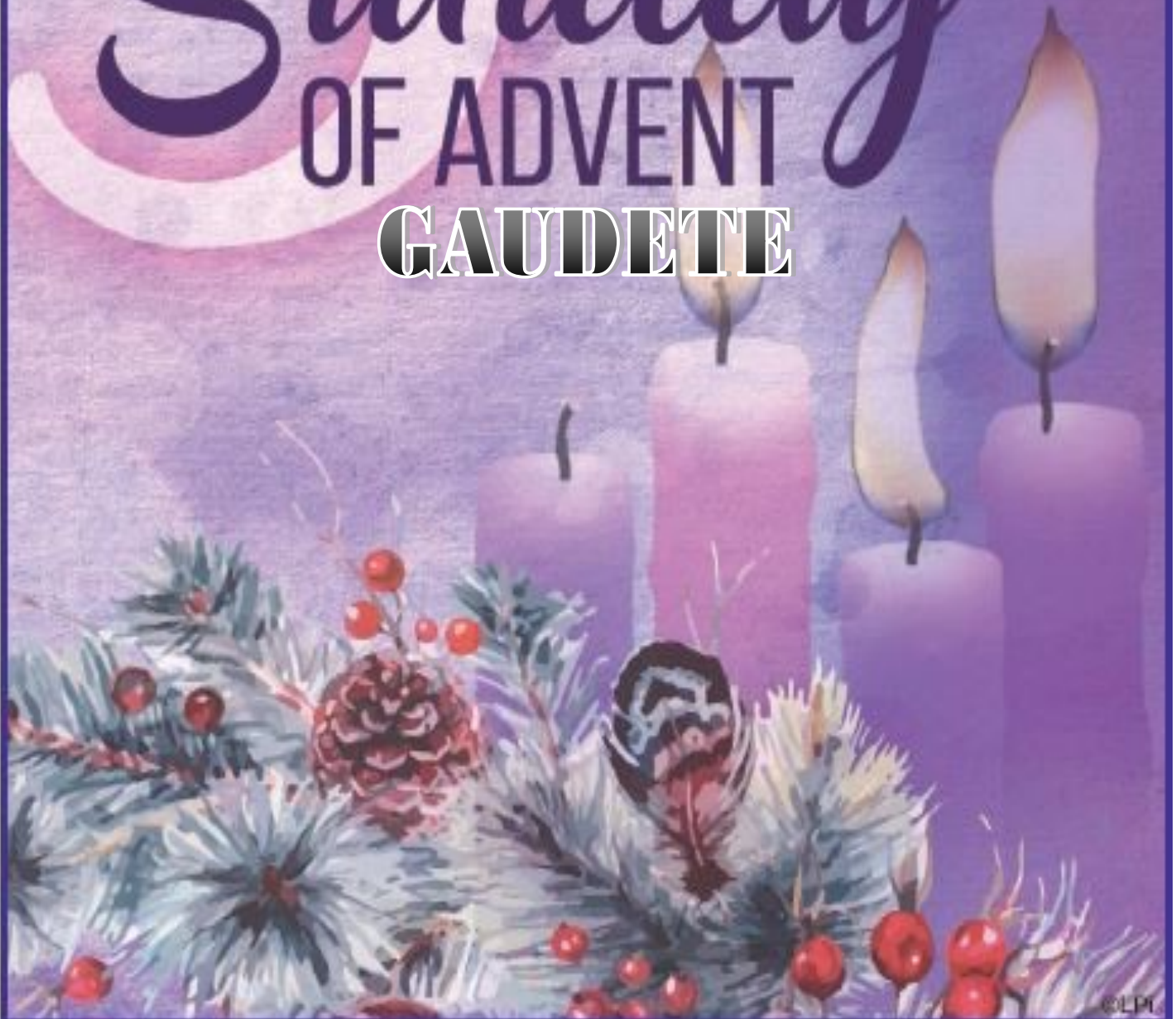


*HOLY CROSS & ST. PATRICK'S*

*3rd*  
**Sunday**  
OF ADVENT

**GAUDETE**



## HOLY CROSS AND ST. PATRICK CHURCH

Callicoon NY and Long Eddy NY

Holy Eucharist

Mon– Tue / Fri - 8.30 am in Holy Cross Church  
First Saturday of month - 8.30 am in Holy Cross Church  
Thursday - 6.30 pm in Holy Cross Church  
Saturday vigil Mass - 4.30 pm in Holy Cross Church  
Sunday morning mass - 11.00 am in Holy Cross Church  
Sunday morning mass - 08.30 am in St. Patrick Church

Confession - Saturday 4.00-4.30 pm in Holy Cross Church

Reach us via:

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Callicoon—NY—12723  
Phone: 845-887-5450  
Fr. Joseph Raj 845-321-4564  
[www.holycrosscallicoon.org](http://www.holycrosscallicoon.org)  
FB: Holycross StPatrick

## Stewardship

**Dec, 09, 2018**

Candle Money	\$ 28.00
Sunday Collection	\$ 1444.00
Christmas flowers	\$ 99.00
Collection for Retired Religious	\$ 405.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 477.00

**Thank you all for your generosity !!!**

“Jesus’ prayer, characterized by thanksgiving, reveals to us how to ask: before the gift is given, Jesus commits himself to the One who in giving gives himself. The Giver is more precious than the gift; he is the ‘treasure’; in him abides his Son’s heart; the gift is given ‘as well.’ ” —CCC 2604

