday Scripture Readings: Every Wednesday.
- ⊕ St. Benedict Outside the Walls: 2nd Thursday.

Remember, the Retreat Center also welcomes men and women of all faiths for private or directed retreats, or for spiritual direction. For more information, contact Paul Cocco at 973-538-3231 x2100 or via e-mail: retreatcenter@delbarton.org. Visit our [webpage](#) and our [Facebook](#) page. The staff wishes everyone a Merry and Blessed Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year!

OFFERING: During the month of November, the congregation offered the monastery \$5,618.00 through the collection at the Sunday Eucharist. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

WEBSITE: Please visit the Abbey website: www.saintmarysabbey.org for this newsletter and more up-to-date information about the Abbey. You can also visit the school website for news and events: www.delbarton.org.