

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

— 1 Thessalonians 5:16

JOHN THE BAPTIST

At a school open house a woman could be overheard introducing her husband to some of the other parents. “Oh, Bill, I’d like you to meet Johnny’s father. And over here, this is Marie’s mom; you know, the little girl from our Ellen’s soccer team.”

With satisfied resignation Bill introduced himself not by name: “I’m Ellen’s Dad.”

It’s good to know who you are. Be it someone’s father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, it’s important to embrace the full meaning of our various roles.

John the Baptist knows who he is. And who he is not. He is not the Christ. Nor Elijah. Nor like any other prophet God’s people had ever seen.

John the Baptist knows his mission is divine. He’s more than satisfied to be the one to announce the coming of God’s reign. The Christ is near. Make straight your paths. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

Psalms — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

Second Reading — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

Gospel — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Last Week’s Collection | \$2,242.00 | \$1,671.00 |
| Number of Families contributing | 83 | 61 |
| Total Pledge for 2020 | \$167,031.00 | \$162,928.00 |
| Pledged to Date (48 Weeks) | \$152,325.00 | \$154,088.00 |
| Received to Date | \$176,317.00 | \$136,398.00 |
| Envelopes Outstanding | (\$23,992.00) | \$17,590.00 |

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Amount given last week | Amount given to Date in 2020 |
| \$156.00 | \$18,073.00 |

Seventeen ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Amount given last week | Amount given to Date in 2020 |
| \$0.00 | \$17,917.00 |

No one made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| GOAL | \$165,000.00 |
| Total Pledged | \$210,300.00 |
| Total Received | \$63,780.00 |

POOR BOX totaled \$96.00.

16 **CHILDREN** contributed \$128.00.

BAA totaled \$80.00.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION totaled \$116.00.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Three teenagers were climbing Mt. Hood. When a massive blizzard struck, they made a snow cave to wait it out. For two weeks they huddled in the cave. Their only comfort was a pocket Bible, which they took turns reading aloud. Finally, on the 16th day, when they were low on food and hope, the weather broke. They crawled out of the cave, barely able to stand. Looking down the mountain, they saw a joyous sight: a rescue team.

The situation of the teenagers, waiting and hoping, gives us an insight into the situation of believing Jews before Jesus’ birth. They, too, were low on faith and hope.

What keeps me going when I am low on faith and hope and tempted to quit?

Prayer infuses the weak with strength and the fainthearted with courage.

An angel told Joseph in a dream, “Take Mary to be your wife....She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus—because he will save his people from their sins.”

—MATTHEW 1:20-21

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Jude, Valerie, Tommy Touch and John Damon in thanks for Middleton on her 6th Birthday;
2. Michael D., Mary Touch, Ritz, Patrick Edward and Kymmie in thanks for Patrick D. on his 8th Birthday;
3. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

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

2019-2020 OUR LADY OF PEACE HONOR ROLL

Due to Covid-19, Our Lady of Peace School wasn’t able to have an end of year Award Ceremony. Congratulations to the following students who received end of year awards:

Ireland Carroll, Patrick D. Carroll, Richa Carroll, Gryphen Gorman, Polaris Mack, Elegance Riley, Embassy Sherlock, Minka Sherlock, and Vogue Sherlock for achieving the All A+ Principal’s Honor Roll for the year.

Elite Carroll, Honor Carroll, Jim Richmon Carroll, Scotland Costello, Alden Gorman, Montela Gorman, Radiance Riley, Stella Riley, and Hagee Smith for achieving the All-A Honor Roll for the year.

Beckham Carroll, Kade Carroll, Monroe Carroll, Patrick Dempsey Carroll, Starlet Carroll, Thomas Scotson Carroll, Noah Gorman, Brody Mulholland, Bella Riley, Juliet Riley, Patrick Lewis Riley, Acea Sherlock, Britain Sherlock, Delancey Sherlock, Dempsey Sherlock, Easton Sherlock, Edge Sherlock, Heidi Sherlock, Hyness Sherlock, John Elvis Sherlock, Royce Sherlock, Rylie Sherlock, and Tom Braddox Sherlock for achieving the A-B Honor Roll for the year.

