

GOD
HAS SENT ME
TO BRING
GLAD
TIDINGS
TO THE POOR

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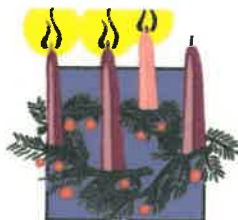
December 17, 2017 • Third Sunday of Advent

Last week our readings urged us to cast off sin and to pursue holiness eagerly. God's grace helps us do this and prepares us for limitless, everlasting glory. Today's readings confirm the great joy of this endeavor and provide specific advice on how to proceed: by becoming poor. The prophet Isaiah describes the savior who comes "to bring glad tidings to the poor." We are the poor people in need of glad tidings. Following the example of John the Baptist, we acknowledge that

we are poor; we are "not worthy" of the Lord's attention. Even so, Jesus delights in caring for us. Recognizing how poor we are, and yet how great is God's love for us, we can only "rejoice always," as Saint Paul advises. We continue our Advent journey, becoming poor by emptying our hearts of sin and giving thanks to God for helping us grow in holiness.

**SAINT PATRICK
CHURCH**

14936 W. PEOTONE RD.
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



**THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 17, 2017**

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR
Rev. Mr. Milt Leppert, Permanent Deacon
Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

PHONE: RECTORY 478-3440
FAX 478-4186
Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 16, 2017

5:00 pm †Kelly Jasinski req. by Ann Marie Jasinski Family

Sunday, December 17, 2017

9:00 am †Leonard & Rosella Smith req. by Don Smith also The Parish Family of St. Patrick

3:00 pm Advent Penance Service

Monday, December 18, 2017

9:00 am †Adele Kalinowski & Emma Riner Special Intention req. by Niemiec Family

Tuesday, December 19, 2017—NO MORNING MASS

6:00 pm Adoration until 9:00 pm

Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - NO MASS

Thursday, December 21, 2017

9:00 am †Suzanne Pruchinicki req. by Paul Pruchinicki

Friday, December 22, 2017

9:00 am NO MASS Adoration until 11:00 am

Saturday, December 23, 2017

5:00 pm †Hope Kenney req. by Steve & Ruth Hoehn

Sunday, December 24, 2017

9:00 am †Jerry Robbins req. by Dan & Judy Robbins /also Parish Family of St. Patrick

Sunday, December 24, 2017—Christmas Eve

5:00 pm †Mary Ann Quigley req. by Frank Quigley

Monday, December 25, 2017—Christmas Day

9:00 am Parish Family of St. Patrick

2018 Collection Envelope Boxed Sets are available in the vestibule. 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 want the boxed sets let us know. With some families using on-line giving we have had to change a few envelope ID numbers.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,463.93

Sunday, December 10\$2,014.00

Thank you for your support of our Parish

***Please Participate!
Your Gift Makes a Difference!***

Parish Goal: \$ 9,635.00
Amount Pledged: \$12,615.00
Amount Paid: \$11,840.00
2017 Rebate \$ 1,544.00



Thank you for your generous response.



Our Online Giving system provides you the opportunity to give to our special collections in addition to regular offerings. You can choose to do a One Time Gift or a special remembrance, or you can set up regularly scheduled contributions that are withdrawn on the date you specify in the system. Even if you typically use your offering envelopes, you may wish to contribute online to a particular collection. It's easy and it's convenient! Go to our parish website at stpatrickwiltoncenter.org to sign up.

Buy from Amazon Log into your amazon account through our website before you start to shop. "We are a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for us to earn fees by linking to Amazon.com and affiliated sites."

Altar Servers:

Saturday, December 23, 2017- 5:00 pm
Andy & Emily Horath
Sunday, December 24, 9:00 am
Bridget & Kylee Knowles
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24—5:00 pm
Emily & Andy Horath, Reganne Price
Christmas Day, Dec. 25—9:00 am
Need 3 volunteers

Extraordinary Minister:

Saturday, December 23, 2017 - 5:00 pm
Donald & Cynthia Raymond
Sunday, December 24, 2017 - 9:00 am
Grace Niemiec
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24—5:00 pm
Roberta Stauffenberg, need 3 more
Christmas Day, Dec. 25—9:00 am
Paul Engler

Music: Cathy Engler / Matt Baskerville

Lector

Saturday, December 23, 2017 - 5:00 pm
Sue Nugent
Sunday, December 24, 2017 - 9:00 am
Steve Hoehn
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24—5:00 pm
Lisa Price
Christmas Day, Dec. 25—9:00 am
volunteer

Usher:

Saturday, December 23, 2017- 5:00 pm
Eddie Horath, Bill Phelan
Sunday, December 24, 2017- 9:00 am
Brad Phelps, Dennis Skolasinski
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24—5:00 pm
Eddie Horath, Bill Phelan
Christmas Day, Dec. 25—9:00 am
Need volunteers

Collection Counters : (Dec. 26) Hoehn & Cakora

Faith Buddies

Do you know anybody with special needs? Give them this great opportunity to learn about our wonderful Lord. They learn about our faith from Adam & Eve to the birth of Jesus and so much more.. We will be happy to help them with sacraments. Please give us a call or just show up and check out the program.

Religious Education and Prayer for Children and teens with special needs.

The Parishes of Kankakee County have begun a Religious Education Program for children and teens with special needs.

