

St. Aloysius, Gate of Heaven & Sacred Heart Church

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DEC 15, 2019

Reflection on Sunday's Readings

Scripture readings summarized:

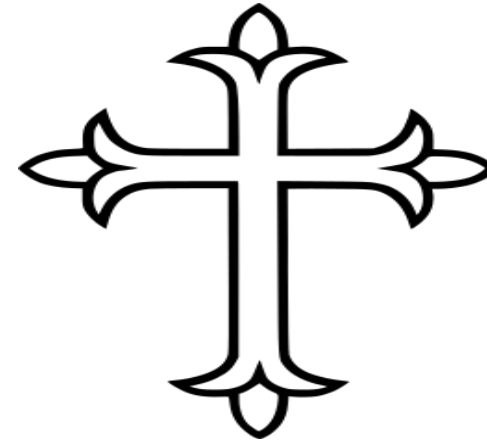
The prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon to rejoice because their God is going to liberate them from slavery and lead them safely to their homeland. In the second reading, James the Apostle encourages the early Christians to rejoice and wait with patience for the imminent second coming of Jesus. Finally, in the first part of today's Gospel reading, Jesus encourages John the Baptist in prison to rejoice by casting away his wrong expectations about the Messiah and simply accepting Jesus' healing and preaching ministry as the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah. In the second part of today's Gospel, Matthew presents Jesus, the true Messiah, paying the highest compliments to John the Baptist as his herald and the last of the prophets, and giving special credit to the courage of John's prophetic convictions, asking his listeners to rejoice in the greatness of his herald.

Life messages:

Life messages: 1) We need to learn how to survive a Faith crisis: If John the Baptist, even after having had a direct encounter with Jesus, the Messiah, had his doubts about Jesus and his teachings, we, too, can have our crises of Faith. On such occasions, let us remember the truth that all our Christian dogmas are based on our trusting Faith in the Divinity of Jesus who taught them, and on his Divine authority which he gave to his Church to teach what he taught. Hence, it is up to us to learn our Faith in depth and so to remove our doubts.

2) "Go and tell others what you hear and see." We rejoice at the thought that Jesus is going to be reborn in our lives, deepening in us his gifts of love, mercy, forgiveness and the spirit of humble and sacrificial service during this Christmas season. Hence, let us joyfully share God's bountiful grace, forgiveness, and mercy with others. What Jesus commanded John's disciples, he commands us as well: *Go and tell others what you hear and see*. This means that we have to share with others our experience of the rebirth of Jesus within us.

3) We need to open our hearts and let God transform our lives: Today's readings remind us that our lives can also be transformed if we are patient and place our trust in God. The message of Advent is that God is present among us, in our everyday lives. We must prepare our hearts to recognize and welcome him by allowing a *metánoia* (a change of thinking about God, ourselves, and the world) to take place in us during Advent.



Parish Staff

Rev. Edward Bader, Administrator
Rev. Antony David MMI

Trustees

Ms. Jane Ryan
Mr. Andrew Carlson

Religious Education

Youth Activities

Mrs. Mary Davis

Parish Council Chairperson

Mr. Michael Park

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Mass Schedule

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|---|
| Saturday | 4:00 PM | St. Aloysius |
| Saturday | 5:30 PM | Sacred Heart Church (July 4th to Labor day) |
| Sunday | 9:00 AM | St. Aloysius |
| | 11:00 AM | Gate of Heaven |

Weekday

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------|
| M/T/F | 8:15 AM | St. Aloysius |
| Thursday | 12:00 PM | St. Aloysius |
| First Saturday | 8:15 AM | St. Aloysius |

Adoration

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| M/T/F | 7:30 to 8:15 AM |
| Friday | 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM |

Holy Day of Obligation

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------------|
| Holy Eve: | 5:30 PM | Gate of Heaven |
| Holy Day: | 9:00 AM | St. Aloysius |
| | 7:00 PM | St. Aloysius |

Sacraments

Confession: Before all masses.

Baptism: Call the rectory to make arrangements.

