

GOOD NEWS!

DECEMBER 13, 2020 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 / 1 Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

So far the readings for Sundays in Advent have shown God leading the people into a new way of life—a way of righteousness and loyalty, of honesty and responsibility. Today the readings show the people beginning to see that the accomplishment of this transformation would come through the leadership of one individual. Who might that person be?

The passage from Isaiah describes a prophet, one anointed by God and bringing good news to the poor. When the Baptist appears on the scene in John’s Gospel, people wonder if it might be him. He insists he is not the one, nor is he a prophet. Then, “Who are you?” (John 1:19) Recalling the passage from Isaiah read on the First Sunday of Advent, John tells them he is the one repairing the road, getting it ready for the long-awaited one to arrive. He adds that his baptism is a baptism of repentance. He is readying them to be what Paul describes as “perfectly holy...blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

We now see that these readings are preparing us for salvation. We are now told that such divine graciousness will be inaugurated by an individual, one who has not yet been identified. Will it be a powerful king? A mighty warrior? A spectacular prophet? Those in the time before Christ didn’t know. We now know that it will be someone powerful enough to initiate a revolutionary change in the lives of the entire people. Now waiting gets exciting.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Dear Padre

Who was John the Baptist?

What we know about John the Baptist comes from a combination of Scripture and Church traditions that evolved during and after the writing of the Scriptures of the New Testament.

John’s parents were Zechariah, who was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Elizabeth, who was related to Mary. The angel Gabriel told Zechariah that his wife would bear a son, even though she was quite old. It is believed that John was born in the region of Ain Karim, southwest of Jerusalem. When he was in his early twenties, he was a member of the Qumran community, and later was a hermit in the desert. John began his public ministry in his late twenties in the Jordan River Valley. His preaching followed the long line of Jewish prophets who preached against the evils of the day and demanded inner repentance and outer baptism as a sign of that repentance.

John continued his preaching in the Jordan Valley even after encountering Jesus. Eventually John was arrested by Herod Antipas and imprisoned at Machaerus Fortress by the Dead Sea. He was beheaded at the request of Salome, the daughter of Herodias, and buried at Sebaste, in Samaria. After John’s death, many of his disciples followed Jesus, including Andrew and John.

John, whose name means “God is gracious,” is usually represented in pictures holding a long slender cross with a small lamb partially hidden behind him.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR

Scripture Readings for the week of Dec. 14—20

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a | Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 | Is 45:6b-8, 21c-25 | Gn 49:2, 8-10 | Jer 23:5-8 | Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a | 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 |
| Mt 21-23-27 | Mt 21:28-32 | Lk 7:18b-23 | Mt 1:1-17 | Mt 1:18-25 | Lk 1:5-25 | Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38 |



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — 13 DECEMBER 2020

ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Tyler Bischoff

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FACEBOOK: Catholic Parishes of the Resurrection



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Or text: [rise] to 55321



Download myParish App in the Appstore (smart phone or tablet)

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EMAIL: stcatherine@resurrectionacgr.org

HOURS: Mon.-Thu. 8 am - 3 pm



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. – 1 Thessalonians 5:16

The Third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* is a verb that means to rejoice, to be glad. Gaudete is the first word of the Entrance Antiphon we heard sung at the beginning of Mass today. It is the imperative form (so it’s not a suggestion...). Advent, like Lent, is a penitential season (that’s why the liturgical color is violet). Both Advent and Lent have a Sunday where the penitential character of the season is relaxed a bit. That explains why the liturgical color this week changes from violet to rose – a color, I guess, which represents rejoicing.

St. Paul reminds us in our second reading today to REJOICE ALWAYS. I don’t know about you, but I don’t always *feel* like rejoicing. There may be lots of times where we just plain do not see what in the world is worth being happy about. That’s okay. That’s reality. But St. Paul’s exhortation is nonetheless true. Rejoice Always. I’m sure St. Paul didn’t *feel* like rejoicing when he was chained up in prison. Rejoicing in the Lord is not a feeling as much as it is a gift of God’s Holy Spirit in our lives. No matter what we may be feeling, we know that we are being saved by Christ Jesus and that is the reason for our rejoicing! This week let’s see if we can acknowledge our feelings whatever they may be, but nonetheless truly REJOICE, for our salvation is close at hand. There is nothing better than that, is there?

