



December 15, 2019 3rd Sunday of Advent

Every so often I come across people who have memories of serving at Mass before 1970. To a person, they all comment first on all the prayers they had to memorize in Latin, prayers that were responses to prayers of the priest celebrating the

Mass. After 1970, when the vernacular became the general practice, Latin pretty much disappeared from the general experience of most Catholics. Today, however, the Church uses a Latin word with which many people are still familiar. The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday. The word *gaudete* means “rejoice” and, fittingly, it comes from the Entrance Antiphon for today:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.
(Phil 4:4-5)

The verb is in the imperative form, so it reads like a command, not a suggestion. And St. Paul gives us the reason for our rejoicing at all times: “the Lord is near!” On the one hand, this means that we are getting close to Christmas, when we will be celebrating the Lord coming close to us in His birth. It can also mean that the Lord’s coming at the end of time is near, something also worth rejoicing in when we recall our belief in the gift that awaits us in the Kingdom. For us living in that in-between time, we can still rejoice, for the Lord is near to us as He comes to us every day through His holy promptings to follow His will and to rest in the fact that, when we are in the state of grace, He is so near to us that He actually lives *in* us!

A spiritual discipline that has been recommended for centuries is known as practicing the presence of God. This involves consciously calling to mind His being near us, which will certainly bring about the fruit of joy that will lead to our rejoicing always, as recommended by St. Paul. Maybe we have tried that to limited success in the past. Nevertheless, as I have been recommending this Advent, it is never too late to begin again (*nunc coepi*). Take some time this week and identify something you do every day and make a conscious effort to call to mind the Lord’s presence during that time. Here is an example – every time you see a Christmas tree or a house decorated with lights, say in your heart something like: “Come, Lord Jesus”, or “Jesus, I love you”, or “Jesus, I trust in you.” I think you will find those little moments of

being aware of His presence a welcome gift and will help to remind you that the reason for this season is the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

As an aside, since I mentioned Latin in the liturgy, did you know that when we say or sing *Kyrie eleison*, it is not Latin? It is actually Greek. Share that little tidbit and I am sure your family and friends will be impressed!

- Fr. Alford

Anointing of the Sick

If you are going to the hospital for surgery or have a serious illness, receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Please call the parish office to receive the Sacrament, administered privately or during daily Mass. Call Barb Scoggins at 217-498-9197 to have a family member placed on the prayer list.

Prayer List:

Barb Sinkus, parishioner
Steven Long, parishioner
Gary Dumonceaux, parishioner
Jillian Kohlrus, parishioner
Shirley Crawford, parishioner
Rene Runions, parishioner
Ray Roland, parishioner
Lynn F. Leach, parishioner
JoAnn Camille, parishioner
Betty Rowden, parishioner
JoAnn Barber, parishioner
Glen Butcher, parishioner
Yvonne Butcher, mother of Barrie Blough
Katherine Torricelli, mother of Jeff Torricelli
Aloysius Staff, brother of Sylvia Thull
Ken Cardoni, cousin of Frances Tomashavich
John Rentschler, son of Ginger Rentschler
Glen Limper, son of Al & Betty Limper
Hope Power, daughter of Yvonne Brandis
Donna Meyers, mother of Kellie Brewer
Jim Felts, husband of Dianne Felts
Jerry McCormick, brother of Tom Walker
Margie Lammert, mother of Sarah Clare
Steven Butts, brother of Michelle Bullock
Reba Cloyd, mother of Anita Schwab
Jennifer Harbeck, cousin of Brad Zack
Joanna Laabs, wife of Deacon Al Laabs
John Vercautern, cousin of Laurie White
Bob Etherton, friend of Mary Bruno
Cherie Peterson, niece of Peggy Parnell
David Brogdon, friend of Don & Roberta Vanover
Judy Conway, friend of Maggie Patterson
Carolyn Carmichael, mother of Leanne Collings
Stephanie Zimmerman, friend of Sarah Clare
Button Pemberton, friend of Guerrettaz family
Teresa Cieciura, friend of Guerrettaz family
Ziggie Cieciura, friend of Guerrettaz family
Aliana Marecki, friend of Guerrettaz family



HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK!!!

The † symbolizes the Mass is for someone who is deceased.

