

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 15-16, 2018
Rejoice in the Lord Always!
From Fr. Anthony Ligato**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Today we rejoice for our Saviors coming is at hand. The Third Sunday of Advent is known in Latin as Gaudete Sunday. The translation of the word Gaudete is to Rejoice. This Sunday is so named from our second reading from Philippians 4:4-7, "Rejoice in the Lord always". The Third Sunday of Advent is also the third week of our Advent retreat. Each of the previous two Sundays we have focused on the Jesus of Advent and how we come to know and recognize Jesus as the Son of God in the scriptures. The titles of the Jesus of Advent reveal who Jesus is, why he has come into the world and what will he do. The First Sunday of Advent revealed Jesus as Son of Man and Son of David. As Son of Man he brings God's divine Judgment which is loving and merciful. As Son of David he ushers in the Kingdom of God. On the Second Sunday of Advent we came to know Jesus as Messiah and Prophet. As the promised Messiah he brings recreation into the world through his suffering, death and resurrection as the Son of God. As prophet he fulfills the promise made long ago through the words of the prophets. He is the word made flesh, the living embodiment of God's prophetic word.

On this Third Sunday of Advent Jesus is revealed to us as the anointed one of God, "Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ." (Luke 3: 10-18) John answers by saying, "one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals." John reveals himself not as the Christ but rather as the precursor to the Christ. The baptism that he was offering in the Jordan was a preparation for the Christ. John points to Jesus as the Christ, the anointed one and so the fifth title for the Jesus of Advent is the Christ. The people asked John what they should do. John calls them to far exceed what they are currently doing in their lives as people of faith.

In the same way the Prophet Zephaniah (3:14-18a) exhorts the people of Israel to return to God with Faithfulness. The people of Israel had turned to false God's prior to the exile in Babylon and Zephaniah who himself inspired Jeremiah calls them to re-consecrate their lives to God. His message is one of rejoicing not condemnation. He calls them to prepare for the Day of the Lord, "Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals." The Christ, God's anointed one brings gladness into the world. The Christ is God's servant. This servant is someone of importance. This servant has been anointed by God, meaning he has been chosen by God as his servant. This servant will suffer for the people of Israel. The suffering servant will bring restoration not to the land of Israel but to each person.

Continued...

So, the servant suffers for your sins and mine, for your failings and my failings. This servant will suffer vicariously for us. He will suffer in our place. Isaiah speaks about the suffering servant four different times in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah; 42:1-4, 49:1-6, 50:4-9 and 52:13- 53:12. These are known as the Suffering Servant Songs.

Jesus presents himself after his baptism in the Jordan and battling the temptations in the desert as Christ and servant. He began his public preaching by entering the synagogue in Nazareth and speaking the words first prophesized by Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; therefore, he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind and release to prisoners. To announce a year of favor from the Lord. (Luke 4:18-19) Jesus as Christ and Servant has freed us from suffering and death through his own taking upon himself our sinfulness. We have all been freed from the captivity of sin, in what way has Jesus given you liberty by freeing you from captivity? Often, we are blinded by our own ambition and greed, how has Jesus brought greater insight to your life by allowing you seeing yourself more clearly? We build the walls of our own prisons brick by brick, sin by sin, selfish deed by selfish deed. What prison has Jesus released you from by his willingness to be a suffering servant? Jesus was anointed for this, to bring glad tidings to the poor and therefore we rejoice on this Third Sunday of Advent. For happily we are all the poor who need our Lord's liberty and release.

As the anointed, Christ has served God the Father by suffering and dying on the cross. In turn we then are anointed as servants through the blood of the cross and the waters of baptism. We are sent as Christ's anointed servants to announce glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and release to prisoners. To announce a year of favor from the Lord. What Jesus has done for us, we are to do for one another, Rejoice and bring these glad tidings to all whom we encounter.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Anthony

ADVENT SPIRITUAL MATERIALS

We have made available again this year the Advent Reflections booklet. This booklet is for you to take home and use as part of our own Spiritual enrichment during our Four Weeks of Advent Retreat.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPE

Don't forget to use the Christmas Flower Envelope in your mailing packet. Additional envelopes may be found at the main entrance of the Church. They are provided to remember or honor your special loved ones this Christmas season. Donations collected are used to help offset decorating expenses for Christmas.

