

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! —St. Francis

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Sunday, December 12, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus. R/. Na wieki, wiekow.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ. R/. Now and forever.

9:00 AM - "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"

OPENING PRAYER: (please say with Celebrant) O Father, our hearts respond with joy as we approach the yearly remembrance of the birth of Jesus at Bethlehem. As we sense within ourselves His coming, may there be restored within us the image and likeness of our Creator, who gave us the Christ of Christmas. Amen

PRAYER: (celebrant) O God, as we look upon this wreath, the symbol of eternity, and as we light a third candle, may we be prepared more thoroughly in making the way for your son, especially in the depths of our hearts. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE: (Reader): O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may indeed prepare for Your only begotten Son, that through his coming, we may be made worthy to observe you with pure minds. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book pg. 63
(please note: No "Gloria" during Advent)

READING I - Zep 3:14-18a

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has removed the judgment against you he has turned away your enemies; the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear. On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior. With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name; among the nations make known his deeds, proclaim how exalted is his name.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement; let this be known throughout all the earth. Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

READING II - Phil 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your

requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest/Lector: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

R/ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL - Luke 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **R./ Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.!**

OFFERTORY HYMN - "A Voice Cries Out"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Patience People"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Every Valley"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

Take a moment out and pray...

† † † † † † PRAYERS † † † † † † † †

Health Needs: Lord God, Jesus, our Savior, Mary and all the Saints, we ask you to bring peace and your healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen.

Health Needs of: All who have the Coronavirus & Debbie Marciano, Beverly Hester, Gregory Klein, James Conlon, Iris Cafran, Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Sophia Kyriakakis, Billy Murphy, Helen de la Sota, Jeff Curtis, Ottavia Daquino, Linda Frysztacki, Daniella Vasquez, Bill & Ann Siebuhr, Blanca Vasquez, John Luis Vasquez, Eileen McChesney, Rosemary Rosen, Joe Glovack, Carla Calabrese, Janis Siebuhr, Debbie Granaldi, Louise & Anthony Kuzniewski, Jorge Juan Vasquez, Jessica Arrubla, Debbie Tino, Elena Accomando Capuano, Emily Smith & for all caregivers.

Requiem Intentions for faithfully departed:

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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"PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD"

CHRISTMAS IS A "MARY" TIME

Mary was born in the city of Nazareth. Her father Joachim, hailed from Nazareth in Galilee, while Anna, her mother, came from Bethlehem. They made a vow that if the Lord blessed them with offspring, they would yield the child to the service of the Lord and thus Mary was brought upon the temple. God sent the angel Gabriel to announce to Mary her role in the Incarnation of Christ. Then having been instructed and assured by the Angel of the Lord, Joseph took Mary as his wife and knew her not until she had brought forth JESUS, her firstborn son.

"Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" —Luke 1:28

ONE MINUTE DEVOTIONS

Helen Steiner Rice - THE CHRISTMAS STAR

It matters not who or what your are, all men can behold the Christmas Star. For the Star that shone is still shining still in the hearts of men of peace and goodwill.

LIVING LIFE...AN INSPIRATION JOURNEY

Life is not a race—but indeed a journey. Be honest, Work hard, Be choosy. Say 'thank you', 'I love you', and 'great job' to someone each day. Go to church, take time for prayer. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh. Let your handshake mean more than pen and paper. Love your life and what you've been given, it is not accidental—search for your purpose and do it as best you can. Dreaming does matter. It allows you to become that which you aspire to be. Laugh often. Appreciate the little things in life and enjoy them. Some of the best things really are free. Do not worry, less wrinkles are more becoming. Forgive, it frees the soul. Take time for yourself—plan for longevity. Recognize the special people you've been blessed to know. Love for today, enjoy the moment.

Our 2021 Fund-raiser Christmas Dinner was a SUCCESS!

Thank you, Thank you!

"How can we thank you, let us count the ways..."

for setting up the hall; for cooking an entree; for serving; for decorating; for purchasing items; for getting donations of food, desserts, beverages, raffle prizes; for creating raffle prize baskets; for selling raffles; for helping Santa Claus; for cleaning up & washing; for handling money; for attending, enjoying the food & having fun.

It takes a Parish and friends to have a successful fund-raiser—thank you all!

Next week's bulletin will list our sponsors businesses, AND we urge you to support them!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 19th

9:00 a.m. Mass

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 25th

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Mass

Sunday, December 26th

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:00 a.m. Mass

