

Third Sunday of Advent - December 15, 2019



Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday – December 14

- 8:00am-† William Burke
- 5:00pm-† Gil Manuel Padilla
- 7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Sunday – December 15

- 8:30am-† Joseph Fortunato (son)
- 10:00am-† Josephine Diorio
- 11:30am-† Parish Community Intentions
- 1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions
- 6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Monday – December 16

- 8:00am-† William Burke
- 12:05pm † Rafael Almonte

Tuesday – December 17

- 8:00am-† Dario Jimenez
- 12:05pm-† Marcella Riley

Wednesday– December 18

- 8:00am- † Mamie Tori
- 12:05pm- † Thomas Vitale

Thursday – December 19

- 8:00am-† Antonio Iosue
- 12:05pm-† Christina Graham

Friday – December 20

- 8:00am-† Margaret Fahey
- 12:05pm-† Andrew & Ralph Frulio

Saturday – December 21

- 8:00am-† Grace & Ciro Frulio
- 5:00pm-† Jim & Gene Obermayer

Sunday – December 22

- 8:30am-Birthday Blessing MaryAnn Ugbo
- 10:00am-† Frederick J. Palumbo



Mass Intentions

- Offered by: Joan Fortunato
- Offered by: Family

- Offered by: Joan Fortunato
- Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

- Offered by: Joan Fortunato
- Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

- Offered by: Annette Esposito
- Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

- Offered by: Annette Esposito
- Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish

- Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
- Offered by: Mary Guardiani

- Offered by: Mt. Carmel Parish
- Offered by: Frulio Family

- Offered by: Frulio Family
- Offered by: Family

- Offered by: Wife and Family

Weekly Memorials

- Bread & Wine
- Tabernacle Candle
- Memorial Candle
- Memorial Candle

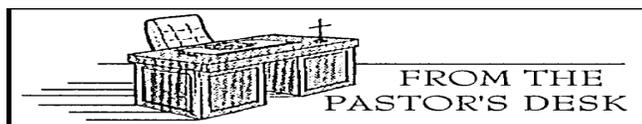


- ~ † Libby Guardiani
- ~ †
- ~ †
- ~ †

the afflictions of which he freed his followers since he was not deaf, blind or lame. However, being poor and living as poor he joined the poor of all time: he was born in a stable and was soon a forced emigrant. That is why today we approach to sing with joy his miraculous birth. Let us proclaim with actions the Good News to the poor. Let us sing with joy and remember that salvation is offered free to all men and women of GoodWill.

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus natus hodie!

Fr. Hernán, S.J.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“Rejoice in the Lord always” ‘Gaudete Sunday’

This Third Sunday of Advent always reminds me of my first Latin class and my old teacher singing with us: “*Gaudete, gaudete, Christus natus hodie*,” Rejoice, rejoice, Christ has been born today! In the frenzy of preparing for the Christmas celebration, we may run the risk of forgetting the cause of it. That is why today readings ask us to rejoice with joyful songs in this season of preparation for the birth of the Son of God made flesh. It is also necessary to remember that our hearts must be joyful to receive the Lord today in our community and also be ready at the end of time.

The prophet Isaiah sings a song of joy and celebrates the new life to describe what Israel's faith should be after returning from exile: the plants are blooming, the lame are healed and the pain becomes joy. The letter from the Apostle James encourages us to be patient in this time of transformation. In the Gospel Jesus answers John's disciples letting them know that “everything that was prophesied by Isaiah about the Messiah is fulfilled in Him.” The Kingdom of God that Jesus established with his birth wants to be good news for all and with that joy we celebrate not only this Gaudete Sunday but the wonderful time that Jesus with his birth gave us.

Just as Isaiah and the people of Israel waited decades to settle back into the Promised Land and they did not lose hope that fields would flourish, so today also as a preparation for His birth we must bet on hope. We do not know when our hearts will flourish completely, but the birth of Christ already prepares us for it if we are able to bet on time and hope.

John the Baptist was perhaps a little confused with Jesus' way of humble acting. John probably hoped that the expected Messiah would be able to separate the wheat from the chaff. Many of his contemporaries assumed that the Messiah of Israel would lead them to victory and condemn sinners. To John's bewilderment, Jesus brings salvation to the sick and reconciliation to sinners. Jesus' mission is to lead everyone towards salvation and not a condemnation of few or many as some of his contemporaries wanted or some of the "rigid" of our time would like it.

Jesus reminds John's disciples of some of the signs or wonders he has performed. Among other things, he heals lepers and raises the dead. There is no doubt that Jesus transformed the lives of many of his contemporaries. More interesting is to notice that Jesus did not suffer

← CONTINUED