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 16th — 6:00 P.M.

This is an immediate preparation for Christmas.

Please be in the Church by 5:50 P.M.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in honor of the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, Precious Blood, and St. Expedite; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Teresa and St. Raphael; a member in honor of the Holy Spirit; a member in honor of St. Michael; and three members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

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.

DIET THOUGHTS

- **The most fattening thing you can put in a banana split is a spoon.**
- **The toughest part of a diet isn't watching what you eat. It's watching what other people eat.**
- **Dieting: going to some length to change your width.**
- **Most people gain weight by having intimate dinners for two...alone.**

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Two attorneys went into a diner, sat down, and ordered two Cokes. Then they produced sandwiches from their briefcase and started to eat.

The owner became quite concerned, marched over to them, and told them, "You can't eat your own sandwiches in here!"

The attorneys looked at each other, shrugged their shoulders, and then exchanged sandwiches.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Third Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. John of the Cross
- Wednesday:** Las Posadas begins

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** For the repose of the souls of Eddie E. and Mary Hun on the Anniversary of their deaths.
- Tuesday:** For the repose of the soul of Petie Cat Gorman on his birthday.
- Wednesday:** In thanks for Middleton on her 6th Birthday.
- Thursday:** In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood.
- Friday:** For the repose of the soul of Nora Riley on the 49th Anniversary of her death.

GOD CAN MAKE THINGS RIGHT AGAIN

*God can make things right again
When everything goes wrong,
He can mend a broken heart
And fill it with a song.*

*He is a loving Father,
He care for His own,
He's someone you can count on,
You need not feel alone.*

*God can mend a broken heart,
Thus fill it with a song;
Somehow make things right again
When everything goes wrong.*

READERS

- Sat. Dec. 12th, 4:00 P.M.** Skylar & Reed
- Sun. Dec. 12th, 7:00 P.M.** Carolyn & Bridgette Anna
- Sun. Dec. 13th, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Rose Marie
- Sat. Dec. 19th, 4:00 P.M.** Cathy Lisa & Christina
- Sun. Dec. 19th, 7:00 P.M.** Dayna & Leah
- Sun. Dec. 20th, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Rose Marie

READERS – WEEKDAYS

- Monday** - Paige
- Tuesday** - Skylar
- Wednesday** - Julie Ann
- Thursday** - Kathleen
- Friday** - Kara

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

- Monday** - Cathy Pole
- Tuesday** - Kim Gallon
- Wednesday** - Rosie Cat
- Thursday** - Mary Cat
- Friday** - Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

- Saturday 4:00 P.M.** December 12th
- Front Mary Margaret
- Right Cathy Pole
- Left Kim Gallon

Saturday 7:00 P.M.

- December 12th** December 19th
- Kim Gallon Rosie Cat

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

- December 13th** December 20th
- Rose Marie Rose Marie
- Mary Cat Mary Cat

MOST HUMBLE AND POWERFUL STATEMENTS

The most humbling statement we can say is, *I AM NOTHING WITHOUT GOD.* And the most powerful statement is, *WITH GOD, I CAN DO ANYTHING.*

BIBLE HUMOR

- Q. What time of day was Adam created?
- A. *Right before Eve.*
- Q. Why couldn't Cain please God with his sacrifice?
- A. *Because he wasn't Abel.*
- Q. Who was the wealthiest male Financier in the Bible?
- A. *Noah. He was floating stock while everybody else was in liquidation.*

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

**PRAYER**

*Lord Jesus, inflame my heart with love you and for your ways and help me to exchange the yoke of rebellion for the sweet yoke of submission to your holy and loving word. Set me free from the folly of my own sinful ignorance and rebellious pride that I may wholly desire what is good and in accord with your will. Amen.*