

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 16, 2018

### Rejoice!

Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text 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 is almost exclusively 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.

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### Saints and Special Observances

Tuesday: International Migrants Day  
Friday: St. Peter Canisius;  
Winter Begins



### CHRISTMAS EVE-DEC. 24

4 pm- Family Mass

6 pm- Spanish Mass

### CHRISTMAS DAY-DEC. 25

9 am- Christmas Mass

### Pray for the sick.....

Alice Blankenship, Karen Gallagher, Irene Hammond, Brad Goforth, Julie Victorino, Victoria Martinez, Harvey Smith, Mikayla Martinez, Carol Bader, Jerry Reynolds, George Keenan, Gale Keenan, Matt Van Scyoc, James Brooks. May they know Christ's healing.

### Christmas Flowers

Envelopes for Poinsettia donations are on the tables near the church entrance. We will use the money collected to buy the Poinsettias. The envelopes with the names of your loved ones, and the Poinsettias, will remain on the altar throughout the Christmas season.



### WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

(Dec. 15-21)

Sat., 5:00 pm- +Fred Apitz

+Kathryn Spencer

+Joan Verhaegh

Sun., 9:00 am- +Mollie Rankin

+Jose Limon

+Charles Evans

Sun., 6:00 pm- People of the Parish

Mon., 9:00 am- Communion Service

Tues., 9:00 am- Communion Service

Wed., 9:00 am- Sick of the Parish

Thur., 9:00 am- Members of Our Military

Fri., 9:00 am- Int. Julianna La Russo

### Parish Offerings

Plate Collection (Dec. 8-9): \$3,591.00

Retired Religious; \$1,245.00

God Bless You for Your Generosity!

### Please Join in the Celebrations

Enhance your Advent journey by coming to "Las Posadas", the traditional Mexican celebration recalling Mary and Joseph's search for a room in Bethlehem. You may come to any or all of the posadas: **Dec. 20th-22nd at 6:00 pm; Dec., 23rd at 5:00 pm.** All posadas begin in the hall. The festivities include songs, piñatas and hot drinks.



### Thank You...

We wish to thank parishioner Tish Rogers for donating and decorating a tree in the name of Santa Rosa for the annual Cambria Rotary Tree Festival.

A big THANKS to everyone who helped to make last Saturday's Advent Social such a joyful and successful event. To our coordinators, kitchen crew, tree makers, and to everyone who purchased and donated items... you are much appreciated.

The money raised from this event goes to our Loaves & Fishes charity fund, the Men's Club Scholarship fund and our youth/confirmation programs.

### O Come, O Come...

We celebrate the Octave of Advent and Christmas season with special "O" banners that proclaim the ways Jesus comes to be with us. *Oriens*: Radiant Dawn; *Sapientia*: Wisdom; *Adonai*: Sacred Lord; *Rex Gentium*: King of All the Nations; *Radix Jesse*: Flower of Jesse; *Clavis Davidica*: Key of David; *Emmanuel*: God With Us. These form the verses for the traditional carol: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".



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