



# THE UNIVERSITY PARISH OF CHRIST SUN OF JUSTICE

2125 Burdett Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

518-274-7793

<https://rensselaernewman.org>

December 10,  
2023:

Second Sunday of  
Advent

Find us on  

## CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN

Fr. Larry Rice, CSP  
518-276-6517  
[chaplain@rpi.edu](mailto:chaplain@rpi.edu)

## PASTOR

Fr. Tom Morrette, Pastor  
518-273-7602  
[ParishOffice@olvols.org](mailto:ParishOffice@olvols.org)

## MASS/LITURGY SCHEDULE

### DAILY MASS

Mon.-Thurs. 5 PM

### WEEKEND MASS

SATURDAY VIGIL 5 PM

SUNDAY 10 AM ([livestream on YouTube](#))  
and 5 PM

**CONFESSION** The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available Saturdays 3:30-4:30 PM and by appointment with Fr. Larry at [chaplain@rpi.edu](mailto:chaplain@rpi.edu)

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9** 5 PM Mass—Sr. Ann Christi Brink, CSJ requested by Colleen Purcell

**SUNDAY, DEC. 10** 10 AM Mass—Jane Ducatt requested by Leo and Marie Carroll

**SATURDAY, DEC. 16** 5 PM Mass—Elizabeth O'Reilly requested by David and Jean Seaver

**SUNDAY, DEC. 17** 10 AM Mass—Angelina Morra by Leo and Marie Carroll

Consider having a Mass said in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (ex. birthday), or, most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. Complete the form [here](#) or a hard copy form can be found in the C+CC hallway.

## ADVENT/CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23

- Sunday Vigil Mass - 5 PM

Sunday, December 24

- Sunday Mass - 10 AM
- Christmas Eve Mass - 7 PM

Monday, December 25

- Christmas Mass - 10 AM

## COLLECTIONS

Your continued generosity is appreciated! Here are ways to give...

- Mail your collection envelope and/or your check **made payable to Christ Sun of Justice** or place in the collection basket.
- Make an [online donation](#) ("Mass donation" in the comments section.)
- Venmo: At offertory time (or any time, really!) you can use your Venmo app to give to "csjparish". If it is for a special collection, just note that in the comments box.
- **THIS** week we will be collecting items for the hungry and income insecure in our community through the OLV/OLS food pantry. Our greatest need for December, includes hand soap, shampoo, toilet paper, XXL Depends, crispy fried onions, tuna fish, Knorr pasta sides, cake mix, frosting, pickles, olives, and salad dressing. They are grateful for the support from our parish community.

## C+CC NEWS

**IN THE NORTH**—Exhibit by artist, Virginia Bryant OCT— DEC. 30. Artist information can be found [here](#).

## PIANO RECITALS

SUN. Dec. 10

- 2PM—Students of Laura Bulatao. More info [here](#).

SAT. Dec. 16

- 1PM—Students of Lin Cheng. More info [here](#).
- 6:30PM—Students of Kristie Chen. More info [here](#).

## EVENTS OF INTEREST

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9** 6PM—Caroling. Meet at the C+CC to carol around the RPI Campus

**SUNDAY, DEC. 17** 3 PM at Our Lady of Victory  
**BLUE CHRISTMAS PRAYER SERVICE**

Join us and bring a friend. This candlelight service of hope and comfort, acknowledges the difficulties many of us face...a loss or hardship such as death, an illness, a financial concern, loss of a job, an addiction, depression...or other reasons that makes celebrating Christmas a struggle. In the midst of our pain and sadness, there is the promise and comfort of the Lord. In-person and [livestreamed](#).

