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Blessed Sacrament

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741

www.blessedsacramentchapel.org or email at pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org

Mission Statement:

Established in the Spirit of Jesus Christ with an Afro-centric focus, Blessed Sacrament Chapel is committed to spreading the "Word" through fellowship and good works.

Sunday Mass: 10:00AM

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

Pastor: Father John Thomas

john.thomas@pastoral.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN

sinoj.pynadath@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennwald,
 SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



TODAY'S READING

First Reading: Your God will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals (Zephaniah 3: 14-18)

Psalm: Cry out with joy and gladness, for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. (Isaiah 12:6)

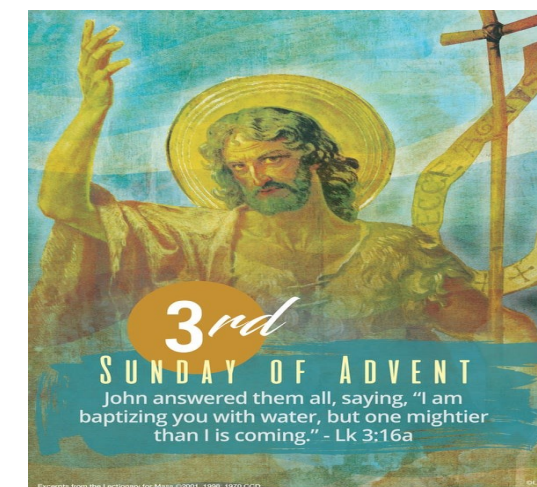
Second Reading: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! (Phil 4:4-7)

Gospel: Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. (Luke 3:10-18)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass*
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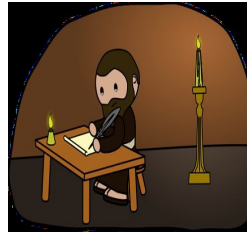
Dec. 12, 2021. 3rd Sunday of Advent

The King of Israel, the Lord,
 is in your midst. (Zep. 3: 15)



*Your kindness
should be known to all.*

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! This Sunday is “*Gaudete*” Rejoice Sunday. We are to rejoice by realizing the presence of Jesus in our midst, by receiving Jesus into our lives through our repentance, our renewal of life, and by doing God’s Will.

The Gospel today is a dialogue between John the Baptist and the crowd. John instructs the people to make changes to their lives by sharing what they have, by being fair with each other, and by being happy. Christian joy does not come from the absence of sorrow, pain, or trouble, but from an awareness of the presence of Christ within our souls through it all. There will be trouble and tribulation in life along with testing of our Faith. But our trust in the Lord can help us to have joy even in difficult times.

We are called to remember that we are, like John the Baptist, Christ’s heralds. As parents, teachers, citizens etc., we act as Christ’s precursors by repenting of our sins, reforming our lives and bringing Christ into the lives of those entrusted to our care.

As we are in the middle of the Season of Advent, I encourage you all to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas. Please look at the schedules of Confessions available at our neighboring parishes and participate according to your convenience. Taste the joy of Reconciliation. Rejoice!

😊 Always
😊 Keep
😊 Smiling!

God Loves you!!!

Father Sinoj, HGN

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Years ago the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, “Guadete Sunday” is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts *Guadete* is Latin for “Rejoice!” This year’s Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary’s visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy.

Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary’s presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned; it’s all because of the clams. (JS Paluch)

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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St. Lucy | Feast Day December 13

A name that means “light,” St. Lucy (283 – 304) is the patron saint of those blind or suffering with eye trouble. She was determined to remain a virgin and thus refused marriage. History tells the story of a frustrated suitor who eventually accused St. Lucy of being a Christian (at crime at the time), and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304.