Marriage: Call the rectory to schedule your Wedding and pre-Cana classes

Pastoral Visitation

When confined at home, please call the rectory to arrange for a visit and Holy Communion. Please call the rectory if you are facing surgery or hospitalization and would like the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As a parish, we strive to bring our communities of Catholic Christians together, as we have for over 100 years, by loving and serving God and Each other through Worship, education and service.

MASS INTENTIONS: Dec 14- Dec 22, 2019

Saturday, Dec 14

4.00 PM- Christopher Canonico

Mon, Dec 16

9. AM - Henry Mrowka

Thurs Dec 19

9. AM- Fallen away Catholics

Saturday, Dec 21

4.PM- Frances + Edwin Lake

Sunday, Dec 15

9:00 AM - Sam Kurpil

11:00 AM - Jack Yelle

Tues. Dec 17

8:15 AM - Boleslaw & Teodozja Przyborowski

Fri. Dec 20

8.15 AM- James Fullerton

Sunday, Dec 22

9:00 AM- Mildred Irace

11:00.AM- Mildred Irace

NOTE: No Gift can replace offering a mass for departed soul or welfare of living. We have openings for weekdays and weekend masses.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK & DECEASED

For the Sick: Joni & Vinny Salvatore, Colleen & Jerrilynn O'Neil; Nora Fernandez,; Laurie & William McMichael, Carol Faughn, Christopher Merklin, Jack Tempel, Robert Ackerly, Sr. Grace, Maureen Connolly, Dave Tucker, Shannon Bruning, Patty Lewis, Lynne Hyzer, Beth Marie Martin, Kristi Romolo, Erma Carlson , Jim Wilbur, Dom Formato, Darren Steele, Jonell Dalton, Carrie Neer-Molinari, Mary Muhlig, Scott Branning, Easton Gorr. Joe Salvia. Joe & Linda Mchugh, Jerry & Roe Mills, Ken & Arsenia Mchugh, Deniese Harting, Maureen Molloy, Frank Kinsley, Mary Jones, Carl Diane Rafi and Walter Hanewich.

For the Deceased: Wanda L. McGovern, Gail J. Staudt, Rita Ann Evans, Nickolaus Bermel Jr, Bill Guinan, Sr. Kenneth Reddington, Jim Englehardt, Ellen Krajcovic, John Augusta, Max Evans, Mildred Irace, Paula Jordan, Bernard Greenthal, and Vivian Kocher.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Is in need of spaghetti sauce, soup, tuna fish, jelly and cereal.

Collection for last Week. Thank you

First collection: \$ 1456

Holy Day: \$230

Readings for Next Sunday

Isaiah 45:10-14

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

BIBLE STUDY

Good Soil Bible Study Group will not meet until January 13, 2020.

Tuesday 4.00 PM at Rectory.

THE MASS BOOK IS OPEN FOR 2020

If you would like to offer a mass for your beloved departed ones and your intention, please collect forms placed at the table, fill it and send to the Rectory.

CHILDREN AT CHOIR LOFT

Children who are interested in singing are allowed to be in choir loft. Parents, please encourage your kids if they are interested.

ANGEL TREE

If you would like to purchase a Christmas gift for a child in need, please take an angel from the Angel Tree. Gifts must be brought to church by Sunday, December 14, wrapped and tagged. Simply attach the angel to the gift. Call Mary 439-3929 or Diana 439-5103.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

On 16th, 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 **5 pm and it goes still 7.00 pm**. I wish you all have a good preparation and make good confession.

THE MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS.

Christmas Eve

December 24, Tuesday

St. Aloysius at 5. PM

Midnight Mass

St. Aloysius at 12.AM

Christmas day December 25, Wednesday

Gate of heaven at 11. AM

Christmas' Decoration

Christmas decoration will take place on December 22 after 9.am mass at St. Aloysius. All the volunteer are welcome to decorate the church. We are informing you in advance so that you can spare sometime to beautify the church for Christmas. Gate of Heaven will be decorated on December 22 after 11am mass. Everyone is welcome to decorate the Church.

Christmas Pageant

We will have Christmas pageant on December 22 during 9am Mass. All the parents are encouraged to bring their children and make them involve in it. We also appreciate Jenifer Bull, Sunday school teachers, Parents and Judy Vanput for making this event successful.