Saturday, December 14th

10-11:30 a **Confessions**
3:30 p **Confessions**
4:30 p **Mass** (Int: Mark Zucco†)

Sunday, December 15th

7:30 a Confessions
8:00 a **Mass** (Int: Allan Dahlkamp†)
9:30 a Wyndcrest: Nelson
9:45 a Confessions
9:45 a Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a Rosary
10:30 a **Mass** (Int: For the Parish)
6-7:30 p **Advent Evening of Prayer**

Monday, December 16th

9:00 a Counting Team #3
5:00 p **Confessions**
5:30 p **Mass** (Int: Noah Guerrettaz†)

Tuesday, December 17th

7:00 a Morning Prayer
7:30 a **Mass** (Int: Limper/Engeling families)
8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
6:30 p **Confessions at St. Joseph, Chatham**
7:00 p RCIA
7:00 p Knights of Columbus meeting

Wednesday, December 18th

7:00 a Morning Prayer
7:30 a **Mass** (Int: Mary Einhorn†)
8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
6:30 p **PSR**
7-8:30 p Youth Group

Thursday, December 19th

7:00 a Morning Prayer
7:30 a **Mass** (Int: Cieciora Family)
8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
6-7:00 p **Confessions**
7:00 p Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p Men's Prayer Group

Friday, December 20th

7:00 a Morning Prayer
7:30 a **Mass** (Int: Noah Guerrettaz†)
8:00 a Scriptural Rosary

Saturday, December 21st

10-11:30 a **Confessions**
3:30 p **Confessions**
4:30 p **Mass** (Int: Jean Seward†)

Sunday, December 22nd

7:30 a Confessions
8:00 a **Mass** (Int: For the Parish)
9:30 a Wyndcrest: Rendok
9:45 a Confessions
9:45 a Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a Rosary
10:30 a **Mass** (Int: Evelyn Cannon†)
4-6:00 p **Confessions**

Parish Sacrificial Giving **Fiscal Year 7/1/2019-6/30/2020**

	Last Week	Year-To-Date
Collections (87)	\$ 4,770.00	\$ 128,697.74
Electronic Funds (0)	\$ 0.00	\$ 22,890.50
Bldg. Dev. Fund (6)	\$ 196.00	\$ 6,959.00
EFT-Dev. Fund (0)	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,350.00
Poor Fund	\$ 41.05	\$ 1,170.23
Children's Offering (1)	\$ 3.00	\$ 43.60
Christmas Offerings(3)	\$ 30.00	\$ 340.00
Christmas Flowers (1)	\$ 5.00	\$ 798.00
EFT-Christmas Flowers(0)	\$ 0.00	\$ 195.00
Immac. Conception (50)	\$ 1,073.00	\$ 1,178.00
Retired Religious (55)	\$ 1,844.00	\$ 1,869.00
Children's Home (2)	\$ 20.00	\$ 135.00
Solemnity of Mary (3)	\$ 30.00	\$ 60.00

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, Dec. 21st– 4:30 p.m.

Euch. Min.: Fr. Alford, Scheufele, Tomashavich
Deacon Roth
Lectors: Bertrand, Day
Servers: J & O Heiple, Torres
Hospitality: Egizio, Foster, T & K Riedle

Sunday, Dec. 22nd– 8:00 a.m.

Euch. Min.: Fr. Alford, G & C Leach
Deacon Roth
Lectors: Dowding, Helling
Servers: Delgado, Lauwerens, Zeidler
Hospitality: Brandis, Dahlkamp, R & B Yong

Sunday, Dec. 22nd– 10:30 a.m.

Euch. Min.: Fr. Alford, Crusen, Kohlrus,
Deacon Roth
Lectors: Kuntzman, Livengood
Servers: A, A, M Livengood
Minister of Care: Rendok
Hospitality: A & V Powell
CLOW: Kerley

Volunteers for this week: Dec. 16-Dec. 22:
Church Duster: Mary & John Fox
Dec. Recycling Volunteer: Jeannette Waters
Dec. Food Volunteer: David Waters Family
Coffee & Donuts – Sunday, Dec. 15th:
 Jan Pietras & Diana Rowden

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Dec. 15th – Dec. 22nd:
Sunday: IS 35:1-6A, 10 JAS 5:7-10
 MT 11:2-11
Monday: NM 24:2-7, 15-17A MT 21:23-27
Tuesday: GN 49:2, 8-10 MT 1:1-17
Wednesday: JER 23:5-8 MT 1:18-25
Thursday: JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A LK 1:5-25
Friday: IS 7:10-14 LK 1:26-38
Saturday: SG 2:8-14 LK 1:39-45
Sunday: IS 7:10-14 ROM 1:1-7
 MT 1:18-24