## INVITATION TO JOY

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete, or Rejoice, Sunday and all of the readings for this week invite us to rejoice. The first reading from the prophet Zephaniah opens with a threefold call to joy, “Shout for joy... sing joyfully.... Be glad and exult with all your heart” (Zephaniah 3:14). Israel rejoiced in the presence of her saving God, but this joy is made complete in the coming of Jesus, the Messiah, and so we too are called to rejoice in the presence of our God. In the second reading from Philippians, St. Paul shares with us the secret to Christian joy: It is not merely an emotion that comes and goes, but a choice. We choose to rejoice by remembering all that God has done for us. In the Gospel reading from Luke, we are reminded that repentance is the preparation for receiving God’s gift of salvation. The crowds flocking to John are a testimony to the deep hunger and desire in man’s heart for God, and John answers this hunger with very simple instructions: Put your life in order. The works of charity and justice that John encourages are not salvation itself, but they prepare the heart for salvation, which, in turn, opens us to the joy that God alone can provide. Together, the readings for this Sunday of Advent encourage us to go beyond the superficial happiness that the world looks for during the Christmas season and enter into a relationship with God built on joy and profound gratitude.

**The First reading: Zephaniah: 3: 14-18:** Zephaniah is a real “prophet of doom,” but in today’s reading, he offers a note of consolation: God doesn’t seek the destruction of his creation, but the end to the sin that has marred his creation. When God acts in judgment in the Old Testament, it’s to communicate the destructiveness of sin. Although he hates sin, he loves the sinner. The heart of the message must always be, “Shout for joy!” Every apparent defeat is only a temporary one. In the form of a helpless infant, God will come and give us the greatest possible motive for joy: victory over sin and death.

**Second reading: Phi: 4: 4-7:** This reading from St. Paul is certainly appropriate considering how close we are to Christmas. The Lord is near; let us not be unprepared for his arrival. This is why the Church gives us Advent and encourages spiritual exercises throughout the year. We can’t achieve peace of mind without prayer. The Catholic Church has wonderful resources that can help us pray more effectively, such as the rosary, the Liturgy of the Hours, and innumerable novenas to Mary and the saints. Joy and peace of mind are founded upon union with God; don’t neglect this necessary.

**Gospel: Luke: 3:10-18:** John the Baptist preaches repentance and a baptism of conversion to prepare the way for the Messiah. John addresses the crowds to practice charity. He then addresses tax collectors to tax justly, aiming for better morals. Lastly, he tells the soldiers not to abuse their power and position but act with justice. John wants to cleanse and transform society through ceremonial baptism and moral order as he prepares human hearts for the coming Messiah. This is part of the prophetic genius of John. Society can only be truly transformed when human lives are changed.

( [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) )

Prayer Requests

J. Gottesmann, T. Capuano, , H. Rieger, K. Eschenberg, J. Feeley, R. Knack, Ron Rhodes JR, Dan Budenhagen, Brenda Long, Mary Ann, Eileem Ohman, , Madeleine Wootan, Olga Viruet .

**Christmas Day Mass**

**Dec 24, Vigil Mass @ 4.30 pm ( H.C)**

**Mid-Night Mass @ 11.45 pm ( H.C )**

**Christmas Day Mass @ 8.30 am ( St. Patrick's Church—Long Eddy)**

**Christmas Day mass @ 11.00 am (H.C)**

**Save date and time convenient to you!!!**

**Confirmation Class Fundraiser**

The Confirmation class will be selling hot cocoa, coffee, donuts and other bake goods after the 11:00 Mass this Sunday, December 16, 2018. We are asking that you donate \$2.00 for a cup of cocoa and a donut. 100% of the proceeds will go to the needy families in this area.

**Reconciliation Monday**

On 17th, we have reconciliation Monday in which all are invited to make confession as part of preparation for Christmas. In all the parishes of arch-diocese of New York, the sacrament of reconciliation will be administered and so make use of this opportunity to confess.

In our parish, we start at 4 pm and goes still 7.15 pm. I wish you all have a good preparation and make good confession.

Either you come here to Holy Cross Church or somewhere, but make sure that you make your confession and be prepared to receive Jesus into your hearts and life.

**“You ask me whether I am in good spirits. How could I not be so? As long as Faith gives me strength I will always be joyful. Sadness ought to be banished from Catholic souls... the purpose for which we have been created shows us the path; even if strewn with many thorns, it is not a sad path. It is joyful even in the face of sorrow.” —Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**

**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK



**Dec 15<sup>th</sup> - Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018**

**Dec 15th– Sat— Advent Weekday**  
04.30 pm -

**Dec 16th – Third Sunday of Advent**  
8.30am - + Madelin Tenbus by her Family

11.00 am - + Jim HenKe by Mary Schumacher

**Dec 17th Mon—Late Advent Weekday**  
8.30 am - + Maria White by Robert & Rosemeire White

**Dec 18th - Tue– Late Advent Weekday**  
8.30 am + Kathleen Doyle by Robert & Rosemeire White

**Dec 19th - Wed– Late Advent Weekday**  
No mass

**Dec 20th - Thu–**  
6.30pm - + Fernando carozza by Robert & Rosemeire White

**Dec 21st– Fri-**  
8.30 am - + Fernando Carozza by Roberta White

**Dec 22nd– Sat— Advent Weekday**  
04.30 pm - + Fernando Carozza by Ed & Joann Coates

**Dec 23rd – Third Sunday of Advent**  
8.30am -

11.00 am - All living & Deceased family members by Mary Schumacher

The mass intentions are open for next week and so you invited to offer mass for your beloved ones both for living ( for their health & intentions and diseased)  
Talk to Fr. Joseph for mass intentions ...

Dec, 16th, 2018  
With peace and Love

**Fr Joseph Raj MMI and Dn. John Lyttle**  
+1-845-321-4564