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Readings can be found in multiple ways:

- Web: <https://bible.usccb.org/>
- Sign-up for a daily email with a link to the day's readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading#subscribe>
- On the Hallow app
- In the Bible

**Dec. 10 Sun:** Is 40: 1-5, 9-11; Ps 85: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pet 3: 8-14; Lk 3: 4, 6; Mk 1: 1-8

**Dec. 11 Mon:** Is 35: 1-10; Ps 85: 9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5: 17-26

**Dec. 12 Tue:** Zec 2: 14-17 or Rev 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab; Ps: Jud 13: 18 bcde, 19; Lk 1: 26-38 or Lk 1: 39-47

**Dec. 13 Wed:** Is 40: 25-31; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Matt 11: 28-30

**Dec. 14 Thurs:** Is 41: 13-20; Ps 145: 1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Is 45: 8; Matt 11: 11-15

**Dec. 15 Fri:** Is 48: 17-19; Ps 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Matt 11: 16-19

**Dec. 16 Sat:** Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Lk 3: 4, 6; Matt 17: 9a, 10-13

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

*Romans 12:6 "In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well."*

**COFFEE HOUR** Weekly coffee hours are held after the 10AM and 5PM Sunday Masses. Please come and meet your fellow parishioners! Help is always needed and sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.

## CHRISTMAS GIVING THROUGH THE PARISH

Each year, during this season of giving, our parish community supports Unity House with gifts of grocery store gift cards. To donate to this collection, please place Price Chopper/Market 32 or Hannaford Gift Cards in an envelope, with your name, address and "Christmas Giving" on the outside of the envelope. Cards can be placed in the collection basket, dropped off or mailed to the C+CC. Gift cards submitted with no identifying information will be considered anonymous. Thank You!

## THANK YOU

**Message from the OLS Food Pantry:** Thank you for your wonderful support helping us provide full Thanksgiving dinners to 49 families. Our pantry needs will increase as we get ready to offer Christmas dinners, as well as, serving our Saturday guests.

## NOTES

**ATTENTION STUDENTS** Stay with us in spirit this holiday season! Before leaving campus, add your name to an ornament, located on the table in the hallway of the C+CC. The 'student tree' will be decorated and visible for all holiday Masses.

**DECORATING** Please help during Advent with decorating the Chapel for Christmas. After the large Christmas tree is installed in the Chapel, the lights will be put on and the Christmas ornaments will be placed nearby with an invitation for all to place a ball or two on the tree. Likewise the font area will be ready for anyone/everyone to help decorate. Let's make this a wonderful parish activity!

**BLUE BOOKS** are available. Please take one home to guide you on your Advent journey.

**HALLOW** Christ Sun of Justice has partnered with Hallow to encourage all parishioners to surrender it all this Advent season and prepare your heart for Jesus like never before with readings from the works of C.S. Lewis, voiced by award-winning actor and the voice of Aslan in the Narnia movies, Liam Neeson. Jonathan Roumie and Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, will guide us through prayer and reflection on these powerful writings to prepare our hearts for Christmas and rediscover the wonder of Christ's coming into this world and into our hearts



Hallow is the #1 Catholic app worldwide and includes 1,000 prayer sessions available for free, and over 10,000 audio-guided sessions in an upgraded premium subscription. Hallow is designed to help you grow closer to God and develop a daily habit of prayer, and includes prayers for kids and families, resources for mental health, meditations for sleep, seasonal music, multiple languages (including Spanish, Portuguese, and Polish!) daily trivia, podcast-style courses to learn more about faith, and more! Register today by scanning the QR code here or visiting [Hallow.com/pray](http://Hallow.com/pray) (App store) to get started.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER** Winter is fast approaching! Please call the C+CC phone (518- 274-7793) and listen to voicemail message for any changes in Mass times. Also, if you see on TV that OLV Masses are cancelled, CSJ will also be cancelled.

## A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.

## CONTACTS

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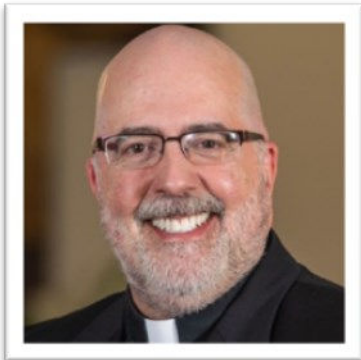
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**FR. LARRY RICE, CSP**

Father Larry Rice may be contacted at [chaplain@rpi.edu](mailto:chaplain@rpi.edu)

If you ask nearly anyone in the Western world the date of Christmas, chances are you'll be told it's December 25th. And if you ask them what Christmas celebrates, chances are you'll be told it's the commemoration of Christ's birth. But the question remains, was Jesus born on December 25th? Well, the most diplomatic answer would be, "experts differ."

