



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate “GAUDETE” Sunday. This is another name for the Third Sunday of Advent stemming from the first Latin word of the Entrance Antiphon: “Gaudete” (Rejoice). Today the rose-colored or silver-colored vestments are allowed which signifies a sign of joy that all the Church feels at the nearness of the Redemption when the Savior will be born as God promised.

Yes, we rejoice in God our Savior, and He is coming. It is not only us who will rejoice, but also the desert and the parched land will exult, the steppe will bloom with abundant flowers. The whole creation will rejoice. This long-awaited Messiah came, changed and made all things possible in God’s plan of salvation.

Sadly, many have not wanted to recognize Him, accept Him, follow Him, and be faithful to Him. Jesus Christ, however, does not give up on them. He constantly and patiently calls, invites, waits and waits and waits. He does not stop “performing” miracles to open their eyes. What miracles does He do?

Prophet Isaiah proclaims that the eyes of the blind will be opened; the ears of the deaf will be clear; the lame will leap like a stag; the tongue of the mute will sing; the ransomed will return; sorrow and mourning will flee, and so forth. These have become true in the lives of those who wait and believe in Jesus Christ, the Anointed One.

The joyous things, spiritually and/or physically, that Jesus brings to the world are for everyone. However, they will or will not become our joys depending on how we want to open our hearts, minds and souls to the messages of our Redeemer: Jesus Christ.

Is there any obstacle in you that may prevent the coming of Jesus into your “house”? Is there any obstacle that may stop the transformation of Jesus’ joys into yours? Is there any “wall” in front of you that may block the way for Jesus coming to you?

God knows you more than you know yourself, and you know yourself more than anyone else. Spend some quiet time to face yourself with God and to see directly into you, so you can realize first what is/are your obstacle(s), then figure out how to level the mountain and straighten the paths.

Being ready for the coming of Jesus and inviting Him into our house, **WE WILL REJOICE** for He comes to save us.

**REJOICE, REJOICE, and REJOICE** in God, our Savior.

Peace in Christ, Fr. Tien

### Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

6:00 p.m. Children’s Mass

10:00 p.m. Mass (In Spanish)

Our Children’s Choir will sing at 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. Nativity of the Lord



Our Sanctuary Lamp this week is  
for the intentions of the Denise Burkart  
by Dorothy Halpin.

**Please remember to keep Saint Francis Parish in your will.**

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Religious Retirement Fund. This annual appeal benefits senior Catholic women and men (sisters, brothers, and religious order priests) who have consecrated their lives to serving God. Please be generous.



**OCIA-Adult Education** on Monday night December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM is The Mass. Why does the Church declare the Sunday Mass an 'obligation'; what is meant by that? What are the 4 main parts of the Mass? How do we encounter Christ in the Liturgy of the Word and in the Liturgy of the Eucharist? Come join your fellow parishioners in the spirit of fellowship. Snacks provided.



The Women's Guild will be selling Homemade Christmas Cookie Plates after all masses this weekend.

The Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets are in the Parish office if you would like to purchase one for yourself or as a gift. They are \$5 each.



Envelopes are available at the Church entrances for offerings to go to our Christmas altar flowers and decorations. You may make an offering in honor of or in memory of loved ones and friends. You can bring your offering to the Parish Office or put it in the weekend collection basket.

**Pray for healing:** Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Dolores Botti, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Sarah Fricks, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Sarah Holloran, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Anette ML Jigla, Sandra Kanter,

Georgette Lee, Terry McConnell, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Patricia Ruehle, Mike Scarborough, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell, Rosalie Perreault, David Ramsey, Susie Lopez Pineda, Kamri Peck, Kathy Tallent, Denise Burkart



**Rosary** is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.

**Adoration** every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m. and benediction till noon.

**Reconciliation** ½ hour before Vigil Mass and Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.



**Donations made easy!**  
Here is our QR Code that you can scan with your phone.

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

### Saturday, December 13

**Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

4:00 P.M. ✚ Charles Hoefeyzers by Rosalie Perreault  
✚ Ed Tisdale Jr. & Sr. & ✚ Roberta by Irene

### Sunday, December 14

**Third Sunday of Advent**

9:00 A.M. ✚ Carolyn Castellanos  
by Bill & Cindy Nemeth  
In thanksgiving by Carol Todesco  
Gary Galbrecht by Charlene  
11:30 A.M. ✚ Ismael Trujillo Nunez  
✚ Evangelina Rodriguez Marez  
✚ Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

### Monday, December 15

9:00 A.M. ✚ Calvin Deimel by Glenn Deimel

### Tuesday, December 16

**NO MASS**

### Wednesday, December 17

5:30 P.M. ✚ Christina Hirtreter by Grace Fiorillo

### Thursday, December 18

9:00 A.M. ✚ Cesilia Rios, ✚ Juan Acevedo and  
✚ Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

### Friday, December 19

9:00 A.M. ✚ John Francis O'Loughlin  
✚ Timothy O'Loughlin  
Denise Burkart

### Saturday, December 20

4:00 P.M. ✚ Walter and Elsie Horbach by Irene

### Sunday, December 21

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:00 A.M. ✚ Lawrence Caroselli, ✚ Gonzalo Barriga  
✚ John Swanson by Charlene  
11:30 A.M. ✚ Ismael Trujillo Nunez  
✚ Evangelina Rodriguez Marez  
✚ Leticia Gonzalez

**Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:**  
Angel Avila, Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriguez and Elizabeth Scoon