Today, we celebrate a number of traditions symbolic of St. Lucy as the “bearer” of light in the darkness of winter. This is particularly seen in Scandinavian countries, with their long dark winters. There, a young girl dressed in a white dress and a red sash (as the symbol of martyrdom) carries palms and wears a crown or wreath of candles on her head. In Denmark, Norway and Sweden, girls dressed as Lucy carry rolls and cookies in procession as songs are sung.

December Birthdays

16--Yulanda Williams
18--Robert Johnson
20--Cathy Kramer
24---Susan Mutter

January Birthdays

3--Parker Malone
7-- Jacques Williams II



An Advent Prayer for Peace

Lord, in a season when every heart should be happy and light, many of us are struggling with the heaviness of life--burdens that steal the joy right out of our stockings. Tragedy arrives as innocent victims suffer, and an inner voice whispers, “Be afraid!” We need your peace, Jesus. We confess that our hearts are too often filled with wonder of a different kind: wondering when the bills will be paid, when the terror will stop, when rest will come. Will it ever? Is the message still true? In a world where worry, not peace prevails, stir up that good news again. This Advent, make it real in our hearts. Never have we needed Your joy and peace more than now. Thank you for the gift of Jesus, our Immanuel. We not only need Your peace and joy; we crave it. You’ve promised rest for the weary, victory for the battle-scarred, peace for the anxious, and acceptance for the broken-hearted--not just at Advent, but every day of every year. We know that peace on earth can only come when hearts find peace with You. You are still our joy. You are still our peace. You are Lord of lords .

Mass Intentions

December 5--Herbert Millay

December 7--Jerome and Tom Fenwick

December 12--Vincent & Mary Phoebe Ebelhar

December 19--Herbert Millay

December 24--Donald Moorman

December 26--Paul Knott

Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those in the process of dying. Remember to pray for the souls in purgatory, especially for those who have no one to pray for them.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the sick: Shirley Schmidt, Carol Hatchett, Stephen Hall, Colton Braungardt, Doris Smith, Debbie Bellwood, Janice Taul , Merle Griffith, Tyler Cruppi, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, Larry Allen, Shelby Webster, Louise Johnson, Ruth Coble, Larry Conder, Mike Coakley, Andy Evans, Gary Moorman, Rachel Mattingly, Camilla Greer, Phillip Moorman, Jr. **If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.**

Please remember our home-bound: Ruth Coble at One Park Place and Shirley Schmidt at Hermitage. Georgia Holland lives in St. Louis 1360 Copergate Ln., St. Louis, MO 63138 but stays active in BSC. A card or phone call can cheer them up.

IMP—Kroger

If you do not have a community reward partner at Kroger, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament’s # is WX799. Thank you. Go to krogercommunityrewards.com to register.

Coming Events
CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

December 19--Church decorating--11

December 24--7 PM Mass at BSC

4:00 PM and 11 PM at SSC

December 25 9 AM at SSC

December 26--10 AM Mass

January 2--10 AM Mass



Dec. 5--\$852

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD collections--\$852

MTD budget--\$962

YTD collection-\$24,586

YTD budget---\$22,126

May each of us give according to what the Lord has blessed us with.



REJOICE

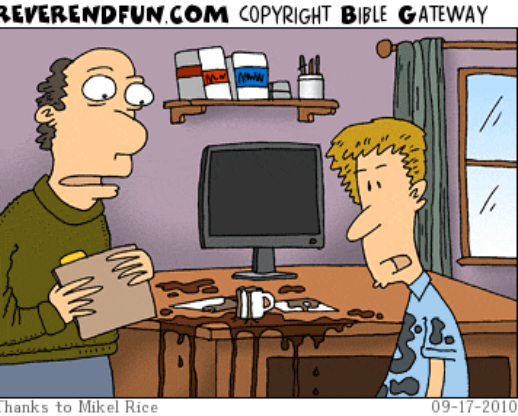
Today has traditionally been called “Guadete Sunday.” The Latin tag is derived from Paul’s appeal in the second reading to “rejoice always in the Lord,” and the Latin Mass test based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God’s work.

Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who almost exclusively was concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

This, we are assured on all sides, is “the season of joy.” Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless. (Copyright JS Paluch Co.)

Laugh of the Week The Advent Wreath A few weeks before Christmas, Reverend Johnson of Christ Lutheran was leading a children’s service featuring an Advent wreath. He told them what the three purple candles represented, then asked, “Does anyone know what the pink one means?” No one answered. Finally little Sara’s hand went up. “Are they expecting a girl?”

Lector	
<u>December 12:</u>	Alexis Hatchett Jacques Williams
<u>December 19:</u>	Aubrey Ottofy Wayne Stephens
<u>December 24:</u>	Layson Brooks Sarah Malone
<u>December 26:</u>	Greg Gough Kathi Skidd
Eucharistic Minister	
<u>December 12:</u>	Rita Moorman
<u>December 19:</u>	Vivian Higgs
<u>December 24:</u>	Cindy Clark
<u>December 26:</u>	Barbara Bisel



Thanks to Mikel Rice 09-17-2010
HISTORICALLY, WHEN MY CUP RUNNETH
OVER IT'S BEEN A GOOD THING



Rejoice in the Lord Always

Our Second Reading tells us, *“The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all.”* That might sound easy for those of us who experience anxiety! However, with that advice comes guidance: “In everything, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, make your requests known to God.” What a comforting reminder for us as we strive to live as disciples!

The Gospel reminds us that we are called to return to the Lord a portion of our blessings by sharing with those in need. The crowds asked John the Baptist, *“What should we do?”* He replied, *“Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.”*

The readings capture beautifully the spirituality of stewardship. With grateful hearts we give thanks to the Lord for our blessings; we nurture and tend those gifts carefully, and share them justly and responsibly. Let us rejoice in the Lord’s abundant love for us!



Shout Out

- ◇ To: Layson Brooks, Greg and Ethan Gough, Jacques Williams for installing poles by driveway on parking lot.
- ◇ To: Jarrod, Parker, and John Carson Malone for raking leaves in front of Blessed Sacrament.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17/Ps 25:4-9 Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23 /Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25/Ps 85:9-14 /Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-13]/Lk 7:24-30
Friday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
Saturday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Observances for the week of Dec. 5

Monday:	St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Tuesday:	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

“From silly devotions and sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!” St. Teresa of Avila

We’ve all heard the adage, “Laughter is the best medicine.” In many ways, it really is. When was the last time you really laughed? The gift of imagination allows us to see possible things that are yet to be. Imagine a world filled with laughter. We take life too seriously sometimes. Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of the joy needed for laughter. God never promised us an easy road, and we do have to take the course of our lives seriously. However, there is a balance to be sought and a possible joy that can be brought even to the darkest and most challenging of encounters.

St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us that, “Joy is not found in the material objects surrounding us but in the inner recesses of the soul. One can possess joy in a prison cell as well as in a palace.” Falling in love with God, who is present in all of creation, allows us to bring a depth of understanding to everything we do and experience. We can more easily see above and beyond things while pursuing the only One who can truly satisfy our hearts. When we realize that God, the king of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We can celebrate the wonder and beauty of God’s gift of joy. It is no wonder that many saints radiate joy and have no reservations expressing laughter. They are happy because they have found a pearl of great price.

“Go ahead, laugh! Live your life with joy and serve the Lord with laughter! Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter.” (St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina)

Impressionable

A child’s life is like a piece of paper on which every passerby leaves a mark Chinese proverb

Reconciliation

Penance Services

- December 13 6 PM Immaculate
- December 14 6 PM Precious Blood
- December 16 6 PM St Alphonsus
- December 19 2 PM St Stephen

Reconciliation Opportunities

- St. Stephen Saturdays 9:30-11
- Blessed Mother Saturdays 12:30-2
- Lourdes Mondays 5:30-6:30
Wednesdays 4:30-5:15
Fridays 11-12
Saturdays 3-4