

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 16, 2018

*Dear Parishioners,*

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!  
(Philippians 4:4)

St. Paul believed that rejoicing was a basic disposition that we all should try to maintain, even when things don't go our way. In his short Letter to the Philippians, in fact, he spoke about rejoicing fifteen times.



And let's not forget that Paul was in prison when he wrote the letter! He was not going to let his circumstances rob him of his joy. So how did Paul maintain a joyful disposition? First, he rejoiced because he knew Jesus' love. If you back up just two chapters in this letter, you'll see him singing a hymn that extols Jesus' willingness to empty himself, become a man, and die on the cross (Philippians 2:7-8). And then in the next chapter, he writes, "I even consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (3:8). The thought of Jesus' love—a love that gives of itself freely—continually filled Paul with joy. Second, Paul rejoiced in the Philippians themselves. They were his joy and his crown (Philippians 4:1). They were his dear friends who had joined him in a "partnership for the gospel" (1:5). He rejoiced because he knew he had brothers and sisters who loved him and supported him in his faith. We will all encounter times of trial and suffering, but Jesus asks us to rejoice whether or not the sun is shining on us. He especially wants us to rejoice as we prepare for Christmas. If Paul were here, he would urge us to keep things in perspective—to look at our lives through the lens of God's love. He would urge us never to let anxiousness rule our lives, but to strive to keep our sense of peace at all times. He would urge us to pray through the tough times and to find reasons to rejoice. Jesus has done so much for us. Let's repay him by rejoicing in his love—and sharing that joy with the people around us.

"Lord, help me hold onto my joy,  
especially when I face the difficult challenges of life."

*Deacon Mark Race, Administrator*

## Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Zep 3:14-18a, (Ps) Is 12:2-6, Lk 3:10-18
Monday	Gn 49:2-10, Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday	Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday	Jgs 13:2-25a, Lk 1:5-25
Thursday	Is 7:10-14, Lk 1:26-38
Friday	Sg 2:8-14, Lk 1:39-45
Saturday	1 Sm 1:24-28, Lk 1:46-56
Sunday	Mi 5:1-4a, Ps 80:2-19, Lk 1:39-45

## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 15</b>
5:15 PM	Intention of all Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 16</b>
8:00 AM	Soul of Betty Flowers
10:00 AM	Intention of Briana and Aaron Katz
12:15 PM	Soul of Paul Moore
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 18</b>
8:00 AM	Intention of Robert Johns, Sr.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 23</b>
8:00 AM	Intention of all Parishioners
10:00 AM	Soul of Ferdinand Foye
12:15 PM	Soul of Sam Richardson



## Weekly Offering for

**December 9, 2018**

\$7,381.26 Tithe and Offering  
425.00 Building Fund  
16.00 "We Care"

## Stewardship Thought

"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (PHILIPPIANS 4:6)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.



**Happy Birthday to:**

*Robert Johns*

who celebrates **98** on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Congratulations from his family.*

## Men, Mark Your Calendars

Transfiguration Annual Retreat for men will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of January 18, 19, and 20 2019. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offer inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, Confession and Stations of the Cross. You may arrive as early as 3:00 PM on Friday. Our retreat opens at 5:45 PM with a buffet supper and closes Sunday after lunch about 12:30 PM. A **\$50.00 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve your weekend Retreat, this time is reserved for you.**

This year's Retreat theme:

***"Be Not Anxious! Living in the Peace of Christ"***

For more information or to make your reservation please call Greg Warner retreat Captain at 323.974.7405 or 310.538.2214.

## Did you know?

### We are all God's children, and we all need protection

While a major part of preventing sexual abuse and exploitation is aimed at keeping young children safe, the focus and goal of the "Protecting God's Children" program is to keep all people safe, including adults. By knowing the warning signs of different types of abuse and taking action to shut down abuse and offer protection and support, we can help the most vulnerable among us, whoever they may be.

For a copy of the complete VIRTUS® article, "Don't Forget to Protect the Vulnerable Adults in Your Community," visit <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>.

## Marian Pilgrimage to Europe

Father Bernard invites you to join him on a Marian Pilgrimage to Europe, from April 23 to May 4, 2019 (12 days). The spiritual journey includes the following countries: France, Paris and Lourdes; Italy-Assisi; Portugal-Fatima; Spain-Zaragoza; and Vatican City-Rome. Tour Cost: USD \$3,599 per person on twin sharing basis. The price includes roundtrip International Airfare, 12 nights' accommodation, Train from Paris to Lourdes, Flight Ticket from Rome to Paris, All Transfers within Europe, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner, Tips for Tour Guide and Drivers, Tour Manager on Arrival at Rome until Departure. Register by December 20, 2018. For more information contact Liz Quinn at 310.251.1051 or Fr. Bernard at 323.336.7424.

## Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Cyd Michelle Anderson, Sidney Anderson, Brian Argusta, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Alberto Casanova, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Katherine Clark, Ramona Clark, Agnes Cooper, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Alton Duhon, Gwen Files, Cynthia Fortier, Teresa Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Janie Jackson, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Mercedes LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Aliyah Patterson, Wiley R. Pugh, Vickie Race, Andrea Raggette, Doris Rogers, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, Joan Spencer, Dorothy Stanley, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, Johnnye Washington, and Alice Williams.

## Christmas Schedule

### CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Children's Mass

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 PM

Midnight Mass - Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
(Christmas Carols at 11:30 PM)

### CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

### NEW YEARS EVE MASS

Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 AM

### NEW YEARS DAY MASS

*The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 at 8:00 AM

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For your enjoyment we are happy to announce:

### ADULT CHOIR CONCERT

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

### THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM

**NO COFFEE & DONUTS  
on Sunday December 16, 2018  
HALL CLOSED**

## Transfiguration Choir Christmas Concert



**"God's Gift of Grace: The Baby Jesus".**

Enjoy a wonderful evening of songs Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 7 PM. This year the concert will feature a special guest - Father Oscar Pratt II.

*It promises to be an evening to remember.*

## Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by **Marilyn Moore**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

## RCIA Come, learn or renew your Catholic faith...

**Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 7:00 PM.** The topic will be about the **"The Sacrament of Baptism"** by Deacon Greg Patterson at Holy Name of Jesus (*Acacia Center*), 1955 W. Jefferson in Los Angeles.

**2019 Calendars** are available in the church sacristy for a donation of \$2. Thank you for your support.