God bless,



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

SEE ONLINE CALENDAR FOR FULL DETAILS

- Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent
- 4:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Raphael
Respect for all life
- 6:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Catherine
Parishioners of St. Anne, St. Catherine, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael
- 9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine
John Dumont
- 11:00 am Mass, St. Anne
Retired Religious
- Monday, December 14, St. John the Cross
- 9:00 am Mass, St. Anne
Jeanette Bosco
- Tuesday, December 15,
- 9:00 am Mass, St. Anne
Helen Roberts
- 9:30-10:30 am, Adoration & Confession at St. Anne
- Wednesday, December 16,
- 9:00 am Mass, St. Gabriel
Leonard Mondeau
- 5:00 pm Adoration & Confession at St. Catherine
- Thursday, December 17,
- 9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine
John Dumont
- 9:30 am Adoration, St. Catherine
- Friday, December 18,
NO MASS
- Saturday, December 19,
- 3:30 pm Confession, St. Raphael
- Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 4:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Raphael
Parishioners of St. Anne, St. Catherine, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael
- 6:30 pm Mass, St. Catherine
Donald Zielinski
- 9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine
John & Mary Zubalik
- 11:00 am Mass, St. Anne
Sy, Lorraine, & Nancy Goebel



PARISH STEWARDSHIP

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Pt 4:10). Thanks you for all the sacrifices you make as we all labor in God’s vineyard to bring the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our neighbors. 10% of everything received is donated to support charities near and far.

| | St. Anne | St. Catherine | St. Gabriel | St. Raphael |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Needed each week | \$2,144.23 | \$2,593.95 | \$555.10 | \$740.38 |
| Needed year-to-date | \$51,461.52 | \$57,066.90 | \$12,212.20 | \$17,769.12 |
| Actual year-to-date | \$50,413.68 | \$56,673.28 | \$11,888.17 | \$17,482.22 |
| December 6 | \$4,097.60 | \$2,452.00 | \$975.00 | \$1,104.32 |
| Other Collections: | \$597.00 | \$895.00 | \$65.00 | \$300.00 |

Pray for Our Priests & Religious

- Sunday—Rev. Anthony Citro
Monday—Rev. Michael Class
Tuesday— Rev. Chet Collins
Wednesday— Rev. Michael Conner
Thursday—Rev. Nicholas Cooper
Friday—All Deacons
Saturday—Rev. Raymond Cotter

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection December 12/13. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and other necessities for our elderly religious. If you are unable to give during Mass, please mail your offertory envelope to the parish office. Thank you for your generosity!

Prayer Tags: St. Catherine and St. Anne parishioners, take a random tag off the tree and pray for the parishioner on the back of the card. St. Raphael parishioners, look for your name on the front of the tag and pray for the parishioner on the back of the tag. St. Gabriel’s tags have been distributed.

Formed.org

We are excited to announce a new resource for EVERYONE! Tired of channel surfing and finding nothing good and wholesome to watch on TV? Try FORMED.ORG. There are thousands of videos, talks, ebooks, and movies to watch for all ages.

How to sign up:

- Go to www.formed.org
- Click the “Sign up” button
- Click the “Sign up as a parishioner” button
- Type in the zip code 49766 (you must use 49766).
- Select the Parishes of the Resurrection
- Type in your Name and Email address.
- Click the “sign up” button

We remember all the faithful departed from our parishes and especially those who passed away this past week: **Donald Zielinski (former parishioner)**

Christmas Mass Schedule

- Christmas Eve, December 24:
- 4:00 pm—St. Anne, Harrisville
 - 8:00 pm—St. Catherine, Ossineke
- Christmas Day, December 25:
- 9:00 am—St. Gabriel, Black River
 - 11:00 am—St. Raphael, Mikado

Christmas Flower Memorials: This Christmas our four parishes are accepting Christmas flower donations in Memory Of/In Honor of your friends and loved ones. The names will be listed and honored in our Christmas bulletin. There are special envelopes in the gathering spaces of our churches, or simply use your own envelope and drop in the collection basket or mail into the parish offices. The deadline is Friday, December 18th.

Alcona St. Vincent de Paul is looking for volunteers to help fill Christmas baskets on December 21st at St. Raphael Church. If you are willing and able to assist, please contact Sharon Monday through Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm 989-736-6071. She will set up a schedule to accommodate social distancing guidelines.

Decorating for the Christmas Season:

- St. Gabriel: Wed., Dec. 16 following 9:00 am Mass
- St. Catherine: Sunday, Dec. 20 1:00 pm
- St. Anne: Sunday, Dec. 20 following Mass
- St. Raphael: Saturday, Dec. 19 following Mass

All are invited to stay and help decorate. Face mask are required and social distancing practiced.