

DECEMBER 12, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

— Isaiah 12:3



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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**).

TODAY'S 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**).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

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.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How am I faithfully awaiting the Lord's Nativity?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday:** Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30
- Friday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
- Saturday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; **Mt 1:18-25**
- Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Third Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. Lucy
- Tuesday:** St. John of the Cross



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Always wear a mask.

SUNDAY

MASS - 8:00 a.m. (Live)

MASS 10:00 a.m. (Live & Recorded)

WEDNESDAY

MASS 9:00 a.m.

PRAYER MEETING 6:00 P.M.

OUR SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Dear Church Family,

Please notify Father Leonard when you or a family member has become homebound or has been admitted into a hospital.

Call the Church Office, 816-471-3696, or email: leombuthis@yahoo.com

Edith Bolder, Home, Jeanette Hamilton, Home, Rosa Birch, Home, Sandra Cloyd, Home, Delores Bazy, Home, Vera Brown, Home, Kevin Brown, Home, Ray Myers, Home, John Johnson, Home, Vauncille Bartlett, Home, Mary Ann Grayson, Home, Donald and Mable Parson, Home, Sergio Mendoza, Home, Michael Lucas, Home, Paris Harrington, Home, Earl Greene, Home, Ovell and Francis Thomas, Home, Dorothy Mustin, Home, Earnestine Nard, Home, Barbara Parks, Home Rehab., James Davidson, Home, Flora Waddell, Rehab., Elaine Lomax, Home, Dr. James Birch, Providence Rehab., Donna Dupree. Home., Cheryl Warren, Home, Rehab. , Chaunceyetta Mize, Home, Michael Mize, Home, Rhea Holloman, Home, Terry Buckman, St. Luke Hospital, Clara Mays. Home, Melva McClellan Home /Rehab.

**THANK YOU
Celebrating the life**

OF

Ms. Shea'Rae Sherese Strother - Brooks

Thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it is greatly appreciated.

We are forever grateful.

*Damon, Alyssa and Justin Brooks,
and Family.*



**THE DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY-
ST. JOSEPH**

~ is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

- (1) Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3728 (if the victim is currently under the age 18), and
- (2) Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- (3) 2 After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816-812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcs.org *if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.*

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care And healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families.

Bulletin-Deadline Wednesday – Noon.

GAUDETE SUNDAY



If you've ever been outside before sunrise, you'll notice something very fascinating about an hour or so before the actual sunrise. The sky starts out black of course, and then it fairly gets bright – usually a bright blue. Then, as sunrise gets nearer, but still before you can actually see the Sun, the sky explodes into a symphony of beautiful rose color.

And so today, we take a slight break from the Advent purple, and we light the Rose-colored candle, the 3rd in the series of the Advent wreath. This is to indicate that the Son_of God; the light of the world is already on the Horizon. Ready to illumine the whole world. And we have all the reason to REJOICE.

And that's why the Church calls the 3rd Sunday of Advent, *Gaudete* Sunday. *Gaudete* is a Latin word, which means REJOICE. The cause for our rejoicing isn't because there are presents under the X-Mass tree or because family is coming to visit out of town on Christmas Day. But we rejoice because the one who saves us from our sins is on the horizon and he will fill the earth with His presence. Let us therefore diligently continue to prepare the coming of our salvation especially during this significant week of advent.

Our Advent and Christmas Seasons schedules is as follows:-

- Friday, Dec 24th(Christmas Eve Mass).....8pm
- Saturday, December 25th (Christmas Day).....9am
- Sunday, Dec 26th(Feast of the Holy Family) 8am & 10am
- Saturday, Jan 1st, 2022(Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God)9am (Not a Holiday of obligation)

Sacrament of reconciliation.

- Every Sunday of Advent after 8am Mass (9:15-9:50am)
- Have a fruitful Advent Season

Fr. Leonard

