

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## DECEMBER 13, 2020

From the Desk of the Priests:

Dear brothers and Sisters of Sacred Heart:

Our Gospel for today (Jn. 1:19-28) speaks to us once again about John the Baptist. The reading is at pains to make perfectly clear that John is not the light itself but only a witness to the light: he is not the Messiah, he is not Elijah, and he not the prophet. When pressed by the curious and even hostile Jerusalem authorities as to his true identity, he states simply and humbly that he is *"the voice of one crying out in the desert: make straight the way of the Lord."* Picking up on this idea, St. Augustine states that John is the voice, but Jesus is the word; that the voice is passing but the Word is eternal. Tradition has always recognized John the Baptist as an important figure in Salvation History, a bridge, if you will, between promise and fulfillment; and if Salvation History is not simply a series of events from the distant past, but rather something which is reflected and repeated in the personal history of every believer, of each person who receives and cherishes the gift of faith, then maybe the work of John the Baptist is not over and done; rather it is something ongoing, something which needs to continue here and now.

Since the Word is eternal, Jesus is always calling, always inviting, always challenging us to recognize the presence of God in our world—a world which is flawed, wounded, in need of healing—but a world, nonetheless, where we can discover meaning, truth, and happiness through a spirit of true conversion and genuine faith. John the Baptist accomplished his task through his life and through his death as a martyr to his belief. New voices—our voices—are necessary today to make straight the way of the Lord and to point to his coming by growing in our own spiritual lives, as individuals, as a parish community, and as a Church. As we pass the midpoint in the Advent season, may we heed the voice of the Baptist as he points out Jesus to each one of us, and as we in turn strive by our own words and good example to point out Jesus to all those who are in need to receive Him into their hearts and homes this Christmas.

Fr. Michael Rafferty, OAR  
Fr. John Gruben, OAR  
Fr. Eric Crelencia, OAR

### **Entrance Antiphon:**

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near*

### **Responsorial Psalm:**

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



### **PRAYER FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Hear our prayers, O Lord, and enlighten the darkness of our minds and hearts by your coming on earth; you who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit; one God forever and ever. (Someone lights **the rose candle & two purple candles**)

### **SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT CONFESSIONS 2020**

**Monday, December 21– 4:00 to 8:00pm**  
**Reconciliation Monday**  
(Blessed Sacrament will be exposed)

**Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> –12:00pm to 1:00pm**  
**Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 to 5:00pm**

### **CHRISTMAS 2020**

#### **REVISED SCHEDULE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>**  
**MASSES**

**2:30PM, 4:00PM, 5:30PM**

**7:00PM – SPANISH MASS**

**12:00AM- MIDNIGHT MASS**

**CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**7:00AM, 8:30AM**

**10:00AM – SPANISH MASS**

**11:30AM – 1:00PM**



## FUNDRAISER IN MEMORY OF TREE

We will be honoring all those lost this year with a remembrance ornament displayed on a beautiful Birch Tree, which will be placed in the Church in front of the Tabernacle throughout the Advent and Christmas season. If you wish to have a loved one represented on the tree, please look for a form in the back of the church and fill out the bottom portion of the form and return it to the rectory office. A donation of any kind would be gratefully accepted.



### THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is an Advent fixture here at Sacred Heart and many other parishes.

This effort highlights the generosity of our parishioners towards those who can use some help. Please take one (or more) of the *ornaments* (Tags) and give them a gift from your heart. Your thoughtfulness will bring great joy to our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Giving Tree donations go to Good Counsel Homes, Ramapo Manor, Sisters of Life and the homeless and others in need. **Gifts are due by Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.**

### PARISH CALENDAR

**Monday, December 14**

Mass at 9am

**Tuesday, December 15**

Mass at 9am

**Wednesday, December 16**

Mass at 9:00am

**Thursday, December 17**

Mass at 9:00am

**Friday, December 18**

Mass at 9:00am

**Saturday, December 19- 12:00pm Holy Rosary**

## FORMED FAITH AT HOME THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND ONLINE

**To register:** Go to FORMED.org/signup - Enter your parish zip code or name to select your parish, enter your name and email and you are ready to go.

