

December 13, 2020

ADVENT

Third Sunday of Advent



The God of Our Joy

Each of the readings for this *Gaudete Sunday* calls forth our joy. Unlike happiness, which is a temporary response to circumstances in our lives, joy is a keen awareness of the presence of God. True joy retains composure, a peaceful smile in fortune or misfortune. Joy looks at Christ and knows he is here.



Flowers for the altar this weekend are donated by Robin & Gary Cerny in memory of Annie Stryk Cerny.

MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, December 17

4:30 p.m. Johnny Kallus

Saturday, December 19

4:30 p.m. Marcella & Ernest Chaloupka

Sunday, December 20

8:00 a.m. Joyce & Delphin Janecka, Sr.

Individual Confessions in Praha and Moulton.

- Available anytime by appointment. Call the office.
- On Thursdays after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.
- On Fridays in the Family Room after Mass in Moulton.
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially Ruth Metzger.

2020 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2020 Assessment	\$8,179.00
Contributions So Far	\$6,855.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$1,324.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Jill & Brian Noska Rosemary Klekar
 Patsy & Leonard Tydlacka Pat Masek

We thank all those who contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. With your generous support we should be able to pay off our remaining debt to the bishop. We are counting on all who have not yet contributed to the fund to do their part.

Parish Advent Penance Services



Moulton - Monday, December 14,
4:00 p.m. - ??

Praha - Thursday, December 17,
5:00 p.m. - ??

Come express your desire for holiness by embracing your brokenness. Join us celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come and experience God's mercy.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BULLETIN BOARD



Gaudete! Rejoice!

This Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday* after the Latin word *gaudere*, to rejoice. Rejoicing is the theme of the day. Today's Entrance Antiphon says:

*Rejoice in the Lord always;
 again I say, Rejoice.
 Indeed the Lord is near.*
 - Philippians 4:4-5

It reminds us of the tone of joy that permeates the entire Season of Advent. The basis of our joy is this: "THE LORD IS NEAR". The use of rose vestments and the rose candle on the Advent Wreath underlies this day's special character. It expresses our joy.

Christmas Flowers: Those who wish to make a donation toward the purchase of Poinsettias for the Church could do so in memory of their loved ones.

Annual Christmas Collection for the Poor

A Special Collection for the Poor will be taken up at all the Christmas Masses. You may use the attached envelope for this purpose. Drop your Second Collection envelope in the collection basket or mail any time during the month of December.

The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in memory of Henry J. Migl.



REFLECTION

The God of Joy Comes To Save Us

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

John the Baptist is featured in John's gospel today. His identity, his role, his mission are clarified yet again. John was a witness to the light who is Jesus. Jesus dispels darkness and empowers us to find joy in God. As we gather to worship our hearts may be cynical and devoid of a sense of eager expectancy. We may have no reason to smile, let alone rejoice. We may be looking for a sugar-coated pill to swallow to make us feel better. The Church has a different cure for this condition. It is called HOPE. With hope, we are able to see and move beyond present difficulties because we are grounded in Jesus. We hope and rejoice and deal courageously with the present because we know that the future does not simply consist in more of the same, but is an eternal communion with the *one whom we have heard, whom we have seen with our eyes ... and touched with our hands ... the Word of Life, Jesus* (1 John 1:1).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



December 13 – Alan Decker
– Frances Kubenka
– Rudy Patek
December 14 – Elaine Hoffman
December 18 – Mary C. Jasek

Congratulation and God's blessings to
Kimberlyn Paige & Marcus Mica
who were recently united in the Sacrament
of Holy Matrimony here at St. Mary's.



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group
of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Retired Fund For Religious

The annual appeal for Retired Religious raises funds for
aged nuns who served ministering to the needs of others
for many years.

Be generous.

PROTOCOLS FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Sign of Reverence: Each communicant is to make a sign of reverence before receiving the Host and the Precious Blood. One may genuflect or bow. For the sake of keeping the communion line flowing smoothly, you should make the bow/genuflection just as the person in front of you is receiving.

All Communicants: As you are about to receive the Host or Precious Blood, the Minister of Communion will say, **The Body of Christ** or **The Blood of Christ**. **The correct response is simply Amen. No other response should be used** for example: *I believe* or *My Lord and my God*. It is particularly inappropriate to respond with *Thank You Father* or some other form of secular or seasonal greeting *Merry Christmas* or *Happy Easter*.

Receiving The Host In The Hand: **The proper way to receive the Host in the hand is to place one hand flat on top of the other so that the open palm is facing upward.**

Going Back to Early Church Fathers. St. Cyril of Jerusalem (ca. 315-386) on the reception of Holy Communion taught that:

When you approach, do not advance with extended palms or fingers held apart; with your left hand make a throne for your right hand since the latter is to receive the King of Kings, and, in your cupped hand, receive the Body of Christ, saying, Amen.

With care, sanctify your eyes through contact with the holy Body, then eat it, careful to lose nothing, For what you should lose would be like losing one of your own members. Tell me, if you were given specks of gold, would you not keep them with utmost care, taking pains not to lose any and suffer a loss? Are you not going to watch with greater care over this object more precious than gold and gems, so that you do not lose any crumb?

In order to indicate clearly that you intend to receive in your hands, you should have your hands in this position already when you approach the Minister of Communion and not wait until after the dialogue **The Body of Christ / Amen**. It is not appropriate to receive the Host by taking it with two fingers as if *plucking* or *grabbing* from the Minister of Communion. Once the Minister of Communion has placed the Host onto your palm, step to the side and consume it immediately by taking it with the fingers of the lower hand and placing the Host in your mouth. You do not have to make the Sign of the Cross or show the Host to the altar before putting it into your mouth. It is not appropriate to take the Host with your mouth directly from your open palm.

You may also receive Holy Communion by mouth by opening your mouth and sticking out your tongue respectfully.

Receiving From The Cup: The procedure is similar to that of receiving the Host, as you approach the Minister of the Cup, bow as a sign of reverence. The Minister will say, **The Blood of Christ** and you are to answer **Amen**. Take the cup in your own hands; take a sip of the Precious Blood and then slowly and carefully return the cup to the Minister.

