

Book Club This Monday at St. Peter

The Book Club is meeting tomorrow, December 2, at 3:30 pm to discuss "A Season of Mystery" and to enjoy some Christmas fellowship.

BAKERS NEEDED!

The Family Life Committee will be having a Holiday Bake Sale after the 4 pm Mass on Saturday, December 14, and the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday the 15th. The committee is looking for bakers to donate bake good items for this event. Donations of baked goods can be dropped off in the Parish Hall before each Mass.

Christmas at the Walton Food Bank

Monetary donations are still needed for the purchase of hams to be included in the Food Bank's Christmas baskets. Make your checks out to: Walton Ministerial Association and place in an offertory collection in an envelope marked 'Walton Food Bank'.

Young Adult Advent Dinner

The Sisters of St. Joseph have planned a 'gift of time' during the busy season of Advent for young adults (18 to 30 years of age) on Wednesday, December 11, 5 to 8 pm. Come for dinner, enjoy a great meal, laughter, and some time for prayer. Meet and greet will be in the lobby of their Provincial House, 385 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Latham. RSVP by December 9, Sr. Jeanne Marie Gocha, 518.935.8194 or jgocha@csjalbany.org.

Marriage Moments by Susan Vogt

Advent is a time of quiet preparation, in the dark days before the "re-birth" of Christ. Don't let our hectic consumer culture rob you of this special spiritual time. Sure, buy some gifts, but allow yourself to be blessed by less: stress, clutter, and frenzy. Sometime less is more.

Delaware Opportunity Christmas Update

Funds collected from the community are being given to the Delhi Food Bank. They will offer turkeys and food items at Christmas. If you would like to donate, please make your check out to Delhi Food Bank, put 'Christmas' on the memo line, place in an envelope marked 'Delhi Food Bank', and put in a Mass collection basket or mail directly to the Food Bank at United Ministry, Court House Square, Delhi.

God does not take sides but rather chooses life.

On a daily basis, we face trials, which can completely overwhelm us. Relying on God's strength is not a sign of weakness; it is a measure of wisdom.

Be strong enough to ask for help.

Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Today Jesus advises us in the Gospel: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being "fearful" -- fear cripples! Instead "pray for the strength" to be courageous.

Advent Mass Intentions

There are openings for Mass intentions this month as a result of the increased weekday Advent Mass schedule. If you would like to have a Mass said in memory of a loved one, call the office to schedule.

Living Rosary at Sacred Heart

A Living Rosary is being held at Sacred Heart Church in Stamford on Wednesday, December 17, at 7 pm. All our welcome!

Entering into Advent

Key first steps: We can all slow down ~ we can all breathe more deeply ~ we can all begin to trust that this will be a blessed time. Then, when we let ourselves be who we are, and hear the Scriptures, we can begin to quietly pray, "*Come, Lord Jesus,*" or we might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead:

"Come into my life. I trust You do not mind if it is still messy. I believe You love me, because I need Your love. I do not fear You cannot find the way to my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only You can give."

Some of us will want to open our hands on our laps or hold up our arms in the privacy of our rooms and say out loud:

"Come, Lord, Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us, and give us joy again. Come and unite us and let us experience, each in our own way, a bit of the joy You are offering me now."

God wants to be with us. Advent is letting God's will be done in our hearts and in our everyday lives.