

Announcement
For the week of Dec. 17, 2017

Social Outreach will be closed December 18 and 20 and the week of Christmas. The office will reopen on January 3, 2018.

There will be no Bible Study December 19 or 26. Bible Study will resume January 2, 2018.

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 and information.

December 17, 2017

GOOD EVENING/GOOD 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 SECONDS).

BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE PARISH, GIVE GENEROUSLY IN TODAY'S COLLECTIONS. THE SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

THEME: Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete meaning rejoice in Latin. We rejoice this Sunday, knowing that we are over halfway through this period of preparation and that Jesus' coming is so close that we can feel it in our very being. We will sing, "My soul rejoices in my God" in the responsorial psalm. Let us take a moment today to put all the Christmas planning and worries aside and reflect on the wonderful gift God gave us in Jesus.

OUR CELEBRANT FOR THIS MASS IS:

(Priest Name) Fr. Noel Effiong, Pastor

4:30 P.M.–

7:00 A.M.–

10:00 A.M.–

AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER: Some very important people in scripture give testimony today. First, Isaiah testifies that God called him to share good news to those in need. Then saint Paul testifies to the expectation he has of the Thessalonians as he wraps up his letter to them. Finally, John the Evangelist writes that John the Baptist was sent to testify to the greatest news of all, the coming of Jesus, so that all may believe.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

Priest: We rejoice because we know that God already given us the greatest gift of all, Jesus, the Son of God. With confidence that our voices are heard, we come before God today to present our needs.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus!

- ◆ For the Church, that in what we say and do we may testify to the presence of Jesus in our lives and in the world, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For those who are reminded of difficult events and emotions during this season of joy. That they may find comfort and peace in the reassurance of Jesus' love, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For those who are imprisoned or held captive, for those who are oppressed in whatever circumstance, that the word of God may bring hope, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For non-Christians, who may feel excluded during this season, and for tolerance and respect for people of all faiths or not faith at all, we pray to the Lord.
- ◆ For all who have died, and for the intentions of this Mass, **Pearl Fontenot, Lovina and Edwin Wiltz, Marie Haynes Charlton, Freddie "Uncle Sonny" Gloude, Grace Poullard Broussard, and Rudolph Antoine** may they glory in the **Lord** forever at the wedding feast of the Lamb, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intention spoken and unspoken....*[pause for 10 seconds; the presider alone concludes...]*we pray to the Lord...

Priest: Almighty God, source of all that is good. We rejoice in your great generosity. Hear our prayers that we offer to you today and grant them according to your will. We ask this through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, for ever and ever.

TO ALL MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

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 take the count of those present at each Mass and
turn the count sheet in after the 10:00AM Mass**

This is very important. Secure collection after Mass

Second Collection

NONE