

THE Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

12 December 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Vol. 10, No. 3

'I am baptizing you with
water, but one mightier
than I is coming. I am
not worthy to loosen the
thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the

*Holy Spirit
and fire.*

LK 3:16

In this Issue:

Christmas Mass Schedule	3
Confessions	3
Advent Vespers	5
Christmas Flowers	7



Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community.
We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the Diocese,
and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.

This Week

December 12 - 19, 2021

SUN 12 Third Sunday of Advent

(Sat) 6:00 pm Mass for the Parishioners
8:00 am Mass for Madeline Belby
10:30 am Mass for Anna Mae Myers
6:00 pm Evening Prayer

MON 13 Saint Lucy

12:05 pm Mass for Charles Naegele

TUE 14 Saint John of the Cross

12:05 pm Mass for Dr. Adiel Anghie

WED 15 Advent Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for the Moran Family

THU 16 Advent Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for James Evangelist

FRI 17 Advent Weekday

11:15 am Confessions
12:05 pm Mass for Clara Sheibelhood

SAT 18 Advent Weekday

9:00 am Mass for Ron Radcliffe
9:30 am Rosary
5:00 pm Confessions
6:00 pm Mass for Dorothy Phillipovich

SUN 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Mass for the Parishioners
10:30 am Mass for Katie Fahey
6:00 pm Evening Prayer



REJOICE... GOD IS WITH US!!

From
Fr. Sateesh

The third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday." "Gaudete" means "Rejoice!" This is the theme expressed by St. Paul in his Letter to the Philippians: "Rejoice in the Lord always!" The word "rejoice" is composed of two words: "re" (again) and "joy". So St. Paul repeated his exhortation: "I shall say it again: rejoice!" Why does St. Paul insist that we rejoice? We must remember that he wrote this Letter to the Philippians while he was in a dark Roman prison and without any certainty that he can still come out alive.

Definitely, there was nothing to rejoice about in that situation. But joy is a virtue and a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is not dependent on any external condition. Rather, it all depends on one's intimate relationship with God. Rightly, then, St. Paul said: "Rejoice in the Lord always. Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near" (4:4-5).

Rejoicing in the Lord is not just a matter of thanking and praising God. Rather, it means two things. First, it is an attitude of trust in the midst of life's difficulties and troubles. Worries and anxieties have no part in the life of a Christian. Instead, St. Paul said: "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God" (Phil 4:6).

Secondly, rejoicing should manifest itself in acts of kindness. Again, St. Paul said: "Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near." St. John the Baptist, therefore, calls us to action. When asked by his listeners what they ought to do, John the Baptist mentioned examples of acts of kindness: giving clothes to those who have none, avoiding extortion and cheating and being of better service to others. Christmas is always the busiest season of the year. While others are stressed and anxious about so many things, we are reminded to focus our attention on Jesus, the center of this joyous season, the cause of our rejoicing. There is no reason for worries and anxieties. Whatever problems and difficulties we may encounter, we take them all up to the Lord in prayer. Turn worries into prayers.

The third Sunday of Advent poses a set of pertinent queries to us as we are fast approaching Christmas. What will you do to welcome Christ into your life? What plans do you have for this Christmas? How are you preparing your heart for this great salvific event of the nativity of our Lord? The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What then should we do?" He invites them to repentance. It means 'metanoia' in Greek. It is a change of mind or turning away from sin. The mere turning away from sin cannot be the end of our journey. That makes us good human beings or ethical atheists. We are invited to turn towards God. Can we imagine ourselves in that crowd? Can we ask John, "And we, what shall we do?" He invites us too to repent and leave behind our former ways of thinking and acting and turn towards God, through faith, love, forgiveness, and charity. Have a rejoicing weekend turning to God in our prayers!



Christmas
AT THE CATHEDRAL

CHRISTMAS EVE
Friday, December 24

Choral Meditations: 5:30 p.m.
Mass: 6:00 p.m.

Choral Meditations: 11:30 p.m.
Mass at Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY
Saturday, December 25

Mass: 10:30 a.m.

