

Announcements
For the week of December 11, 2016

Happy Birthday to Fr. Lowell Case, who celebrated 75yrs on December 3rd.

Advent Mission, December 10th-14th at 6pm, please make plans to attend.

Christmas Flower envelopes should be turned in no later than December 15th in order in to be on the Christmas list for the bulletin.

Advent: There will be weekly confessions 30 minutes before each Mass.

Last day for CCD is Dec. 12th Classes will resume on January 9, 2017

There will be no Bible Study on Dec. 13th. Bible Study will resume on January 3, 2017.

Last day for RCIA for the Holidays is Dec. 15th. RCIA will resume on January 5, 2017

Bulletin and Pulpit Announcements can be emailed. They must be approved by our Pastor, Fr. Lowell Case. Deadline for all announcements is 2:00pm on Monday. No impromptu announcements.

Please pray for all our Military, all the Sick and Shut-In and their families. Take home a copy of this week's bulletin for other announcements.

DECEMBER 11, 2016

**GOOD EVENING/MORNING PARISHIONERS, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND VISITORS!
(PAUSE)**

**WELCOME TO OUR MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH. WE ARE IN
THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT. KINDLY TURN TO
YOUR NEIGHBOR AND EXTEND A GREETING OF WELCOME. (PAUSE 20 SEC-
ONDS).**

**BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE PARISH, GIVE GENEROUSLY IN TODAY'S
COLLECTIONS. THE SECOND COLLECTIONS ARE FOR RETIREMENT FUND
FOR RELIGIOUS AND REDUCING PARISH DEBT.**

TODAY'S THEME:

Another name for this Sunday of Advent *Gaudete* or Rejoice Sunday. This name is taken from the entrance antiphon, which is itself a quote from Saint Paul's Letter to the Philippians: "Rejoice in the Lord always." Our Advent season of preparation is already halfway over. How have your preparations gone so far? It is never too late to prepare for the coming of God in our hearts, so let us pray for hearts ever more open to the presence of God.

OUR CELEBRANT FOR THIS MASS IS:

(Priest Name) Fr. Case

4:30 P.M.- Fr.

7:00 A.M.-Fr.

9:00 A.M.-Fr. Tino

11:30 A.M.-Fr. Mark

AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER:

Our beautiful reading from Isaiah today continues the theme of the messianic kingdom that we heard about last week. The coming of the Lord is cause for joy and gladness. Saint James takes up the theme and tells us that we must have patience, just like the farmer who waits for the fruit of the earth. In the Gospel we hear Jesus affirm John's message of repentance before the reign of God. Let us listen to these holy scriptures and rejoice in the coming of our God.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Third Sunday of Advent, YEAR A

Priest: The Lord God keeps faith forever, and so we pray for the needs of all our sisters and brothers.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus!

- ◆ For our Church as we proclaim with joy the coming of the reign of God, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ That the world might bloom with peace and justice, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For prophets in our midst, for all who take risks to proclaim truths that we need to hear, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all who seek to know God as inquirers in our community of faith, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For those whose disabilities are a burden, and for all who encourage and uphold them, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken... [*pause for 10 seconds; the presider alone concludes...*], we pray to the Lord...

Priest: Holy God, you strengthen the hands that are feeble and make firm the knees that are weak. Hear these our prayers for the world that you love, and graciously grant them through the One whose coming is certain and whose day draws near, Christ our Lord.....

TO ALL MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

December 11, 2016

PLEASE WELCOME THE VISITORS

**ALSO PASS OUT THE CHILDREN'S
BULLETINS TO THE LITTLE ONES!**

Make sure that you sign the sheet in the book.

Remember to use the white bags for the collections.
Please try and refrain anyone from walking during the
1st reading, 2nd Reading, the Gospel and the Homily.

**Remember to take the count of those present at each Mass and
turn the count sheet in after the 11:30AM Mass**

This is very important. Secure collection after Mass

Second Collections

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

AND

REDUCING PARISH DEBT