

# Church of the Crucifixion

## Advent and Christmas 2011

As we begin the season of Advent we set aside the next four weeks as a time dedicated to God in preparation for Christmas. **What does God want to do in your life this Advent? How can you most effectively cooperate with the Lord in order to receive all He wants to give?** These are basic questions we can ask as we begin this holy season. Thankfully, we are not left to invent something new each Advent but can draw upon the Catholic Church's rich tradition

The Catholic Church has designated the four weeks preceding Christmas as **Advent, a time to "prepare the way of the Lord" for His coming as our King and Savior.** In addition, the Church teaches that:

When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating [John the Baptist's] birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: **"He must increase, but I must decrease"**

The Church primarily celebrates Christmas from Christmas Day until the Solemnity of the Epiphany, which commemorates the manifestation of Christ as the Savior of the whole world (cf. Mt. 2:1-12). The Church has also traditionally celebrated Christmas for 40 days, culminating on the Feast of the Presentation (Feb. 2). During this time, the birth of Christ is celebrated as one continuous festival. **It is just as important to celebrate during the Christmas season as it is to prepare for Christ during Advent.**

### Christmas Mass Schedule

#### † HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

##### Christmas Eve Masses

Saturday, December 24

**CHURCH:** 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

12:00 Midnight (*carols at 11:30 p.m.*)

**CHURCH HALL:** 4:00 p.m.

**SLADE AUDITORIUM:** 4:00 p.m. (*pageant*)

##### Christmas Day Masses

(*all Masses are in the Church*)

Sunday, December 25

7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.

2:00 noon 6:00 p.m. (*Spanish*)

#### † CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

##### Christmas Eve Masses

Saturday, December 24: 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

##### Christmas Day Mass

Sunday, December 25: 9:00 a.m.

#### † CHURCH OF THE CRUCIFIXION

##### Christmas Eve Masses

Saturday, December 24: 4:30 p.m. 10:00 p.m.

##### Christmas Day Mass

Sunday, December 25: 11:00 a.m.



### Advent Mission

#### OPERATION WELCOME HOME

As part of our holiday outreach, the youth of our parish invite all parishioners from Holy Trinity, Crucifixion, and Good Shepherd to join them in welcoming our troops home from military service. Hundreds of our Sailors, Airmen, Soldiers and Marines return from the War on Terror every week through the gates of the Baltimore/ Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. **Operation Welcome Home, [www.operationwelcomehomemd.org](http://www.operationwelcomehomemd.org), organizes and assists volunteers to come out and welcome our troops home!** Our three parishes are currently scheduled to meet returning service people to BWI on **December 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**. Volunteers are generally asked to be at the airport approximately 2 hours before the flight arrives in order to help decorate and prepare "goodie bags" for those returning home. Also, volunteers are invited to bring with them bottled water and/or individually packaged snacks to be given to the returning troops. Some flights may be delayed or cancelled, so please call the hotline at (410) 630-1555 before you leave for the airport for flight status. (Bring your parking receipt with you, so that it can be validated for free parking.) Check out the website for more information, or contact Joyce Pagan at 410-766-5070 x15.

**MARK FORREST**

#### Christmas Concert and Advent Evening of Prayer

St. Philip Neri: *Saturday, December 3, Christmas Concert & Sunday, Dec. 4, Spiritual Evening of Prayer*

**Christmas Concert 12/3** ticket prices are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Children \$5 Ticket prices include a "Meet the Artist" reception following the concert. For purchase of tickets and additional information, please call SPN Parish Office @ 410-859-0571 or Helen @ 410-684-2532.

**Spiritual Evening of Prayer 12/4** will be a time of Eucharistic Adoration, praise, music and meditation and quiet



# Church of the Crucifixion

## Advent and Christmas 2011

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

*Confession is an act of honesty and courage - an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God. --Pope John Paul 2*

*Don't miss out on this opportunity to unburden your hearts from sin and experience God's great mercy!*

**Advent Reconciliation Services:** Crucifixion: Monday, Dec 19th at 7pm, St John's Severna Park: Tuesday, Dec. 6, 7pm  
Our Lady of the Chesapeake, Thurs., Dec 15, 7:30pm



### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Wednesday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Holy Day  
of Obligation

*This feast celebrates Mary's conception without sin. The word immaculate means*

*"without stain" - it is the privilege and grace bestowed upon Mary that preserved her from original sin by filling her with grace from the moment of conception in the womb of her mother. Free from the effects of sin, Mary was able to place herself at the service of God's plan for our salvation and became the mother of Jesus, our Savior.*

**Mass will be celebrated for the North Anne Arundel County Cluster Parishes as follows:**

Good Shepherd	5:30 pm	December 7
Holy Trinity	6:00 pm	December 7 (Spanish).
St. Philip Neri	6:30 pm	December 7
Crucifixion	8:30 am	December 8
St. Philip Neri	9:00 am	December 8 (school Mass)
Arthur Slade	10:00 am	December 8
Holy Trinity	7:00pm	December 8
St. Philip Neri	7:00 pm	December 8
St. Bernadette	7:30 pm	December 8

*Please remember the poor box during the Advent & Christmas Season so that we may reach out to those in need with the love of Christ!*

### Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

Sunday, January 1, 2012



*(Solemnity will be celebrated during the regular weekend Mass schedules, listed below)*

#### Crucifixion:

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 11:00 AM

#### Good Shepherd:

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM & 11:30 AM

#### Holy Trinity:

#### Church:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 Noon

6:00 PM misa en espanol

#### Auditorium:

Sunday: 10:30 AM

#### St. Bernadette

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM, 10:45 AM, 12:15 PM

#### St. Philip Neri

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my savior."*