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Fridays...... 11:00 -- 11:45 a.m.

Friday......Noon

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

FROM THE RECTOR

Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, Gaudete! Rejoice always in the Lord; I say again, Rejoice! This is the opening verse of the Introit for Holy Mass on this Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally know as Gaudete Sunday. We are exhorted to rejoice because our King will soon be with us. At the coming of Our Lord there should be great rejoicing with hearts full of joy and peace. It is hoped that we have used these days of the Advent season to properly prepare ourselves for the presence of the Incarnate Word among us. Through Her wisdom, Holy Mother the Church provides us this opportunity to make manifest our joy, but also to continue to prepare ourselves for His coming. Today we encounter the great prophet, St. John the Baptist. Through his exhortation to penance, his example of profound humility and his awareness of the Lord's presence, St. John the Baptist continues to assist us in being prepared for the coming of the Just Judge. Let us pay heed to his exhortation to remove sin from our lives to better receive the light of Christ. Moreover, through growth in the virtue of humility, let us pray for the strength to be the herald's voice crying out in the wilderness. The world is in desperate need for more St. John the Baptists to preach the truth. Through Our Blessed Mother, our constant companion in Advent, let us ask for the grace needed to open our hearts to the Lord and to rejoice in Him always.

PREVENT & PROTECT STL

formerly known as Protecting God's Children; Safe Environment

The Archdiocese of St. Louis has developed a new system for safe environment compliance called Prevent and Protect STL. Everyone ministering to minors and vulnerable adults (clergy, employees, and volunteers) in the Archdiocese are required and asked to register in the new system before December 31, 2020. This includes those new to service and those who are currently in service. For those who have already attended a Protecting God's Children workshop, your previous training date will transfer to this new system. In addition to attending a live Protecting God's Children workshop, all clergy, volunteers, and employees will register for an updated background screening, view two new online training modules on abuse reporting and the Code of Ethical Conduct, and agree to the updated Code of Ethical Conduct.

Please go to <u>www.preventandprotectstl.org</u> to register and contact your parish Child Safety Coordinator with any questions or for further assistance.

SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER/MISSAL ASSISTANCE

- 15 December 3rd Sunday of Advent (Missal, p. 9)
- 22 December 4th Sunday of Advent (Missal, p. 13)
- 25 December Christmas Day (Missal, p. 22)
- 29 December Sunday in the Octave of Christmas (Missal, p. 37)

ADVENT GIVING TREE

All giving tree gifts are due THIS WEEKEND, Dec. 14/15. *Remember that a gift for any numbered tag not returned is someone who will be left out when gifts are delivered at the end of next week.* Also, baby items for Birthright need not be wrapped. Thank you for your kindness in helping to brighten Christmas for families needing a little help at this time. Please call Dianne Burpee at 645-8066 if you have any questions. Thank you for helping families facing challenging times during this Holy season!

OPEN HOUSE at the RECTORY: 29 December 2019

Please join Msgr. Morris and Fr. Blake for an Open House at the Rectory on Sunday, 12/29/19. Stop by anytime

between 12:30–3:00pm, tour your priests' house decorated for the holidays, and have some refreshments.

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YEAR-END UPDATES

If you are currently enrolled in online giving there is no need to do anything to continue your contributions for 2020. You can make modifications to your account at any time; if you do nothing, your current elections will continue. If you are still receiving envelopes and you are enrolled in online giving, please contact Donna to have the envelopes discontinued \sim it helps the Oratory save costs. If you are not enrolled in online giving...you can join at any time! Please call Donna if you need assistance. All contributions must be made by Tuesday, December 31st in order to be included in your 2019 contribution statement. *Thank you!*

THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE

The Oratory will celebrate High Mass every day during the Octave of Christmas. Beginning on 26 December and concluding on 1 January in addition to our normal schedule for Holy Mass there will be celebrated an additional High Mass. We will also have the blessing of several Solemn High Masses during the Octave. The times for Holy Mass are listed below. Everyone is encouraged to attend to truly celebrate well the Incarnation of Christ our Savior.

