



*I am not
worthy
to loosen
the thongs of
his sandals*

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December 16, 2018 • Third Sunday of Advent

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 gra-

acious 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.

SAINT PATRICK
CHURCH
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 16, 2018

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, 5:00 pm	December 15, 2018 †Edward Cieply req. by Craig & Marilyn Cieply
Sunday, 9:00 am	December 16, 2018 †Leonard & Rosella Smith req. by Don Smith / The Parish Family of St. Patrick
Monday, 9:00 am	December 17, 2018 †Deceased members of Stromski Family req. by Family
Tuesday, 6:00 pm	December 18, 2018—NO MASS Adoration until 9 pm
Wednesday, 9:00 am	December 19, 2018—NO MASS
Thursday, 9:00 am	December 20, 2018 Intention of the Celebrant
Friday, 9:00 am	December 21, 2018 Adoration until 11:00 am
Saturday, 5:00 pm	December 22, 2018 The Parish Family of St. Patrick
Sunday, 9:00 am	December 23, 2018 †Loretta Long Smith req. by Steve & Ruth Hoehn

Altar Servers:

Saturday, December 22 - 5:00 pm
Nick, Ella & Madi Phelps
Sunday, December 23 - 9:00 am
Alexander & Annabelle Lawson

Cantor / Lector (Reader):

Saturday, December 22 - 5:00 pm
Sue Nugent / Jim Kreske
Sunday, December 23 - 9:00 am
Sarah Hoehn / Steve Hoehn

Extraordinary Minister:

Saturday, December 22 - 5:00 pm
Roberta Stauffenberg, Jim Kreske
Sunday, December 23 - 9:00 am
Deacon Jay

Usher:

Saturday, December 22 - 5:00 pm
Bill Phelan, John Meyer
Sunday, December 23 - 9:00 am
Bruce Boyle, Steve Hoehn

Music: Cathy Engler

Collection Counters : Horath & Price

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,584.62

Sunday, December 9\$2089.00

Thank you for your support of our Parish



The new 2019 Calendars are in the vestibule. Thank you Forsythe Funeral Home for this lovely donation.

If you are unable to come to church because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. A priest or home bound minister can come to your home. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian can be reached at 1(630)639-0563.

The 2019 Collection Envelope Boxed Sets are available this weekend. If there are any changes in your address or phone number, please contact the parish office. If you are new to the parish and would like envelopes please call the office; also if you have decided to use on-line giving and do not wish the boxed sets let us know. With some families using on-line giving we have had to change a few envelope ID numbers.

Mass intentions can be requested through the office, or dropped in any weekend collection, please mark in a separate envelope. Think about having a Mass for a loved one. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. We are also accepting requests for our 2-week Sacred Heart Candle.



Father Joe's 86th birthday is Thursday, December 20

Let's shower him with birthday wishes !

**Cards can be sent to : Father Joe Follmar
P.O. Box 113
Manhattan, IL 60442**



ST. NICK NITE 2018





LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE HELP

THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET IN THE VESTIBULE FOR CHRISTMAS. WE NEED CANTORS, LECTORS (reader), EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, SERVERS, & USHERS.

PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR PERSONAL SCHEDULE AND SIGN UP WHERE YOU CAN

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

ST. ROSE, WILMINGTON—EVERY THURSDAY EVENING FROM 6-7 PM

ST. PAUL, PEOTONE—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19—6:30 PM

The **PEOTONE SENIOR ASSISTANCE CENTER** is in operation the third Thursday of the month, **this Thursday, December 20**, from 10 am—3 pm to accommodate walk-in clients at the First Presbyterian Church, 200 W. Crawford, Peotone.

This is part of our **Respect Life Ministry**, whose mission is to protect the vulnerable and provide seniors, low income and disabled persons with assistance from county state and federal programs, including Medicare, Social Security, Illinois License Plate Discounts, and services offered through Catholic Charities. We are also a certified SHIP site (Senior Health Insurance Program). The center is staffed by three volunteers who serve the community without cost.

Community wide Christmas Caroling

Calling all youth grades 6-12th to help us provide joyful Christmas Carols this holiday season. We are inviting youth and their families from St. Rose, St. Patrick and other churches throughout the community to go Christmas Caroling on December 22nd. Fellowship and food will be provided after Christmas Caroling on Dec. 22nd.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CHRISTMAS
TREE RAFFLE WINNERS :

Lawson Family, Hoehn Family, Carter Mooi,
Peg Yanchich, B. Meyer



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

Third Sunday of Advent

God comes. What shall we do ? God, indeed, is coming. Near at hand. At the door. Be busy! Be lovingly-kind, like God. Do mercy work. Being merciful does not require extraordinary behavior. It simply means, be human. That is, be holy. Prove that God is here by wrestling with conversion to Christ in on-going ways—be genuine, be just, be fair. The gospel offers some suggestions: clean out the closet, share from the pantry, do not take what others need. Do mercy. Be mercy.

- How will I be holy, be the “saint next door” ?
- What mercy work will I do to share with those in need ?



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Grace Niemiec; Cathy Engler, Nancee Long, Shay Phe- lan, Jeanne Kuzmicz, Bonnie Hack; Ron Bzdil; Adrian Wilkerson, Michelle Schnei- der; Joyce Heffern, Lisa Bernhard, Jim McGrath ; Torie Jasinski; Judith Wright; Frank Wahlen; Cecelia Mundt; Don Tures; Kyle Cassidy; Derek Knauer; Norma Boyle; Judith Wright; Lorenzo Rossi; Joyce Albers; Tom Oliver; Jean Haas

Anyone wishing to be on the prayer list should contact the office.

Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF DECEMBER

- That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to heart the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK December 16, 2018



Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

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

Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent; Las Posadas begins

Tuesday: International Migrants Day

Friday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins

Our actions are the best witnesses
of our thoughts.
--Anonymous



GOD'S JOY, OUR JOY

Zephaniah's description of God in today's first reading is quite striking. It is remarkable that after most of the book of Zephaniah paints a dark picture of God's judgment on the "Day of the Lord," we see God singing with joy, partying and celebrating, bursting with love for the Chosen People. Such is God's delight in us human beings.

In the scriptures, there seem to be two kinds of moments when God is especially delighted. First, during creation, when God creates something beautiful: not only the whole universe, but also individual human persons, made in God's image. Second, after times of separation, when God celebrates the restoration of intimacy with God's beloved.

As Paul writes to the Church in Philippi, those on the path of faith might somehow get swept up in God's joy. Because in Christ and through the Holy Spirit, God continually speaks and listens to those in united in faith. We participate in God's delight in creation when we are creative ourselves, when we add to the world's beauty. We also participate when we join in the work of reconciliation and act to heal human divisions and restore relationships.

BEGIN WHERE YOU ARE

In today's Gospel, those who listened to John the Baptist's prophetic preaching were quite troubled, and moved to ask "What should we do?" Although John had given dire warnings about what might happen if they did not sincerely repent, he did not suggest drastic actions. He recommended that people begin where they are, and work within their daily circumstances. Share generously. Treat people fairly. Be content with what you have. These were perhaps small steps turning them, in God's time, toward deeper change.

A first step for us might be to learn, however slowly, to listen to God speaking within the context of our lives. We can respond with small concrete actions and perhaps learn what God wishes to say through them. We can then listen anew for the next step.

Today's Readings: Zep 3:14–18a; Is 12:2–3, 4, 5–6; Phil 4:4–7; Lk 3:10–18

12/16/2018