

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 13, 2020**

Rejoice always.
Pray without ceasing.
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16



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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.

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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*).

Psalm — 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*).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Dear Church Family,
Please inform Father Leonard when a loved one has become homebound, or has been hospitalized.
Call 816-471-3696,

or email: leombuthia@yahoo.com

Edith Bolder Holmesdale Care Center

- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Jeanette Hamilton Evans | Home |
| Inell Hunter | Home |
| Carlos Nix | Home |
| Lavel McCullough | Home |
| Rosa Birch | Home |
| Sandra Cloyd | Home |
| Kevin Brown | Home |
| Jackie Countee | Home |
| Sharon Shackelford-Allen | Home |
| Earnestine Nard | Home |
| Earl Greene | Home |
| Michael Mize | Home |
| Chaunceyetta Mize | Home |
| Margaret Jones | Home |
| Flora Waddell | Home |
| Delores Bazy | Home |
| Deacon Greene | Home |
| Vera Brown | Home |
| Ovell Thomas | Home |
| Joann James | Home |
| Dorothy Wyatt | Home |
| Terese Spears Chambers | Home |
| Alvin Brooks | Home |
| Cathy Johnson | Home |
| Mary Ann Grayson | Home |
| Melva McClellan | Home |
| Herman Lovett | Home |
| Mabel & Donald Parson | Home |
| Ramonda Doakes | Home |
| Annie Lovett | Home |
| Les Washington | Home |
| Tyrone Wimes | |



Must wear mask at all times
— to attend.

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. (Live)
10:00 a.m. (Live & Recorded)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m. MASS (Live)
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting

TODAY'S 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*).



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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; 5:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34: 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
- Friday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
- Saturday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
- Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a,6; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

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

FORWARD IN FAITH



The Stewardship Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to all the St. Monica parishioners for the success of our 110 Anniversary Celebration and Virtual Silent Auction. The Committee worked with precision as a team, under the capable leadership of Mrs. Shirley Thaw, with expert guidance on the auction from Mrs. Angela Curry. Kim Urenda's technical assistance, and Dwight's performance as the announcer contributed to raising a total amount that exceeded our goal! Our success would not have been possible without your support. You donated and bid on many of the 56 available items.

During the process, we added St. Monica Twitter and Instagram accounts to expand our reach on social media. We expect the addition will attract new members as the downtown and 18th and Vine areas expand housing opportunities near the church.

Thank you again and look forward to future events to work on together as our parish moves "Forward in Faith."

Our goal is, to raise **\$150,000** by October 2020. So far, we have received **\$47,411.20**, and **\$102,588.50**, still to go. The goal is huge, but God is faithful.
God bless you all.



Living God's Word

We can ask God to give us that joy that the world cannot give, a joy that is found rooted in our faith in God, in our trusting that the God who raised Jesus up will also bring us to fullness of life.

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FEAST OF FAITH

The Shape of the Mass

In the renewal of the liturgy that followed the Second Vatican Council, the full, conscious, and active participation of the assembly was the primary consideration. By participation, the Council Fathers did not mean just joining in the singing and the spoken responses, but active engagement and prayerful understanding of the rites. They envisioned a transparent liturgy, a worship that spoke so directly to the hearts and minds of the faithful that it would require no explanation at all.

The liturgy itself is the best possible catechesis on the liturgy. What does liturgy teach us? It shows us the liturgy of Jesus continuing in the present. He gathers a community. He calls us to prayer and repentance and praise. He teaches us with the very word of God. He does not send away empty, but ... sets before us a marvelous banquet, feeding us with the very word of God. Then he sends us forth to do what he has done – to give ourselves, not just in words, but in deeds.

The Mass is the pattern of our Christian lives. —*Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co*

**OUR CHRISTMAS
SCHEDULE**

DECEMBER 24TH

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

6:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 25TH

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

9:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 31ST

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

9:00 A.M.

CONDOLENCE

We offer our heartfelt condolence to the family of **Mr. Larry Murff**, brother of Parishioner Duane Murff.

Mr. Larry Murff passed on to be with our Lord, on Thursday, December 10, 2020. Please remember the Murff Family in your prayers, as they prepare to celebrate their love one's Life.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time. Please call the Church Office next week for more information.



END OF THE YEAR APPEAL

If you did not receive the end of the year appeal from **Catholic Charities** and would like to make a difference for those less fortunate, there is still time.

Please contact Patrick Savageau, Donor Stewardship Specialist, to make a donation at psavageau@ccharities.com. We would also ask that you consider making this a monthly gift and see if your employer is willing to match your donation.



CHRISTMAS SHINING STAR

Catholic Charities KCSJ is recruiting angels to adopt children participating in our Christmas Shining Star project.

Or more information or to select a child and share the magic of Christmas, contact :Linda Hopkins, Volunteer. Coordinator at

lhopkins@ccharities.com

or 816-659-8205.



THE LOOK OF LOVE

What does love look like?

It has feet to go to the poor and needy.

It has eyes to see misery and want.

I has ears to hear the sigh and sorrows of others.

St. Augustine

Deadline for Bulletin Entries: Wednesday – NOON