Third Sunday of Advent

PRAYERS

We will pray for those who are ill, hospitalized, recuperating and all those who are in need of prayers. If you know someone who could use prayers, please call the Parish Office and leave their name for inclusion in the bulletin. Please make sure you have their permission to do so. This week we pray for the following people:

Jacqueline Ackner, Anne Antdomi, Raymond Bagley, Carol Bennete, Colleen Bornhorst, Ann Burke, Bryce Chapman, Bob & Rose Davignon, Michelle Darcy, Chester DeBell Sr., Tina Demczar, Edward Doin, Edward Dworakowski, Theresa Dworakowski, Joseph Esposito, Thomas Esposito, Ralph Esposito, Donna Flinton, Brenda Flynn, Dick Galvin, Dave Grinko, Pat Harley, Tony Huneau, Mary Ellen Gibson, Lynn Gorman, Margaret Hoban, Debbie Hopkins, Monique Inyeard, Dorothy Jones, Mary Keeley, Edward Kehn Jr., Tayla Kreiger, Anthony Mainello, Craig Maloney, David Manning, Jimmy Margo, Charlie Martinec, Mary McMahan, Chuck Miorin, Debra Moulton, Anne McHugh, Morgan McEvilly, Stella Muzicka, Christine Pangburn, Dawn Perlmin, Mary Phibbs, Jack Reid, Bonnie Ritrovoto, Laney Robillard, David & Roni Ruppert, Christopher Russell, Jason Russell, Kirstin Shoemaker, Kenny Schroeder, Kaleb Schwartz, Derrick Senior, Margaret Shields, Mary Signorelli, Courtney Sims, Anne Stevens, John Sullivan, Shirley Talbot, Joseph Tenzyk, Leona Toniatti, Anthony Valenti, Ashley Valenti, Madeline Valenti, J. Van Amburgh, Holly Wait, Sharon Wiliking, and Phyllis Ziobroski.

ACTIVE, RESERVE AND NATIONAL GUARD PRAYER LIST

We would like to pray for all our military personnel in our Parish and we would like to include their names in the bulletin each week. We request that you assist us by submitting the names to the Parish Office so that these service members can be included in our prayers. **SFC. Michael Baker, Matthew S. Cannon, SRA Jordan Correll USAF, SRA Colton Correll USAF, Third Class Petty Officer Christopher Fox, USMC—CPL W (Mac) Harkin, AB Mary B. McDade, 1st Lieutenant Joe McMillen, First Sergeant Aime Moore, LCpl. Matthew T. Nero US Marines, Airman 1st Class Michael D. Jennings, Master Sergeant Richard Palasz, Specialist Joshua Abbott .**

DID YOU KNOW?

We bring Communion to those in our parish community who are homebound and cannot attend Mass. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion and a visit, please call the Parish Office at 283-1162.

SANCTUARY VOTIVE CANDLE

St. Jude the Apostle Church provides the opportunity for a sanctuary votive candle intention. This intention is the same cost as a mass intention. The sanctuary candle is in memory of a particular person. It will appear weekly at the top of the daily mass intention in the bulletin. If you would like to have a sanctuary votive light please call the Parish Office.



CHRISTIAN SERVICE Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to our Giving Tree this year! Your generosity is greatly appreciated

2019 CALENDARS

The 2019 Church calendars will be available this weekend. Get your calendars before we run out!

ADVENT SECOND COLLECTION

During the four weeks of Advent Season our Second Collection will be for the St. Jude the Apostle Church Christian Service Ministry and will be used to support the needs of local families during the Christmastime season. We thank you for your generosity in support of this weekly collection during Advent!



