

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Another name for this Sunday of Advent is *Gaudete* or Rejoice Sunday. This name is taken from the entrance antiphon, which is itself a quote from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians: "Rejoice in the Lord always." Our Advent season of preparation is already halfway over. How have your preparations gone so far? It is never too late to prepare for the coming of God in our hearts, so let us pray today for hearts ever more open to the presence of God.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Is35:1-6s, 10 *The desert will bloom.*
Psalm 146 *"Lord, come and save us."*
James 5:7-10 *Be patient like a farmer waiting for spring.*
Mt 11:2-11 *In prison John received word of the coming of Christ.*

Our beautiful reading from Isaiah today continues the theme of the messianic kingdom that we heard about last week. The coming of the Lord is cause for joy and gladness. St. James takes up the theme and tells us that we must have patience, just like the farmer who waits for the fruit of the earth. In the Gospel we hear Jesus affirm John's message of repentance before the reign of God. Let us listen to these holy scriptures and rejoice in the coming of our God.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 10, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent
4:00 PM Parishioners of Rosary
Sunday, December 11, Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM William Wambach (RIP)
10:30 AM Parishioners of Peace
Monday, December 12, *Our Lady of Guadalupe*
8:30 AM W. A. Brown (RIP)
Tuesday, December 13, *St. Lucy*
8:30 AM M. C. Brown (RIP)
Wednesday December 14, *St. John of the Cross*
8:30AM Special Intention
Thursday, December 15, Advent Weekday
8:30 AM Lawrence Hall (RIP)
Friday, December 15, Advent Weekday
9:00 AM Parishioners of Peace

Please see Fr. Brown for Mass Intention requests. The Celebrant is not obligated to publicly announce the Mass intentions; this is a courtesy. If the Celebrant omits announcing the intention, the Mass is still offered for the donor's intention. If you would like to make a donation for the Sanctuary Lamp for a special intention, please see Father Brown. December intention is for David and Janet Meyers (RIP).

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What kind of Messiah does my own life's witness to Christ proclaim? One with fire and brimstone ready at hand or one of whose comfort and healing I am an instrument?

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Ruthie Kress, Mary Sharenberger-Riggins, Curtis Jackson, Danny Somers, Joseph Thomas Buxton, Greg Warner, Bill Sultan, Kelly Lightsey, Margi Bockweg, Cathy Banks, John Loria, Hguyen Dau, Hai Van Heller and family, Nathan Collins, Barbara Northrop, Susan Tanney and Peyton Meyers. Please see Father Brown to update the list or to arrange for a visit to a homebound or hospitalized.

Parish Hall Countdown

Amortization Schedule

12/22/2016	\$37,102.65	\$31,692.82
1/22/2017	\$31,692.82	\$26,249.18
2/22/2017	\$26,249.18	\$20,771.52
3/22/2017	\$20,771.52	\$15,259.62
4/22/2017	\$15,259.62	\$ 9,713.27
5/22/2017	\$ 9,713.27	\$ 4,132.26
6/22/2017	\$ 4,132.26	\$ 00.00

More Details to Follow!!!!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego as one of his own people, as an expectant mother, and spoke to him in his own language. Her appearance at Tepeyac to Blessed Juan Diego in 1531 was the beginning of a beautiful story of God's and Mary's love and care for the peoples of Mexico. Known as Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Blessed Virgin was named the patroness of all of the Americas

Saint Lucy, December 13

Little is known about Saint Lucy except that she had taken a vow of virginity, and that she was martyred in 304. Yet devotion to her had sprung up in the early Church, and she is mentioned in the First Eucharistic Prayer.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

OFFERTORY	\$3,847.62
BUILDING FUND	<u>\$1,374.00</u>
TOTAL	\$5,221.62

BUILDING FUND MONTHLY

	\$5,641.72
Month to date	<u>\$1,374.00</u>
NEEDED	\$4,867.72

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE MISSION

OFFERTORY	\$501.00
TOTAL	\$501.00

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CHRISTMAS CARD DRIVE**

The Knights will be selling holy Christmas cards before and after each of the Masses for the next several weeks. Prices range from \$8-\$12 per box, with five different types of cards to choose from. Christmas auto magnets will also be sold at \$4.00 each.

REMINDER:

**DONATIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.**

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Your donation works for the aging religious. "I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we want our donations to work". Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious and give to those who have given a lifetime.

**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY/QUEEN OF PEACE
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

On Sunday, December 18 at 2:00pm in Rosary's Parish Hall we will have our family Christmas party. Meat and drinks will be furnished. Sign up is required! Please bring a *side dish or dessert*. Games and music for all ages; visit by St. Nicholas for young and young at heart; and optional gift exchange. Questions: contact Kevin Hall at 914-0334.

MEDITATION ON THE LIGHT

Response:*In the darkness of our hearts and of our world, we cry out until the dawn. Come, Sun of Justice! (cf. Is 38:13a)*

...Prepare to meet your God, O Israel: Him who forged the mountains, and created the wind, and declares to man his thoughts; Who made the dawn and the darkness and strides upon the heights of the earth: The Lord, the God of hosts by name. (Am4:12b-13) **R**

Be attentive to me, my people; my folk, give ear to me. For law shall go forth from my presence and my judgment, as the light of the peoples *Is 51:4) **R**

If you bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; Then light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday. (Is 58:10)

Rejoice not over me, O my enemy! though I have fallen, I will arise; though I sit in darkness, the LORD is my light. (Mi 7:8) **R**

You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. (Mt 5:14-16) **R**

Concluding Prayer: *May the God of infinite goodness scatter the darkness of sin and brighten our hearts with holiness. Amen.*



Week 3: May your grace, almighty God, always go before us and follow after, so that we, who await with heartfelt desire the coming of your Only Begotten Son, may receive your help both now and in the life to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.