

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 12, 2021

With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

— Isaiah 12:3

REJOICE

The prophetic writings we hear in today's scriptures call us to rejoice and celebrate the goodness of God. Zephaniah, Isaiah, Saint Paul, and John the Baptist in Luke's Gospel all follow the rich tradition of the Biblical prophets, a tradition that reaches full expression in Jesus. The prophets warn that human failings have truly disastrous consequences. All are summoned to repent, and to change their lives. Today we hear the Good News that God's gracious love exceeds and overcomes all human corruption. God has not given up on us. Indeed, God keeps pursuing us, and eagerly seeks to reconcile with us. God's initiative to set the world aright culminates with Jesus, whose coming John the Baptist announces. John's prophetic message summons us to join in God's reconciling work, by living generously and justly in our daily lives. As we rejoice in God's grace, we then extend the fruits of this grace to all.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalm — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

Second Reading — Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel — John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

Last Week's Collection	\$5,346.00	\$1,341.00
Number of Families contributing	111	58
Total Pledge for 2021	\$161,051.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (43 Weeks)	\$151,289.00	\$154,031.00
Received to Date	\$150,097.00	\$120,443.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$1,192.00	\$31,588.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$145.00	\$9,308.00

Twelve ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$18,700.00	\$183,235.00

Two people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$69,865.00

POOR BOX totaled \$40.00.

12 **CHILDREN** contributed \$79.00.

CHURCH IN AFRICA totaled \$65.00

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

On Christmas Eve, during the Franco-Prussian War in 1870 French soldiers and German soldiers were facing each other in trenches a short distance apart. Suddenly a French soldier stood on top of the mound of dirt. He faced the Germans and began singing "O Holy Night." Not a shot was fired.

When the French soldier finished, a German soldier did the same, singing "From Heaven to Earth Come." Not a soldier present that Christmas Eve ever forgot the event.

What lesson might that event hold for me? For our world?

The world is large and complex, and sometimes there seems to be no sacred ground. But in tent and palace.... And under lighted trees across the lands, the language of Christmas is universal peace.

"Our God is merciful and tender. He will ... guide our steps into the path of peace." Luke 1:78-79

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. the Family of Ned Blaster in loving memory of him on the 47th Anniversary of his death;
2. Jim Patrick and Paula in loving memory of Chee Chee's Barney on the 1st Anniversary of his death;
3. the Family of Nora Frances in loving memory of her on the 4th Anniversary of her death;
4. and a Parish Family member in thanks to St. Expedite.

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICE

Thursday, December 16th — 6:15 P.M.

This is an immediate preparation for Christmas.

Please be in the Church by 6:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS 2021 MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24th — 5:00 P.M. — Children's Mass

December 24th — Midnight Mass

Saturday December 24th — 10:00 A.M. — Christmas Day Mass

There will be no Saturday evening Mass on Christmas Day.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26th

Morning Mass — 10:00 A.M.

Evening Mass — 5:00 P.M.

THANK YOU to three parish members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite; a parish member for their donation in thanks to St. Raphael, St. Mother Theresa and Padre Pio; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Anthony; a parish member for their donation in thanks to St. Jude; a member for a donation on thanks to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Anthony and St. Jude; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Padre Pio and St. Expedite; and a member for a donation to the Church.

ONE MINUTE

One minute of **ANGER** weakens the immune system for 5 hours.

One minute of **LAUGHTER** strengthens the immune system for 24 hours.

SPECIAL COLLECTION The second collection this weekend will be for the *Retirement Fund for the Religious*. Please be generous in this collection.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS It is asked that everyone donate \$10 for poinsettias. Please give your donation to Mary Rita O’Hara, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

FAMILY RULES

Always Be Honest (Proverbs 12:22)

Count Your Blessings (Psalms 34:1-3)

Forgive and Forget (Micah 7:18)

Be Supportive of one Another (Acts 20:35)

Be Kind and Tenderhearted (Ephesians 4:32)

Keep Your Promises (Romans 4:21)

Comfort One Another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)

and above all

LOVE ONE ANOTHER (1 Peter 1:22)

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A man and a woman were traveling in a train.

Woman: Every time you smile, I feel like inviting you to my place.

Man: Awww...! Are you single?

Woman: No, I am a dentist.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. Lucy

Tuesday: St. John of the Cross

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For the repose of the soul of Pete Turner Riley on the Anniversary of his death.

Tuesday: For the repose of the soul of John F. on his Birthday.

Wednesday: For the repose of the soul of Petie Cat Gorman on the Anniversary of his death.

Thursday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Joseph for all the sick and for all the holy souls in purgatory and for the repose of the soul of Maul’s Jim on his Birthday.

Friday: In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood.

WHEN THE LOAD GETS HEAVY

**When the load gets heavy and you feel despair,
Call on the Lord who’s always there.
He’s right by your side each hour of the day
To make your load lighter along the way.**

**Sometimes the road is bumpy and rough.
He knows your endurance, when you’ve had enough.
He gives you strength to overcome all
And He may let you stumble, but never fall.**

READERS

Sat. Dec. 11th, 4:00 P.M.
Cathy Lisa & Reed

Sat. Dec. 11th, 7:00 P.M.
Natalie & Mary Martha

Sun. Dec. 12th, 10:00 A.M

Christina Apple & Bridgette Anna

Sat. Dec. 18th, 4:00 P.M.
Christina & Julie Ann

Sat. Dec. 18th, 7:00 P.M.
Ritz & Savannah

Sun. Dec. 19th, 10:00 A.M

Christina Apple & Bridgette Anna

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Marilyn
Tuesday	-	Lauren
Wednesday	-	Graclynn
Thursday	-	Fallon
Friday	-	Ciara

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	-	Kim Gallon
Tuesday	-	Nora
Wednesday	-	Catherine Ann
Thursday	-	Mary Cat
Friday	-	Rosie Cat

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

<u>Saturday 4:00 P.M.</u>	December 11th
Front	Winnie Ann
Right	Cathy Pole
Left	Catherine Ann

<u>Saturday 7:00 P.M.</u>	December 11th
Right	Blue
Left	Bridgette Anna

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
December 12th	December 19th
Rose Marie	Rose Marie
Mary Cat	Mary Cat

WISDOM OF ST. FULTON SHEEN

Since evil is nothing positive, there can be no principle of evil. It has no meaning except in reference to It has no meaning except in reference to something good.

QUOTES

- ***Be yourself, everyone else is already taken.***
- ***What is a cynic? A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.***
- ***I can resist everything except temptation.***
- ***To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.***
- ***We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.***

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

O God, who see how Your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord’s Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.