FAIR TRADE

This weekend representatives from Team Pathways will be at the entrance of the Church and at the Knights of Columbus Breakfast selling Fair trade products: chocolate bars, hot cocoa, tea, coffee, almonds, and more. Perfect for Christmas stockings and gift baskets. Fair Trade recognizes the dignity of the work performed by small-scale farmers, and ensures they are fairly compensated. Thank you for your continued support!

December 16, 2018

St. Jude *The Apostle* School



December 3rd – 9th was Computer Science Education week? In both technology and STREAM classes the students worked on coding with the Hour of Code coding challenges. Hour of code challenges introduce students to age appropriate computer programming fundamentals, starting at Kindergarten and going up from there. At the earliest levels you are starting with image based challenges, and then moving to Block coding. Our youngest students began with solving puzzles while learning the mouse and keyboard, and then moved up to solving puzzles with direction arrow instructions and Block code.

Some of the older students began by programming their first video game, using block code to customize Flappy Bird. Other classes did the Minecraft coding challenges. What is great about these challenges is that they start out simply, they follow a similar structure, and they get difficult towards the end to challenge the student.



DOORS OF HOPE

This is our local food pantry that aids our community members. The needs of those who are struggling never diminish. Please give generously to help our community pantry provide food and personal care items to those in need. Suggested items needed are: *peanut butter, jelly, rice, instant potatoes, ready to serve puddings, feminine products, and disposable razors and diapers*

14 bags were received and brought to Doors of Hope last week. Thank you for your generosity.

JUNIOR CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00PM MASS

Any students in grades 3-6 who would like to sing for the Christmas Pageant please join us! There will be a rehearsal: Tuesday, Dec. 18th at 5:30PM. The rehearsal will be in the Church. Any questions, please contact Nick Ascoti at naamusic@nycap.rr.com

ADVENT EVENING OF PRAYER & REFLECTION

An Advent Evening of Prayer and Reflection on December 17, 2018 at 7:30PM at the Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary at the College of Saint Rose Campus, 959 Madison Avenue. This evening of reflection will make use of music, story, poetry and scripture to deepen our awareness of the season of Advent and the mystery of the INCARNATION. This program is free of charge, for more information please contact Joan Hogan at 518-454-5296. Parking is available in Lima lot-entrance next to 919 Madison Avenue.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

December 16, 2018

9:00AM Varsha Joseph
11:30AM Carmella Moore

CHILDREN'S
Liturgy of the Word

December 23, 2018

9:00AM NO SESSION
11:30AM NO SESSION

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held during the 9:00 a.m. & 11:30a.m. Mass. Children's Liturgy of the Word is for 3-8 years old.

K-6 FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR

December 16 Class at 10:30AM
December 23 No Class
December 30 No Class
January 6, 2019 Classes Resume at 10:30AM

TEAM PATHWAYS

December 16 7th & 8th Grade Class at 10:45AM
9th & 10th Grade Class at 10AM
December 23 No Class
December 30 No Class
January 6, 2019 7th & 8th Grade Class at 10:45AM
9th & 10th Grade Class at 10AM

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

The rush is on Christmas is almost here! Most people feel having an early Thanksgiving has helped with their Christmas Preparation but I am sure there are some who love the excitement of waiting until the last minute to get everything accomplished. Through all the hustle and bustle of the season, let us never forget that it is really a birthday we are celebrating-the birthday of our Savior. May his peace and love be with you this Christmas Season



A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Dear Lord, Bless all families this Christmas. Help us all to remember this season that you chose to come to us as a humble baby. You chose to be part of a family yourself and came, not to be served, but to serve and one day die for love of those who hated, deserted, and killed you. On this Christmas day, may we always remember amid the joys, family and presents, the reason we have this season: that you, the Eternal Son of God came to live among us as one of us and as a member of our human family.