Given the popularity of Christmas in today's world, it's hard to imagine that Christmas wasn't always seen as particularly important. The earliest records we have of the church observing the feast of Christ's birth date from the 4th century. By the time St. John Chrysostom was bishop of Constantinople in 398, most of the Christian world observed Christmas on December 25th. The Church in Armenia was at that time marking Christmas on January 6th; today much of the Orthodox church follows this tradition.

But why was December 25th chosen? Many believe that the date was chosen to counter the Roman feast of Saturnalia. Certainly, in the history of the Church, and the history of Christmas in particular, there are plenty of examples of Christians shifting local pagan observances to Christian ones, effectively "baptizing" their culture and customs. This doesn't mean that Christmas is some kind of disguised pagan festival, it simply reflects the very understandable human need to integrate our faith and culture, and to allow our faith to transform every part of our lives.

Regarding the actual year of Christ's birth, we don't find much more clarity. Since the calendar is traditionally divided into epochs "before" and "after" Christ, one might presume that Jesus was born in the year one, or perhaps the year zero. Well, there was no year zero. And tradition has it that a sixth century monk names Dionysis Exiguus fixed the date at the year 1, but errors in his calculations have led scholars to believe that the actual year may be between 4 and 6 BC. Historical evidence, based on references from Luke's Gospel, might lead us to concur. Astronomical research by Dr. William Bidelman at Case Western University makes a strong case for April or March of the year 2 BC.

Ultimately, for Christian believers, the precise date and year isn't of primary importance. For us, most important is the underlying fact that we celebrate at Christmas: That God loved us enough to become human, to share our human experience, and achieve our redemption. Whenever we celebrate it, we remember that Christ's incarnation has changed our world, and our lives, forever.

**SPIRITUAL SEEDS**

by Tracy Watson, RPI Associate Catholic Chaplain

[spiritual.advisorCCC@gmail.com](mailto:spiritual.advisorCCC@gmail.com)



Do you remember the song "Let There Be Peace On Earth" (1955)? Suffice to say that praying for peace is as urgent as ever.

Below you will find an adaptation of the timeless Prayer of St Francis which is being used by a local Justice Committee. The preface below was penned by parishioner Linda A.

Please add this prayer for peace to your daily prayer practice, truly for the life of our world so deeply in need of peace. Thank you

Parts of our world are very dangerous, with nowhere safe to go.  
Thousands of our innocent brothers and sisters have died  
and thousands more grieve deeply.  
Emmanuel, God, is with us.  
We pray daily to be instruments of healing and peace in our world...

**Got a suggestion? A question?**

Contact Associate Catholic Chaplain Tracy Watson, MDiv, ([spiritual.advisorccc@gmail.com](mailto:spiritual.advisorccc@gmail.com) or [watsot4@rpi.edu](mailto:watsot4@rpi.edu)) or Newman Student Leaders Cameron Yergeau ([yerbec@rpi.edu](mailto:yerbec@rpi.edu)), Toby McDonald ([mcdont7@rpi.edu](mailto:mcdont7@rpi.edu)), Riley Scritchfield ([scitr@rpi.edu](mailto:scitr@rpi.edu)) and Joey Trosa ([trosaj@rpi.edu](mailto:trosaj@rpi.edu)).



**Make Us Instruments of Peace  
Christmas 2023**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love.  
Where there is injury, let us offer pardon.  
Where there is discord, let us build peace.  
Oh, Divine Lord, you taught us that those who work for peace  
are called the children of God.  
Help us to persist in establishing justice and truth  
as firm and lasting foundations of peace.  
Lord, you offer us peace as a gift and peace as a responsibility  
that we must realize with your help.  
Give us the grace to reach for peace,  
to have attitudes of peace,  
that our words may be of peace,  
and that our works be works of peace,  
Then may we build the peace that we and our nations need.  
Amen