*There will be no 6:00 p.m. Mass
on Saturday, December 25*



*Advent
Confessions*

Prepare your hearts for Christ!

Wednesday, December 22
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Friday, December 24
10:00 am to Noon

Advent is a most advantageous time to go to confession! The Sacrament of Reconciliation figuratively wipes the slate clean in any liturgical season, but Advent provides a poignant time to experience the joy of reconciling with God and the Church, being one with Christ in the here and now, while celebrating His First Coming in His birth in Bethlehem and preparing for His Second Coming and all eternity. As you prepare for Christmas, take time to truly prepare your hearts and minds by taking advantage of our additional times for Confession during this holy Season.

When was the last time you invited someone to Mass?

Each one of us has a responsibility to evangelize - to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. How can we reach out to our friends, family members, and those we work with who are not practicing their faith? Consider inviting them to join you for Christmas Mass this year. Pray that the peace and joy of the Christ Child may enlighten their hearts and minds to accept His grace in their lives.

Online Giving

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph offers Online Giving, a web-based electronic contribution application that is safe and secure. This site allows you to set up automatic contributions and change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. You may make pledges and manage your contributions to the pledge amount, and you may make one-time donations. To sign up for Online Giving, visit our parish website at www.saintjosephcathedral.com and follow the "Giving" tab. This website will walk you through the process.

Christmas Novena Prayer to Obtain Favors

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, Oh my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and of His Blessed Mother.

It is piously believed that whoever recites the above prayer fifteen times a day from the feast of St. Andrew (Nov. 30) until Christmas will obtain what is asked if it is in accordance to God's Holy Will.



**Offertory
Collection**

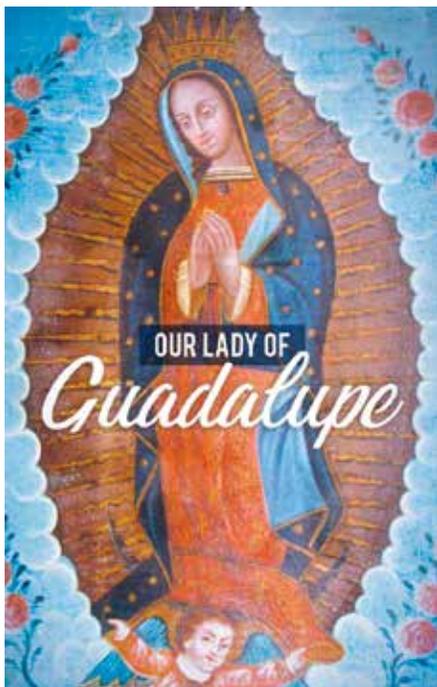
December 5, 2021

Envelopes: \$2265
Loose: \$814
Online: \$816

*Thank you for
your support!*



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The Church throughout America (North, Central, and South) celebrates on December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. It is a feast in the United States of America, but in many Hispanic countries, such as Mexico, it is raised to a solemnity.

The story of the origins of the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is well known. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin was a quiet, humble man, a poor peasant. When the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and asked him to tell the local bishop to build a church in her honor, Juan Diego became a very reluctant messenger. The bishop would not believe him. So Mary filled Juan Diego's tilma, or cloak, with roses in December, and when he emptied out these beautiful flowers at the bishop's feet, there, imprinted on his tilma, was a wonderful image of the Virgin, dressed like a young Aztec woman.

The Virgin Mary proclaims that her service is to God, and that his will should be done. We too are called to serve God's Kingdom in the teaching of Jesus Christ, Son of Mary and Son of God.

"From silly devotions and sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!" St. Teresa of Avila

We've all heard the adage, "Laughter is the best medicine." In many ways, it really is. When was the last time you really laughed? The gift of imagination allows us to see possible things that are yet to be. Imagine a world filled with laughter. We take life too seriously sometimes. Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of the joy needed for laughter. God never promised us an easy road, and we do have to take the course of our lives seriously. However, there is a balance to be sought and a possible joy that can be brought even to the darkest and most challenging of encounters.

