

DECEMBER 13, 2020
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today, The Third Sunday of Advent, is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. "Rejoice" sets a tone of joyful anticipation of The Lord's Birth and Second Coming. The Lord our God tells all of us, also to be always happy and joyful, because, we Christians are people of hope, and people of Resurrection. Jesus Christ Our lord is the reason for all our joy and happiness.

In The First Reading, The Prophet Isaiah, brings words of promise and encouragement to the Jews in exile in Babylon. But these words were fully and truly realized only when Christ The Messiah came. Christ applied the first two verses of this text to Himself when He first preached in the synagogue of Nazareth.

In The second Reading, writing to The Thessalonians, St. Paul counsels happiness, prayer and thanksgiving to all who wait for Christ's Coming.

In The Gospel, St. John The Baptist provides the classic example of witnessing: he points not to himself, but Christ The Light coming into the world. He knew his call; he knew his mission; he his identity. He was absolutely sincere to the role, he was called to play. His life of austerity, integrity and holiness was enigmatic to many groups of people. Hence they curiously asked him, "who are you?". St. John The Baptist was transparent in his reply, "I am neither Elijah nor The Messiah; but a messenger sent by God to prepare the world for the coming of The Messiah." Thus he kept his mission ever clear before his mind and never overstepped his claims." Christ should be made known and Christ should become great" was his motivating force.

Each and every one of us is called to play the role of St. John The Baptist. So, let us sincerely pray for the grace, to follow the great example of St. John The Baptist and to prepare ourselves properly and worthily, both for the celebration of Christmas and for the coming of Christ, at the end of the world, through a life of true conversion, a life of prayer, penance and true charity to those most in need.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	December 12
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Dr. Paul E. Boucher (RIP)
Sunday	December 13
8:00 AM	Mass: Bertha St. Arnaud (RIP)
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Cecile Doré (RIP)
Monday	December 14
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Intentions of Cleo Wahtera on the Occasion of her 90th Birthday
7:00PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday	December 16
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: The Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly: Dunn, Cavanagh, O'Reilly, & Crane
Friday	December 18
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS	
5:00 PM	Mass: Steve Cooley (RIP)
8:00 AM	Mass: Ginny Dwyer (RIP)
10:00 AM	Mass: Pieri Family (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 24, at 5:00 PM

Midnight Mass

Friday, December 25 at 12:00AM

Christmas Day Mass

Friday, December 25 at 9:00AM

This is the only mass on Christmas Day

New Year's Mass Schedule

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

Friday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Masses are:

Vigil Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary

New Year's Eve, Thursday December 31 at 5:00PM or

Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary

New Year's Day, Friday, Jan 1 at 9AM

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Is a Gift of Mercy

Prepare to celebrated Christmas with joy and peace that comes with forgiveness when we seek reconciliation with God and those we love.

Think about God's mercy waiting for you...consider going to Confession...

Sunday, December 20: Here at St.

Paul's, after the 10AM Mass until 12PM.

Christmas Gift Cards

We would like to help some of our parish families this Christmas Season, if anyone would like to contribute a gift card from Walmart, Stop & Shop or Target, it would be appreciated.

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you!

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - Dec 5/6
\$2,276.00

Monthly 2nd Collection - Dec 5/6
\$1,330.00

Thank you for your support!

Year of Saint Joseph

My Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as the patron of the universal church by Blessed Pope Pius IX on 8 December 1870. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

This year is to increase our love and devotion to this great Saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. After our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph is the most powerful intercessor. The world of today more than ever has to recognize the holiness, greatness and power of St. Joseph.

May St. Joseph bless and protect you and your families.

Fr. Doré

Second Collection—Dec 12/13

This weekend's second collection will support senior Catholic sisters, brothers, religious order priests who spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, & social-service agencies, often for little, if any, pay.

Second Collection—Dec 19/20

Next weekend's second collection is for Christmas flowers.

Keep Christ in Christmas Posters

St. Paul's Knights of Columbus Council 95 thanks the 15 young people who submitted a poster. Winners will be announced soon. The posters are judged in three age categories: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14 **\$50 First Place prize** awarded in each age group.

Christmas Bazaar Raffle Winners

\$1000 Gift Card Tree

Kenneth Rassler

Stihl Farm Boss Chain Saw Etc

Terry Whalen

Stihl Backpack Blower

Julia Garrick

Emeril Lagasse AirFryer/Pres Cook

Don Knox

Congratulations to all our Winners and Thank you to all our Donors and everyone who bought tickets!

We are so blessed by all your support Raffle Ticket sales of **\$4,386** in all.



OUR LADY
of Guadalupe

The life-sized image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was a recent gift to parish by an anonymous doner. (The Knights of Columbus acted as intermediary. One of them made the frame.) This is one of the most honored images of Our Lady in the world.

On December 9, 1531, a 57-year-old Aztec, Juan Diego, saw the Blessed Mother on a hill in Mexico City. She told Juan to have a church built in her honor.

When Juan went to ask his bishop about this, the bishop—who did not understand the Indian dialect—did not believe in the vision Juan described. Three days later Mary appeared again to Juan Diego, and this time she gave him a sign for the bishop. "Take these roses to the bishop," she said, as she arranged in his cloak beautiful roses which she had Juan Diego pick from the hillside although it was winter. When he met with the bishop again, Juan Diego opened his cloak, and out dropped the roses. On the cloak there remained an image of Mary as she had appeared to him. Mary appeared to Juan dressed as an Aztec woman to show her love and compassion to an oppressed group of people. Mary had heard the prayers and pain of these people, and she came to give them hope. Mary's visit to Guadalupe is a reminder that God will remember his mercy for all people. In Mary's song of joy, the Magnificat, she praises God because he has put down the mighty, exalted the lowly, filled the hungry, and sent the rich away empty. People honor Our Lady of Guadalupe because they recognize her motherly concern for them.