Additional Confession Opportunities during Advent:

Saturday, December 14 – 10:00 – 11:30 am
 Tuesday, December 17 – 6:30 pm – Combined
 Parish Penance Service at St. Joseph
 The Worker, Chatham
 Thursday, December 19 – 6:00 – 7:00 pm
 Saturday, December 21 – 10:00 – 11:30 am
 Sunday, December 22 – 4:00 – 6:00 pm
 Monday, December 23 – 6:00 – 7:30 pm
 Tuesday, December 24 – 9:00 – 10:30 am

Upcoming Parish Meetings/Events

Dec. 15 – 6-7:30 p.m. – Advent Reflections
 Dec. 17 – 7:00 p.m. – RCIA
 Dec. 18 – 6:30 p.m. – PSR
 Dec. 18 – 7:00 p.m. – Youth Group
 Dec. 19 – 7:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
 Dec. 19 – 7:00 p.m. – Men’s Prayer Group

→PSR NEWS←

The PSR classes will continue their Annual Monthly Food Drive to benefit the Food Pantry. The December food item is Chili. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

PLEASE NOTE: For **2019 Financial Contributions** to the parish, envelopes must be turned in by **12:00 noon on Monday, December 30, 2019.**

Advent Evening of Prayer – Please mark your calendars to join us on **Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 pm** in the church here at St. Jude for an evening of prayer as we prepare our hearts for Christmas. We will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, readings from the Scriptures, a brief meditation, hymns, and silence. We will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Babysitting will be available, and we will have a cookie reception in the Parish Center following the prayer service.

You can still order Scrip gift cards! Orders for gift cards will be placed on December 9th and 16th, and the cards will be available for pick up on the Thursday of the week ordered. Please use the order forms available at the back of the Church. Your continued support of the St. Jude Mission Trip Youth is appreciated. The scrip card program is available all year long!

St. Jude Parish Weekly Confession Times
Monday – 5:00-5:20 p.m.
Saturday – 3:30-4:15 p.m.
Sunday – 7:30-7:50 a.m. & 9:45-10:15 a.m.



Religious give thanks - “Thank you’ hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us,” says a Catholic sister of the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation to last week’s second collection.

THANKS to Kellie Brewer and Deacon Tom Walker for facilitating the Christmas Friends Program again this year, and to **YOU** who provided the gifts for the many children, youth and adults who will be the recipients of your generosity. **THANK YOU.**



The St. Jude Adult Choir will be singing at the **4:30 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass** on **Tuesday, December 24th**. The choral prelude will begin at **4:00 p.m.**



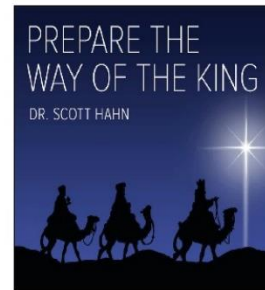
Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Great Marriages Don't Just Happen,
Couples Make Them!

“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.” Strengthen, rekindle and renew your marriage sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in the St. Louis area. The next weekends are Feb. 7-9 or Apr. 24-26, 2020 at the Courtyard Marriot in St. Peters, MO. <https://stl-wwme.org/schedule.php> or call or text 314.649.7317.

SHG PLACEMENT TEST- The SHG Placement Test will be offered on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Becky Jones, Tuition Manager, and Sr. Katherine O'Connor, President, will be available to answer parents' questions at 8:30 a.m. in the Choral Room. Please contact our Registrar at 217-787-1595 ext. 126 if you are unable to take the test. Students will need to bring #2 Pencils and \$10 testing fee, and a calculator. Pre-registration online is required by Friday, January 10, 2020. www.shg.org

Rochester State Bank
133 John Street, Rochester, IL
217-498-7111

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. and Trivia Workshop invites you to attend Trivia Night on January 11, 2020 at the Prairie Heart Dove Conference Center from 7:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person, or \$160 for a table of 8. Bring your own snacks. There will be soda, water, beer and wine available for purchase. Registration for the event can be done by calling the Center at 525-5630.



Prepare the Way of the King
 Dr. Scott Hahn

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Dr. Scott Hahn reveals what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind – Jesus Christ.

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Many happy returns



Somehow, not only for Christmas,
 But all the long year through,
 The joy that you give to others,
 Is the joy that comes back to you.
 And the more you spend in blessing
 The poor and lonely and sad,
 The more of your heart's possessing
 Returns to you glad.

—John Greenleaf Whittier