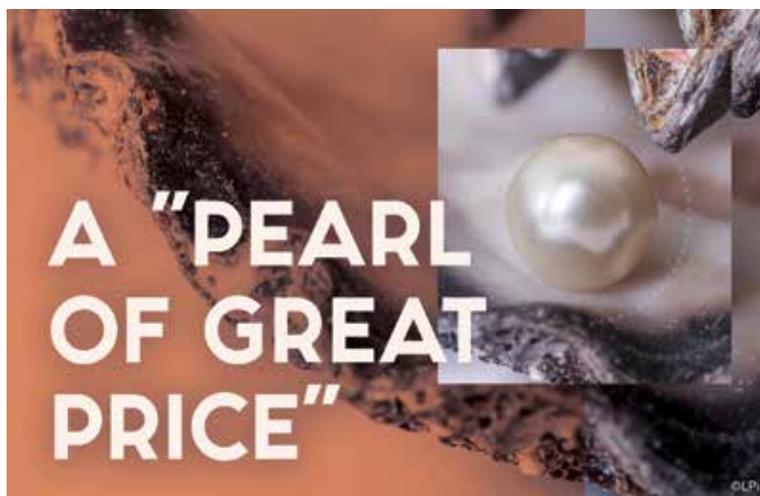
St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us that, "Joy is not found in the material objects surrounding us but in the inner recesses of the soul. One can possess joy in a prison cell as well as in a palace." Falling in love with God, who is present in all of creation, allows us to bring a depth of understanding to everything we do and experience. We can more easily see above and beyond things while pursuing the only One who can truly satisfy our hearts. When we realize that God, the king of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We can celebrate the wonder and beauty of God's gift of joy. It is no wonder that many saints radiate joy and have no reser-

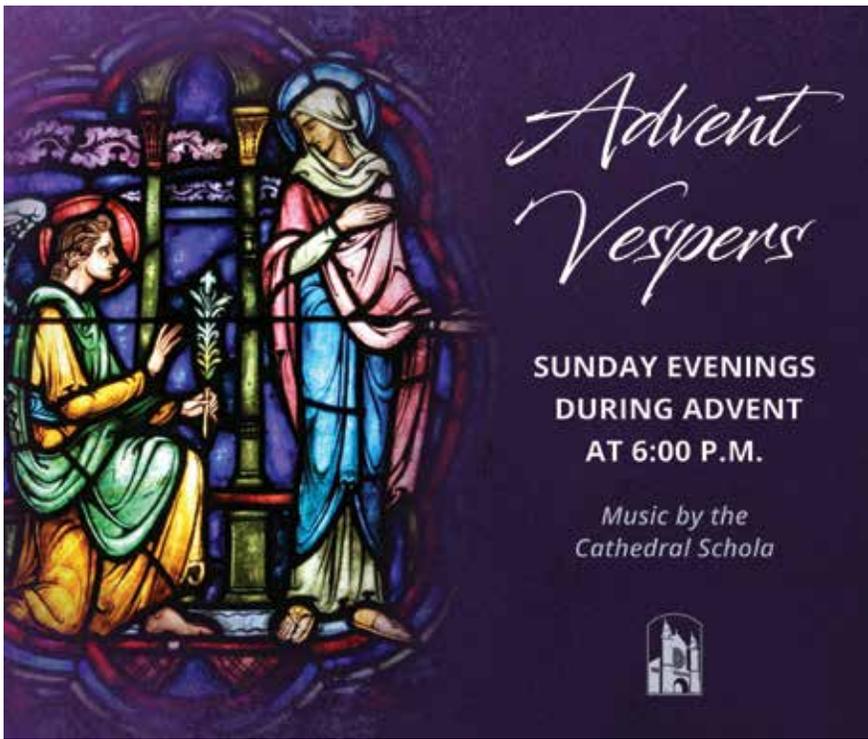
Bringing the Gospel Home

vations expressing laughter. They are happy because they have found a pearl of great price.

