

INTRODUCTION TO LITURGY OF THE DAY

Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, *gaudete* meaning rejoice in Latin. We rejoice this Sunday, knowing that we are over halfway through this period of preparation and that Jesus' coming is so close that we can feel it in our very being. We will sing, "My soul rejoices in my God" in the responsorial psalm. Let us take a moment today to put all the Christmas planning and worries aside and reflect on the wonderful gift God gave us in Jesus.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Isiah 61:1-2a, I rejoice heartily in the Lord.
10-11*

Luke 1 "My soul rejoices in my God."

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 May you entirely,
spirit, soul, and body, be
preserved blameless for the
coming of our Lord Jesus
Christ.*

*John 1:6-8, 19-28 There is one among you
whom you do not recognize.*

Some very important people in scripture give Testimony today. First, Isaiah testifies that God called him to share good news to those in need. Then Saint Paul testifies to the expectations he has of the Thessalonians as he wraps up his letter to them. Finally, John the Evangelist writes that John the Baptist was sent to testify to the greatest news of all, the coming of Jesus, so that all may believe.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I help bring a "year of favor" to the world, to the community, to those I know?

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 4:00 PM	<i>Dec. 16th, Third Sunday of Advent, Parishioners Intentions</i>
Sunday 8:30 AM	<i>Dec. 17th, Mass Intention for Peyton Thomas Meyers</i>
Monday 8:30 AM	<i>Dec. 18th, Weekday Parishioners Intentions</i>
Tuesday 8:30 AM	<i>Dec. 19th, Weekday Parishioners Intentions</i>
Wednesday 8:30 AM	<i>Dec. 20th, Mass Intention for Bob Mayka</i>
Thursday 8:30 AM	<i>Dec. 21st, Weekday Parishioners intentions</i>
Friday 10:00 AM	<i>Dec.22nd, Parishioners Intentions Fountain</i>

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Schedules

Fourth Sunday of Advent

12/23 4:00 PM Rosary

12/24 8:30 AM Rosary

12/24 10:30 PM Peace

Christmas Eve

12/24 4:00 PM Vigil Mass, Rosary

Christmas Day

12/25 8:30 AM Rosary

10:30 AM Peace

**** There are two Distinct Obligations for the Weekend Of December 23, 24 & 25**

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

OFFERTORY	\$ 2,731.00
BUILDING FUND	\$ 1,547.00
OTHER – PEACE	\$ <u>900.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 5,178.00
BUILDING FUND TO DATE	\$ 1,548.00

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

OFFERTORY	\$ 598.00
BUILDING FUND	\$ 404.00

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE
RELIGIOUS**

Dec. 16-17 Help our religious
communities

PRAYING DURING ADVENT

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In this week, let us return to look at ourselves and ask, “How pure is my heart?” All of us have, unfortunately, taken on so many of the world’s values and priorities: money, sex, power, appearance and material goods are too often used as the basis for setting personal goals. They can blind us to the true values: Read Mathew 15:1-20. Read it right now. These false values and others like them can render our souls unclean. When that happens, we can’t “see” the beauty of Christ in our world and through others. We become deaf to his calling us to draw nearer to him. Read the passage from Matthew every day this week and ask God to enlighten you, to bring you freedom and give you the courage to embrace the values of Christ himself – one at a time over the next year. But start now – this Advent – with setting one new goal in life.