- Wednesday, December 25th: Midnight (**NO** confessions before Holy Mass)
- Thursday, December 26th: 7:00 pm (confessions from 6 6:45 pm)
- Friday, December 27th: 7:00 pm (confessions from 6 6:45 pm)
- Saturday, December 28th: 8:00 am (confessions from 7 7:45 am)
- Sunday, December 29th: Normal Sunday Schedule
- Monday, December 30th: 7:00 pm (confessions from 6 6:45 pm)
- Tuesday, December 31st: 7:00 pm (confessions from 6 6:45 pm)
- Wednesday, January 1st: 10:30 am (NO Confessions schedule this morning)

CHURCH CLEANING

Thank you to all you were able to assist with Church cleaning this past Saturday. Our beautiful place of prayer is well prepared for the celebration of Christmas.

CCD INFORMATION

The last day for CCD is Sunday, 22 December 2019. Let us continue to pray for all our teachers, parents and students.

CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the sanctuary on SATURDAY (12/21) morning, at 9:00am. We hope you will join us in this special ministry.

CHRISTMAS CELELBRATION

The celebration of the Lord's Birth on Christmas Day will be slightly different from years past. The principal Holy Mass will be at Midnight. This will be High Mass assisted by our choir. On Christmas morning, the Oratory will celebrate Holy Mass at 10:30 am. This will be Low Mass without the presence of the organ. Part of this schedule is determined by the Holy Mass being celebrated by Saint Luke at 9 am on Christmas morning.

PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE

UP COMING EVENTS

- 21 December: Church Decorating @ 9:00 am
- 22 December: Coffee Hour after the 11:30 am Mass
- 25 December: CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Mass at Midnight and 10:30 am
- 26 December: Holy Mass at 7:00 pm
- 27 December: Holy Mass at 7:00 pm
- 28 December: Holy Mass at 8:00 am
- 29 December: **Normal Sunday Schedule**
- 30 December: Holy Mass at 7:00 pm
- 31 December: Holy Mass at 7:00 pm
- 1 January 2020: Holy Mass at 10:30 am
- 3 January: First Friday
- 4 January: First Saturday

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, 17 December – Feria of Advent 7:00 am: NO SCHEDULED MASS

Wednesday, 18 December – *Ember Wednesday of Advent* 6:30 pm: Jeffrey Martin

Thursday, 19 December – *Greater Feria of Advent* 7:00 am: Elizabeth Hennessy

Friday, 20 December – *Ember Friday of Advent* 12 Noon: Agnes Schoenfeld

Sunday, 22 December – *Fourth Sunday of Advent* 8:00 am: Pro Populo 11:30 am: Jessica Ley

SERVERS SCHEDULE

December 1st – 1st Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am: Joseph & Anthony Dixon
- 11:30 am: Gregory Grizzle, Austin Jackson, Phillip Petrick, Sebastian Petrick, Damien Filla

December 8th – **Immaculate Conception**

- 8:00 am: John & Eli Colton
- 11:30 am: Cameron Ackerman, Lance Lavery, Luke Lavery, Sebastian Filla, Tommy Lattenzi

December 15th – 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am: Joseph & Anthony Dixon
- 11:30 am: Ryan Lavery, Austin Jackson, Phillip Petrick, Simon Wisniewski, Sebastian Petrick

December 22nd – 4th Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am: Caleb & Eli Colton
- 11:30 am: Gregory Grizzle, Cameron Ackerman, Peter Armstrong, Ben Armstrong, Simon Wisniewski

~ 12/08/2019 ~			
	ACTUAL	NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Weekly Collection Total	\$ 2,764.10		
Online Giving	\$ 2,327.07		
Total	\$ 5,091.17	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 1,341.17
Year to Date Total	\$ 112,556.72	\$ 86,250.00	\$ 26,306.72

Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us who have recourse to thee!

Ss. Gregory and Augustine, pray for us!