We celebrate with joy today with hearts filled with expectation, wonder, awe, and beauty as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Savior. Do not fear and do not be discouraged. If you haven't laughed in a while, why? Something is preventing you from expressing the magnificence of your soul and the presence of God who dwells within. God's power and presence within us assures us that we are loved and kept in that presence. What more is really needed? Rejoice and laugh in the presence of God! It really is the best medicine and a most perfect way to convince others that God is really with us. "Go ahead, laugh! Live your life with joy and serve the Lord with laughter! Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter." (St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina)

©LPi





WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Holy Water

Question:

What is holy water and how do I explain the reason that it is placed at the entrances of churches to my non-Catholic friends?

Answer:

Holy water is a sacramental, a reminder of the life of the Church expressed and celebrated through the sacraments. God's grace is mediated through word and gesture (the outward signs). This comes to us through Jesus (instituted by Christ) as he entrusts to the Church his saving mission (to give grace). In turn the Church, through the sacraments, shares that grace and mission with us.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes on our foreheads to remind us of our origins, humbly created from the dust. But by blessing ourselves with holy water, we are reminded of our destiny! We are baptized sons and daughters of God. This is also a call to conversion, to live more fully our baptismal call to live as disciples of Jesus. We see holy water whenever we renew our baptismal promises. This will occur during the Easter liturgy as well, reminding us that we are indeed on a journey of faith and renewed in Christ. Blessing ourselves with holy water reminds us that we are baptized into a community faith, and always in need of turning from sin and toward God. Holy water is a visible sign of our baptism!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

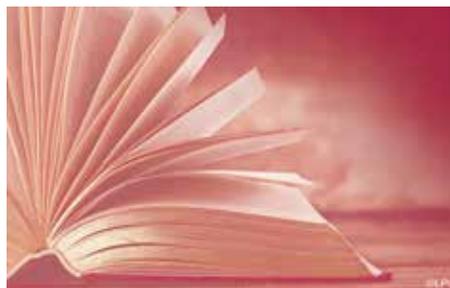
Andrew Helfer
Angela Niehart
Archer Hatch
Arthur Danehart
Austin Cook
Barb Mazzocca
Beth Jochum
Betty Teater
Bill Wilson
Bob Armstrong
Bob Jones
Billy Hanasky
Brian Hanasky
Brogan Gallentine
Caleb Hlebiczk
Carolyn Lash
Carolyn Wiethe
Charles Heizer
Charles DeBene
Children of the
Youth Services System
Christina Helfer
Chuck Fair
David A. Kress, Jr.
Eli Musser

Eric South
Eva Wood
Fr. Joseph Wilhelm
Frank Davis
Fred Herink
Frederick C. Schweizer
Gail Koch
George Kirchner
Geri Adams Nagy
Hines Rotriga
Janet Cupp
Janie
Jean & Chuck Schultz
Jim Antill
Jim and Dee
Jimmy Hocking
Joe Bechtel
John Petrella
Jon-Michael Lasher
Joy Harr
Judy Pack
Julia Sheets
Kathy Cooley
Kaitlyn Hanasky
Ken Staley

Kermit Klosterman
Liam Barns
Liam Manning
Lucille Renowicz
Lukie Brown
Margaret Stocke
Marie Farnsworth
Marie & Conner
Workman
Mark Davis
Marshall South
Martha Yocum
Mary Ann Fowler
Mary K. Schlosser
Mary Walicki
Michael DeBlasis
Milissa Rose
Nadine Greenwood
Nicholas Barns
Norma Bosold
Pete Cuffaro
Pete Mack
Philippa Shores
Rachel Wade
R. J. Stocke

Richard Simon
Rick Burgy
Ron Hickman
Rosanne Gaughan
Rosalie Davis
Rose Otey
Sarah Hanasky
Sarah Sargent
Shirley DeBene
Shirley DeCaria
Stanley Kyrk
Stephanie Bugaj
Susan Graff
Susan Mize
Susan Schulte
Tammy
Teresa Helfer
Thelma Pearson
Tony Helfer
Trystan Timmons
Victoria Jeskey
Zoey Knight

