

**Third Sunday Advent**  
**December 12, 2020**

**Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God.



I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord. . . Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm – Luke 10: 46-54**

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: R.

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. R.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, R.

**Second Reading: 1 Thes. 5: 16-24**

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from

every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord. . Thanks be to God!

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. R.**

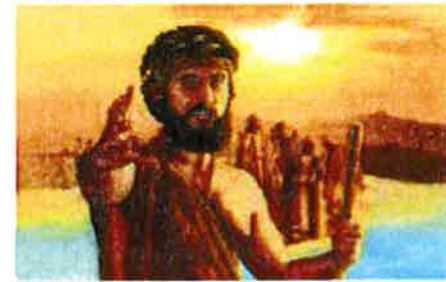
**Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28**

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?"

He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ."

So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No."

So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us?"



What do you have to say for yourself?"

He said:

"I am *the voice of one crying out in the desert,*

*'make straight the*

*way of the Lord,'"*

as Isaiah the prophet said."

Some Pharisees were also sent.

They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?"

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord. . Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



### Christmas Season at St. Ambrose

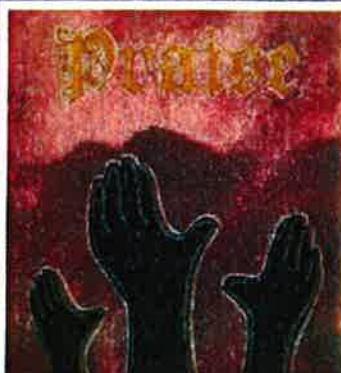
**Mass for Christmas Eve,**  
Thurs. Dec. 24th, 5pm  
(NO Mass on Christmas  
Day)

**Sat. Dec. 26th, Feast of the Holy Family, Blessing  
for all Families present, 4pm.**

**Mass for New Year's Eve**  
Thurs., Dec. 31st: 5pm  
(NO Mass on New Year's Day)

Please RSVP to Barbara if you plan to attend.  
All celebration live streamed and on our website:  
[www.saintambrose.com](http://www.saintambrose.com)

**NOTE: Depending on Virus the situation may change**



### Saint Ambrose Advent Evenings of Praise & Song.

Wednesday Evenings in  
December at 6:30pm

### Praise and Song.

**All are welcome!**

You can come physically or  
join us by live stream on Facebook: Saint Ambrose Baltimore  
or through our Website: [www.saintambrose.com](http://www.saintambrose.com) Please  
RSVP by calling Barbara: 410-367-9918 or  
[bbrown@saintambrose.com](mailto:bbrown@saintambrose.com).

#### Future speakers:

This Wednesday, Dec. 16th, (Joy) Rev. Richard Davis  
Dec. 23rd, (Love) Deacon Paul Shelton, Deacon serving  
at Blessed Sacrament Parish.



Mary Adderly, Karen Brown-Berkley, Renee  
Bruce, Kathy Burundi, Fred Buchanan, Al  
Butler, Anita Cole, Patricia Cullings-Dix,  
Davonta Drummond, William Ford III, Phyllis  
Ford, Sarah Gamble, Fr. Bill Graham, OFM  
Cap., Cornell (Nelson) Johnson, Joseph  
Jones, Alice Manns, Kimberly Merrill, Allan  
Noble, Rhonda Rumbra, Carl & Bernice  
Shrieves, Daniel Smith Sr., Augustine and  
Archie Stith, Rosalita Stone, Aleese Stokes,  
Gloria Tate, Jean Thomas and Alice Zab-  
rowski.

#### 4pm Mass intentions

Dec. 8th, Immaculate Conception, 9am: Mr. Joseph Buettner  
Dec. 12th, Mrs. Angellna Daniel, requested by her beloved  
daughter, Ms. Denise Daniel, on the 14th anniversary of her  
passing.

Dec. 20th, Mr. George Augins, Jr., on the 5th anniversary of  
his passing, requested by his beloved daughters, Ms. Faye  
Augins and Mrs. Shelley Tyler

Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and let your perpetual  
light shine upon them, may their souls and all the souls of  
the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen

#### Resurrection Garden of Hope

Fr. Paul is designing and planning a garden in the ar-  
ea to the left of the front door of the rectory. To grace  
the garden a statue of Jesus resurrected has been  
purchased in memory of Ms. Bencine Blake. The  
landscaping is complete in anticipation of Spring and  
Easter: when the new garden will be formally blessed.  
By that time, all of us will need some new Hope and  
blessings for Easter. If you would like to help by  
sponsoring the garden, please look on our website for  
the flyer or call Barbara for more information. The  
statue is on display in the back of church.

#### Recent Tithes

Last week's collection: \$8,401.00

Thanksgiving Collection for the Oblate Sisters:  
\$450.00

#### Parish Phone Pal

In the winter months ahead, many are feeling lonely  
and depressed. Human contact is the best medicine.  
If you would like to have a Phone Pal, someone you  
don't know but would like to call and speak to in the  
months ahead, please call Barbara to get you con-  
nected with someone in the parish. Simple call and  
make a friend.

### Saint Vincent de Paul Society Needs You!

Once again, the Society is assisting the Oblate Sis-  
ters and the **Apostleship of  
the Sea**. If you would like



the to help the seafarers they  
are in need of: socks, gloves,  
hats, playing cards, men's  
deodorant, soap, toiletries,  
disposable razors, etc. Please  
purchase at least 5 items if  
possible.

For the **Oblate Sisters of Providence** please pur-  
chase a \$10 or more gift card from Walmart, Rite  
Aid or Giant. These can also be mailed to the recto-  
ry to the attention of *The St. Vincent de Paul Society*  
or you could please place them in the baskets in the  
back of church.



## Saint Ambrose Catholic Church

4502 Park Heights Ave  
Baltimore, MD 21215

*"For us is born this day in the City of David a Savior,  
who is Christ the Lord!" Luke 2:11*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Many are saying we won't have a Christmas this year! I write to remind you---we definitely are having Christmas! In the midst of pandemic, racial tension and injustice, political craziness and economic decay----Jesus Christ is coming again.

We need Christmas, we want Christmas and Christmas is definitely coming. We may not be able to celebrate in our usual manner, but the Baby Jesus is coming again! What this year requires is for us to find new, different and exciting ways to celebrate.

I find myself wanting to write Christmas cards, bake cookies and decorate the friary and I will do just that. Please in these days, do not lose hope, don't let despair fill your hearts and the joy escape. Don't let the Love that is powerfully symbolized in the Child Child in the manger leave you for a moment! *For unto us is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord*, should fill us with such hope and knowledge that this time will pass and Jesus is that Light that breaks the Darkness of our world.

Brothers and sisters, Christmas is always a time for us to come together as a parish community and celebrate His birth. This year, if you feel comfortable enough, please join us. If not, I certainly understand because it seems things are getting more serious with the number of infections. If you not able to join us physically, please live stream or find us on our website.

Please know of my prayers for each and every one of you and I ask that every day, but especially this Christmas day we pray for each other.

Merry Christmas and Healthy, Happy New Year!

Rev. Paul Zaborowski, OFM Cap.  
Pastor, St. Ambrose Catholic Church