### SHARING WHAT WE HAVE IN JESUS' NAME

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Advent-\$12,998.  
Last Year's- \$13,490.**

**Immaculate Conception - \$1,795.  
Last Year's - \$2,107.**

### ST VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

**DRIVE THRU DONATIONS TODAY,  
DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> IN THE PARKING LOT  
FROM 2:00PM TO 5:00PM.** Thank you all for your contributions for Thanksgiving. Bless you!

### CHRISTMAS AT SACRED HEART

Christmas Flower envelopes are available in the back of the Church to donate for the poinsettias on the Altar during the Christmas Season in memory of a loved one. Envelopes for a Christmas gift to the parish are also available. Thank you for your goodness to our Parish.

### 2020 CONTRIBUTION OFFERINGS

The year-end reports for 2020 from the envelope company and parish pay if you have signed up for online giving, will reflect totals for the year 2020 for envelopes on which parishioners' numbers and amounts have been recorded on the outside throughout the year. Statements will be mailed by the end of January. **Thank you for your generous support!**

### CRISIS PREGNANCY HOTLINE GOOD COUNSEL HOMES

For Pregnancy emergencies call Any time of day:  
1-800-723-8331 [www.goodcounselhomes.org](http://www.goodcounselhomes.org)



Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them: Keith Alanis, Jenna Applebaum, Theresa Anselmi, Michael Brady, Tyler Borenkoff, Angie Clifford, Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Mirella Cosentino, The Cosentino Family, Janet Curcione, Joe Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, John Duffy, David Eckert, Sr., Ginny Figula, Stefanie Gaudelli, Arlene Gentile, Joseph Gilson, Mark Goldman, Debra Gravina, Senan Halpin, Clement Hayes, Mr. Harris, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Eileen Kennedy, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Matthew Luludis, Charles Lynch, D. Pat Lynch, Kathy Masserano, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Rosemary McCormick, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Jacob Mendelsohn, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Mary Lou Oldfield Napolitano, Barbara Neilson, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Pat O'Neill, Nancy Overend, Leona Overend, Gerry Roemer, Daryl Pack, Shace Paljusevic, Noreen Pidgeon, Etta Rooney, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, (Baby Ty) Reilly, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Roberto Sorgo, Maureen Starke, Shaun Stein, Patricia Steiper, Janet Tamburro, Richard Vanadio, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Robert Vogt, Fr. Wing.



**FOR OUR ARMED FORCES**

We pray for all the men and women serving our country in the armed forces especially the sons and daughters, grandchildren and loved ones of our parishioners.

**ALTAR MEMORIALS  
DECEMBER 13, 2020**

**Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of  
ELIZABETH SCHLOSSER**



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones:

**Especially: Vladimir Zaslavsky, Ann Constantino, Mary A. McDonough and Anna Kasperska.**



**9:00AM DAILY – (MONDAY – FRIDAY)  
SUNDAYS**

**8:30AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM AND 5:30PM  
10:00AM – (SPANISH)**

**LIVE STREAMED ON OUR WEBSITE:  
[WWW.SACREDHEARTPARISH.ORG](http://WWW.SACREDHEARTPARISH.ORG)**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 VIGIL MASS**

5:30pm – Christine Corcillo /  
Rose Bonadies

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13**

8:30am – Dianne Messina /  
Antoinette & Rit Tanner

10:00am – Spanish Mass  
11:30am – Mary Catherine Peterson  
1:00pm – Frank Lancia  
5:30pm – Parish Memorial / All Parishioners

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14**

9:00am – Lucy Matrone  
7:15pm – **NO Novena**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15**

9:00am – Robert Rossmann

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

9:00am – Gino Pelligrino

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17**

9:00am – Alfred & Louise Gelso /  
Carrin & Donald Holborn

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18**

9:00am – Craig Handwerker / Christopher Nigro

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19**

12:00pm – **Holy Rosary**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19**

5:30pm – **Vigil Mass** –  
Paula Panico / Richard Doran

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

8:30am – Anthony “Tony” Amalfitano/  
Lester Bernstein  
10:00am – Spanish  
11:30am – Jane Sama  
1:00pm – Ruth & Richard Miller  
5:30pm – Parish Memorial / All Parishioners

**Booster Club  
Week 13 – Helen Dzurinko**