SAINTS OF THE WEEK



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of December 12

SUNDAY

Zephaniah 3:14-18
(Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18

MONDAY

Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17
Ps 25:4-5, 6, 7, 8-9
Matthew 21:23-27

TUESDAY

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13
Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23
Matthew 21:28-32

WEDNESDAY

Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25
Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14
Luke 7:18-23

THURSDAY

Isaiah 54:1-10
Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13
Luke 7:24-30

FRIDAY

Genesis 49:2, 8-10
Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 17
Matthew 1:1-17

SATURDAY

Jeremiah 23:5-8
Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
Matthew 1:18-25

NEXT SUNDAY

Micah 5:1-4
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

December 13 - St. Lucy, virgin and martyr (c.283-304)

Saint Lucy, even from a young age, had a burning desire to serve God and an infinite love for the poor. Living in Syracuse, a city in Sicily, she fell prey to the Diocletian persecutions, which eventually resulted in her martyrdom. She resisted a man, believed to be a Roman soldier, who tried to rape her. He, in turn, denounced her as a Christian and had her tortured and killed. Numerous legends revolve around her death, but one that has gained popularity is that she tore out her eyes in an act to resist her attacker. Her name in Latin, *Lucia*, comes from *lux, lucis*, meaning light; therefore, many northern countries honor her at this time of year when darkness is pervasive. Sweden celebrates the virginity and martyrdom of St. Lucy during a festival of light with a sacred procession of young girls clothed in white dresses with red sashes, and crowned with lit candles.

Patronage: blind

December 14 - St. John of the Cross (1542-1591)

Saint John of the Cross grew up near Avila, Spain in poverty. His father died when he was young, and his widowed mother struggled to support the family. Shortly after his ordination in 1567, he met Teresa of Avila and was drawn into her reform of the Carmelites. The reform set Carmelite brother against brother, and John was even imprisoned but used the time to write the *Spiritual Canticle*. For this, and for his other great work, *Dark Night of the Soul*, he is considered one of the greatest poets to write in Spanish.

Patronage: contemplatives

Saints of God, pray for us!



The "O" Antiphons

Each year on December 17, the Church begins a series of seven short verses sung before the Magnificat during Evening Prayer or Vespers, on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas. They each begin with the exclamation "O" and are therefore called the "O Antiphons." The antiphons were composed in the seventh or eighth century when monks put together texts from the Old Testament which looked forward to the coming of our salvation. The first letter of the Messianic titles: Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia—all spell out Latin words *ERO CRAS*, meaning, "Tomorrow, I will come."

December 17 - O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18 - O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19 - O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20 - O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21 - O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22 - O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23 - O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!



Donors Name

In Memory of

1 Single Poinsettia \$15

$\frac{\quad}{Qty} \times \$15 = \frac{\quad}{Total}$

1 Double Poinsettia \$25

$\frac{\quad}{Qty} \times \$25 = \frac{\quad}{Total}$

Grand Total _____

Please place your order form and your check in an envelope. Mail or drop it in the collection basket no later than December 19.

Payment must accompany order form

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



MASS TIMES

- SUNDAYS** 6:00 pm (Saturday)
8:00 am
10:30 am
- WEEKDAYS** 12:05 pm (Monday thru Friday)
9:00 am (Saturday)
- HOLY DAYS** Please consult the bulletin

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CONFESSIONS

- FRIDAY** 11:15 - 11:45 am
- SATURDAY** 5:00 - 5:45 pm
or by appointment

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

By appointment. Please contact the parish office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK / MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please call the parish office to arrange for anointing for someone who is seriously ill or preparing for surgery. If ill, homebound or hospitalized, a visit can be scheduled upon request.

MARRIAGE

Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office.

Please notify the parish of address changes through contacting the parish office or by visiting the website.

Bulletin Articles due by 9am on Monday (5 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