Amen

Third Sunday of Advent

Announced Masses

Saturday, December 15

4:00PM **Josephine & Pauline Ienco,**
David & Anne Cannon
Janet Schroeder, Sister
Gaetano Tedesco, Family
Anna Passonno, TJ & Jan Jackson

Sunday, December 16

9:00AM **Patrick (Joe) Elligott,**
Andy Maloney & Susan Roz
Nancy Hannigan,
John & Hollis McEvilly
Stephen Finelli, Mom & Brother
Francis Geise, Tom & Betty Zemanick
11:30AM **Dennis Walters Sr., Family**
Louise Bowen, Al & Patti Mugrace

Monday, December 17

8:00AM **Jerry Jones Sr. Family**
Michael J. Fox, Family

2:00PM **No Mass**

Tuesday, December 18

8:00AM **Cosmo Patrarca, M/M Jack Stemp**

Wednesday, December 19

8:00AM **Carlo Chizzolin, Patti Embree**

Thursday, December 20

Lisa Provera, Family

Friday, December 21

8:00AM **Sr. Mary Immaculate Heart, Norma**

Saturday, December 22

4:00PM **Carol P. Maloney, Husband**
Harold Cannon, David & Anne Cannon
Mathew LaBounty, Aunt Janice
Martha Farrell, Sister Maureen
Nancy Hannigan, Husband

Sunday, December 23

9:00AM **Sr. Mary Immaculate Heart,**
Sister Norma
Dan Keating, Wife Norma
Mary & Michael Higgins,
Niece Mary McDade
Francis Geise, Andrew Maloney
11:30AM **Joseph Frost, Patti Mugrace**
Alma Verleger, Family
Jarid Valente, Mom
Elizabeth Brisbois, Zappone Family

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Weekend of December 22 & 23, 2018

	<u>4PM</u>	<u>9AM</u>	<u>11AM</u>
Lectors	1. A. Short	M. Goss	A. Frost
	2. M. Collins	I. Joseph	K. Giglia
Ministers	H. Dcn. Warren	Dcn. Warren	Dcn Warren
	1. K. Harriman	M. Sullivan	K. Rodriguez
	2. M. Hunt	L. Terry	S. Zimmer
	3. C. Tenzyk	C. Aanonsen	
	4. J. Rogers	P. Bink	
		C. D. Clement	
Servers	1. A. McNeil	I. Joseph	T. Frost
	2. N. Harriman	M. Ascioti	L. Rodriguez
	3. A. Harriman	M. Clements	Server Needed

Readings for the week of December 16, 2018

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/
Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8,
17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/
Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
[cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

Thursday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c
and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3,
11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd
[cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/
Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Stewardship

Offertory support of our Parish Community week of
December 9, 2018 \$6,548.00

Total accumulated offertory for the current year to date be-
ginning July 1, 2017 is \$134,730.00

Total Offertory budget for the current year beginning
July 1, 2017 \$324,450.00

Offertory support of our Parish Community for the same
week in 2016-2017 was \$5,942.00

Total accumulated offertory for the same period year to
date in 2016-2017 \$139,011.00

2nd Collection Christian Service \$629.00

Mass Schedule for our Local Catholic Community

Sacred Heart Sat. 4P M, Sun. 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Weekday Mon.-Fri. 9AM

St. Jude Sat. 4PM, Sun. 9AM & 11:30AM
Weekday Mon.-Fri. 8AM

St. Michael Sat. 5:15, Sun. 7:30AM & 10:15AM
Weekday Mon-Thru. 12:10PM

Van Rensselaer Manor Tuesdays at 1:45PM

December 9, 2018 Team #4 John Waterbury
December 16, 2018 Team #5 Cherie Aanonsen
December 23, 2018 Team #6 Tanya Halse
December 30, 2018 Team #7 Rose Galipeau
January 6, 2019 Team #1 Mary Ellen Hunt
January 13, 2019 Team #2 Peter McMillen
January 20, 2019 Team #3 Bob Myron
January 27, 2019 Team #4 John Waterbury