

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 2019

*“Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.”
— Isaiah 35:10a*

REASON TO REJOIC

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and “the coming of the Lord.” But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as Gaudete (Latin for “rejoice”) Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing.

Today’s first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God’s saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God’s presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah’s prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus’ presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: “The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” (Matthew 11:5).

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalm — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11)..

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week’s Collection	\$1,863.00	\$1,063.00
Number of Families contributing	58	43
Total Pledge for 2019	\$167,031.00	\$163,188.00
Pledged to Date (49 Weeks)	\$157,470.00	\$152,618.00
Received to Date	\$134,369.00	\$107,299.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$23,101.00	\$45,319.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$38.00	\$8,084.00

Nine ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2019
\$9,013.00	\$67,564.00

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

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$208,330.00
Total Received	\$14,247.00

PARKING LOT totaled \$2.00.

12 **CHILDREN** contributed \$35.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$33.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass was 110; Saturday 7:00 P.M. was 120 and Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass was 105.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A lady worked at a meat distribution factory. One day, when she finished with her work schedule, she went into the meat freezer to inspect something, but in a moment of misfortune, the door closed and she was locked inside with no help in sight. Although she screamed and knocked with all her might, her cries went unheard as no one could hear her. Most of the workers had already gone, and outside the cold room, it’s impossible to hear what was going on inside.

Five hours later, whilst she was at the verge of death, the security guard of the factory eventually opened the door. She was miraculously saved from dying that day. When she later asked the security guard how he had come to open the door. His explanation: “I’ve been working in this factory for 35 years, hundreds of workers come in and out every day, but you’re one of the few who greet me in the morning and say goodbye to me every night. Today, like all other days, you greeted me in your simple manner ‘Hello’, but this evening after working hours I curiously observed that I had not heard your ‘Bye, see you tomorrow’. Hence. I decided to check around the factory. I look forward to your ‘hi’ and ‘bye’ every day because that remind me that I am someone. By not hearing your farewell today, I knew that something had happened. That’s why I was searching everywhere for you.”

Be humble, love and respect those around you. Try to have an impact on people who cross your path every day. You never know what tomorrow will bring.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Jude, Valerie, Tommy Touch and John Damon in thanks for Middleton on her 5th Birthday;
2. the Family of Nora Francis in loving memory of her on the 2nd Anniversary of her death;
3. Cathy Rita, Liz, Pete Carroll, Jayden and Palace in loving memory of Johnny Hugh Riley on the 1st Anniversary of his death;
4. the Family of Ned Blaster Sherlock in loving memory of him on the Anniversary of his death;
5. the Family of Pat Rat Riley in loving memory of him on the Anniversary of his death;
6. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

CONGRATULATIONS to Minka Sherlock for winning 3 Spelling Bees in her class. Great job!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE The Banns of Marriage are announced for the first time for Jim Boy Riley and Karys O’Hara.

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICE
Thursday, December 19th — 6:30 P.M.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to the Holy Spirit, Sacred Heart, Precious Blood and St. Expedite; and a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Mother Theresa and St. Raphael.

JOKE OF THE WEEK Sometimes women are overly suspicious of their husbands. When Adam stayed out very late for a few nights, Eve became upset. "You're running around with other women," she charged.

"You're being unreasonable," Adam responded. "You're the only woman on earth." The quarrel continued until Adam fell asleep, only to be awakened by someone poking him in the chest. It was Eve.

"What do you think you're doing?" Adam demanded. "Counting your ribs," Eve said.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS It is asked that everyone donate \$10 for poinsettias. Please give your donation to Bibbie's Catherine Ann, Bridget Rita, or the Church Office.

WHAT'S INSIDE

A nice message written on a balloon which was flying high up in the sky:

*"It's not what is OUTSIDE,
but what's INSIDE that takes you to the TOP."*

ADDICTION PROBLEMS Do you have addiction problems? Please call Richard Harmon 803-270-8376.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent
Monday: Las Posadas begins
Saturday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins Monday

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For the repose of the soul of Petie Cat Gorman on his Birthday.
Tuesday: In thanks for Middleton on her 5th Birthday.
Wednesday: In honor of the Infant Jesus of Prague for all the sick and St. Joseph for all the holy souls in purgatory.
Thursday: For the repose of the soul of Margaret Sherlock on the 5th Anniversary of her death.
Friday: For the repose of the soul of Nora Riley on the 47th Anniversary of her death.

FAITH

*In youth I caught a glimpse of faith,
as I climb life's rugged stair,
And filled with awe, I bowed my head,
and breathed a childlike prayer.*

*In later years I knew a faith,
So beautiful and strong.
It lead through unfamiliar paths
And cheered my way along.*

*Again I bowed and gratefully
I thanked a loving God,
For giving me a faith so great
It blessed the path I trod.*

READERS

Sat. Dec. 14th, 4:00 P.M. Joy & Leah	Sat. Dec. 14th, 7:00 P.M. Christina & Natalie
Sun. Dec. 15th, 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat
Sat. Dec. 21st, 4:00 P.M. Ritz & Ivana	Sat. Dec. 21st, 7:00 P.M. Bridgette Anna & Carolyn
Sun. Dec. 22nd, 10:00 A.M.	Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	- Taneil
Tuesday	- Fallon
Wednesday	- Cathy Lisa
Thursday	- Pamela
Friday	- Christina

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.	Dec. 14th
Front	Bridget Ann
Left Cup	Winnie Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Dec. 15th	Dec. 22nd
Pete Man's Nora	Pete Man's Nora
Rose Marie	Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Cathy Pole
Tuesday	Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday	Margaret Butts
Thursday	Betty Jo
Friday	Mary Cat

MIND

Mind is not a dustbin to keep anger, hatred and jealousy. It is the treasure box to keep love, happiness and sweet memories.

THINGS IN LIFE

Life is all about 3 things:

1. **WINNING**
2. **LOSING**
3. **SHARING**

WINNING others heart, **LOSING** bad things & **SHARING** happy moments.

A FINGER

A finger that wipes away your tears during hard times is greater than the thousand hands that clapped for your success.

PRAYER CORNER

PRAYER FOR STRENGTH

Father in Heaven, I am weary. I am tired. My energy is sagging and my motivation is low. Especially today, I need Your love to get my life back on track. Please help me say no when I am tempted to surrender to the easy way. Please help me to say yes, to Your will and Your way. Hear this prayer, Oh Lord, that I pray in Your Holy name. Amen.