Come Join Us!

Gathering Dates:

Saturday, January 13 (second Sat.)

Saturday, February, 3

Saturday, March 3,

Location:

St. Joseph Parish

Religious Education Center

207 S. Main, Manteno



- NO Cost
- Those with mild issues to server disabilities are welcome.
- Please share with ANY families you think might benefit.
- It would help if you would RSVP your child's name and age in order for us to plan accordingly.

Maria Pallissard
REC, Maternity BVM Parish
815-933-8285 ext. 226
mpallissard@mbvm.org

Roberta Stauffenberg
REC, St. Patrick, Manhattan
815-478-3440
stpatscre@yahoo.com

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES
ST. PATRICK—FR. SEBASTIAN WILL BE AVAILABLE ON TUESDAY EVENING
DECEMBER 19 at 7:00pm

TODAY DECEMBER 17—PENANCE SERVICE AT 3:00 pm

ST. JOSEPH, MANHATTAN—MONDAY, DECEMBER 18—6:00 PM

ST. PAUL, PEOTONE— WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20—6:30 PM

ST. BONIFACE—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21—6:00 PM

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



LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE HELP
THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET ON THE TABLE IN
THE VESTIBULE FOR CHRISTMAS
PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR
PERSONAL SCHEDULE AND SIGN UP WHERE YOU CAN

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, WILL BE THE
FINAL SESSION FOR THIS SEMESTER. CLASSES WILL RESUME ON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018 AFTER THE 9:00 AM MASS. HAVE A
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

REJOICE

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for Eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!

Are you itching to do Something Important?

Ever have an itch you can't seem to scratch – an itch that just won't go away?

Well, sometimes God is like that itch. He tries to get your attention by annoying you with a little itchy urge that only He can scratch.



If God is urging you to do something to help others, consider becoming a volunteer phone counselor for The Upper Room Crisis Hotline. We provide counseling and referral services to anyone struggling to find a reason to keep living in all circumstances. While we deliver our services in the Catholic tradition, we counsel anyone who needs help.

Becoming a phone counselor requires you to complete an eight-week training program where you learn communication skills, relationship issues, suicide prevention and much more. We hold classes from Jan. 9th thru Feb. 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursdays. All classes are held at The University of St. Francis (The old Guardian Angel Home on the corner of Theodore St. and Plainfield Rd) in Joliet, IL.

If this work touches your heart, please call Sr. Mary Frances Seeley at [815-341-9124](tel:815-341-9124), or email catholichotline@gmail.com. Check us out at www.Catholichotline.org. Thank You and God Bless!

Justin Martyr was an early Christian who also thought that Jesus was born in a cave. What we find in Scripture is that Jesus was born in a manger. While it is possible that Jesus was born in an inn, it is also very likely that He was born in a cave. The *Church of the Nativity* in the Holy Land is above a cave. The church is in the place that is believed to be the birthplace of Jesus. The cave is below the church—it is a very significant pilgrimage site today.





PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Preston Wilcox; James Drozd; Nancee Long; Brett Burkhalter; Joyce Albers; Jeanne Kuzmitz; Steve Gallagher; Shay Phelan; Michelle Schneider; Barb Flatt; Naomi Theresa; Mary Cole; Torie Jasinski; Loretta Long; Nancy Lawrence; Megan & Lucy Skolasinski; Mike Irlie; Kurt Dobbertin; Grace Niemiec; Cathy Engler; Joe Zeman; Bonnie Hack; Kristin McBee

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

Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF DECEMBER

- That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Meditation

How is God's love made manifest in the world?

Meditation: imagine God as the creator of the world and all life. Think of Him as the source of all goodness.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK December 17, 2017



Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38





THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Children who are poor make toys out of the unlikeliest things: milk cartons, nails, bottle caps, sticks, plastic bags, corn cobs, clothespins. Folks who have plenty consider these things trash—in fact, some poor children literally make their toys out of trash. Their abject need gives them a different perspective, seeing blessing where the rich see only waste.

Material poverty is a scourge on our planet, and we must never make excuses for it. We must work tirelessly for decent conditions for every human person. As we work, we can learn from the special perspective of our brothers and sisters who do not have enough to live. We can see how depending on others for resources can transform a rich person's trash into a poor child's treasure.

SPIRITUAL POVERTY

On this “Rejoice!” Sunday in Advent, we can pray in a particular way for an end to material poverty. Today's readings assure us that the kind of poverty God desires for us is spiritual poverty, a radical knowledge that all things come from God. Where material poverty can wound the human spirit, spiritual poverty cultivates boundless joy. John the Baptist provides a startling model for us. In all sincerity, he admits that he is not worthy to touch Jesus' sandals. John says this not to charm the crowds by being coy and self-deprecating. No, John embraces the truth that God is the source of all goodness. We are utterly dependent on God for all good things. We cannot do anything to earn God's favor; God simply provides for us because we need God. This is massively good news! No one could possibly care for us like God does. At our very best, we merely reflect God's brightness into the world. God's brilliant joy is exactly what we are called to. As Saint Paul says, “The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.”

Today's Readings: Is 61:1–2a, 10–11; Lk 1:46–48, 49–50, 53–54; 1 Thes 5:16–24;
Jn 1:6–8, 19–28

12/17/2017