

December 15th 2019 - Third Sunday of Advent



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 14

9:00am *YMI Brothers*
4:30pm † *Amado S. Pinlac, Jr.*

Sunday, December 15

7:30am † *Bill Sacramento*
9:30am *St. John Parishioners*
11:00am † *Memie de Pedro*
12:30pm *St. John Parishioners*

Monday, December 16

9:00am † *Amado S. Pinlac Jr.*

Tuesday, December 17

9:00am † *Jose Lazaro Zamora*

Wednesday, December 18

9:00am † *Rodrigo & Gladys Tarantan*

Thursday, December 19

9:00am *Lisa Genoves (bday)*

Friday, December 20

9:00am *YMI Brothers*

Saturday, December 21

9:00am *St. John Parishioners*
4:30pm † *Betty Flyn*

ADVENT WREATH

The **third candle** symbolizes **joy** and is called the "Shepherd's Candle."

The **fourth candle** represents **peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle."

SECOND COLLECTION

Today's second collection is to support the fund for the **Retirement of Religious order priests, sisters and brothers.**

This collection helps them who have served us selflessly during their years of active ministry.

Thank you for your kindness and generous support.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA

November 25th - December 1st, 2019

Tuesday's Spec coll.	\$	83.00
Tues. On-line giving	\$	5.00
First Friday.....	\$	121.00
Weekend Offering.....	\$	2,580.64
Weekend On-line giving...	\$	280.00
AAA.....	\$	1,693.00
AAA On-Line Giving.....	\$	160.00

From the Desk of the Pastor

Violet, a penitential color in our liturgical environment, is used throughout Advent to reinforce its character as a season that is preparatory for Christmas. Many of the Advent season readings call for repentance and changed behavior in light of the coming Day of the Lord. But on the 'Third Sunday of Advent', formerly known as Gaudete (Latin for "rejoice") Sunday, the entire liturgy is transfused with a spirit of joy and rejoicing.

Prophet Isaiah foresees the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God's saving work in the midst of his people and infuse in us a sense of joy.

St. Matthew has a unique manner of affirming the presence of God at work in the midst of the people. Awe and wonder directs one to ask: "Are you the one who is to come?" The question so pointedly asked, does not receive a direct answer. Instead Jesus referring to the ancient promise of Isaiah, interfaces the prophecy in the first reading today with what is actually being realized as 'salvation' unfolds right before their very eyes, in the healings of the blind, the lame, lepers and the deaf. St. Matthew adds two more miracles to the ministry of Jesus, namely, the dead are raised to life and the Good News is preached to the poor.

Rejoice then, for the Lord is near, close at hand.

This third week of Advent is a teaser of sorts: It is a joyful waiting, and hoping for God to manifest Himself: There is something precious for each day of the week.

Today, Sunday: Like children pining for Christmas morning, we know what it means to wait for what we desire. Whether it is the safe arrival of loved ones from afar, or a recovery from cancer or disease, we wait in prayer and patience, hope and trust.

Monday: God as a wondrous creator of earthly abundance turns barren ground to fertile soil, giving life where there was a waste land. We invite God to water the seeds of faith within us.

Tuesday: Jesus must have rejoiced to know how 42 generations connected Him with Abraham and David, family ties and in some of them an openness to do God's will.

Wednesday: Scriptures hardly tell us how St. Joseph struggled to overcome the cultural and religious traditions that entrap him. But we do know Joseph has courage to listen to angel Gabriel in the dream, and choose to do God's will.

Thursday: What mighty deeds! An angel announces the birth of Samson. Gabriel heralds the birth of John the Baptist.

Friday: The Emmanuel is a blessing says the Psalm 24; and a sign for David's House. His role is accomplished in Jesus.

Saturday: At the visitation, Elizabeth hears Mary's greeting; she is glad and exults with the Advent of the Savior.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Pastoral Council thanks you for your overwhelming support and participation in the "Parish Mass Survey" conducted in the last few weekends.

The Parish Council recommends to the Pastor and the Parishioners the following Mass schedule: 8:00am (English); 10:00am (English) and 12noon (Spanish) effective from Sunday January 5, 2020.

We are grateful to all of you who took time and invested yourselves in this stewardship of the Parish. Your efforts and your hearts say in so many words that you care and are invested in this Parish of St. John the Evangelist. Thank you.

Long live St. John the Evangelist Parish. God Bless!

SIMBANG GABI NOVENA MASS

The Filipino Pastoral Council (FPC) invites you to Simbang Gabi, the nine-day novena mass in preparation for Christmas, starting Monday, Dec. 16; a fellowship breakfast will follow after the mass.

The masses will be held daily from December 16th - 24th.

If you are interested in sponsoring a novena mass or breakfast, please reach out to members of the Filipino Pastoral Council. Mass Schedule is given below:

Monday Dec. 16th - Saturday, Dec. 21st at 9:00 am Mass
Sunday Dec. 22nd at 7:30 am Mass
Monday Dec. 23rd - Tuesday Dec. 24th at 9:00 am Mass

Thank you from St. Vincent de Paul

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. John the Evangelist, would like to thank all individuals who made the Thanksgiving Food Drive and Christmas Giving Tree such a great success! Thanks to your generous spirit, needy individuals will have a happier holiday season. God bless you.