



BLESSED SACRAMENT

CATHOLIC CHURCH

3rd

SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." - Jn 1:26-27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GLPI

DECEMBER 13TH, 2020 | 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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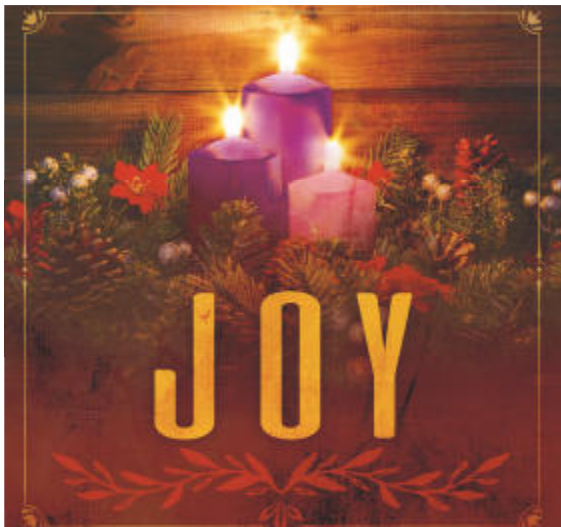
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COCOA, FL 32927PHONE: (321) 632 - 6333
FAX: (321) 631 - 2560**Thrift Shop Information****Hours:** Tues - Fri: 9AM - 4PM, Saturday: 10AM - 2PM**Phone:** (321) 631 - 7786**Worship
SCHEDULE****MASS TIMES:**DAILY (MON. - FRI.):
8:30amSATURDAY VIGIL MASS:
4:30pmSUNDAY:
8:30am & 10:30am**RECONCILIATION:**MON - FRI:
7:45 — 8:15amSATURDAY:
3:30 — 4:15pm

PARISH SUPPORT

12/6/20 Offertory	\$ 3,545.00
Debt Reduction	\$385.00
Parish Maintenance	\$255.00

Thank you for your continued support!

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS...

**...for all our parishioners who are sick
or in need of our prayers:**

Antonette Cossentino, Mary Angioli, Audry McDonald, Jean Hartnet, Thomas Wilson, Margaret Casale, Tara Rae Daniels, Philip Collins, Rodney Champagne, Bob Boroskey, Cecile Szulkowski, Yudoria Victoria, Rudolph Bronson, Misty Bronson, John J Pool, Harper Renee Reaves, Renee Hatzold, John Erno, Gary Williams, Ken Carter, Annett Carter, David Phillips, Annett Fancher, Yvonne Scheiner, Carol Barbera, Kay Shiffer, Heather Baker, Ann Madore, Gage Markoux, Cathy Boroskey, Phil Collins, Andrew Pogar, Pat Hayes, Noah Nowotarski, Rick Stemborski, Joanne Adkins, Judy Nowotarski, Barbara Sarniewicz, Laurie Hutchcraft, Richard Hutchcraft, Mary Ann Patrella, Carol Heinemann, Melissa Fenlon, Carole Alvino, Carol Woodard, Julie Leonen, Judy McMahon, Norma Johns, Jackie Canton, Tim Evans, Rory James, Linda Lajoie, Bobby Glazier, Robert Scaringe, Toni Fiori, Leo Stahl, Ngai Pham, Jon Shiffer, Chuck Wald, Beth Woodall, Rodney Reynolds, Jill Reynolds, Alex Cash, Brett Coles, Jeremie Woodall, Keith Doty, Jean Felton, Richard Warren, Susan Ciurzynski, Jeanne Bardsley, Long Tran, Jayne Loeb, Bruce Paster, Jack Gallie & Suzanne Ross.

...and the deceased of our parish family

For the month of December, the deceased priests are:

December 2, 2015 - Msgr. Vidal Arboleda
December 4, 1996 - Rev. Con Shine
December 4, 2008 - Rev. Stephen Phillips
December 13, 1971 - Msgr. William Mullally
December 21, 1997 - Rev. William O'Farrell
December 22, 1981 - Rev. Vincent Smith
December 22, 2010 - Rev. Gerard Granahan

Wedding Anniversaries

Andrew & Christine Hill - 7 years on December 14th

Clayton & Elaine Humphreys - 12 years on December 15th

Richard & Joanne Jeffery - 36 years on December 15th

Casey & Kelly Sharpless - 26 years on December 17th

Peter & Mary Clare Levins - 48 years on December 17th

Rodney & Diana Champagne - 55 years on December 17th

Angela & Bentley Thompson - 37 years on December 18th

Congratulations & Best Wishes for many more!

A CONSTANT COMPANION

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our

eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

December 13th, 2020

REFLECTIONS

Lighten Up

Christmas is serious business, but it shouldn't be taken too seriously. Christmas will be a time for joy, as we gather with family and friends, and as we worship at church to celebrate the good news that Christ is born for us. All this celebrating demands hard work. Work is rarely fun, but the preparation for Christmas brings along with it some of the enjoyment of Christmas Day. This work helps us think about the love we have and the hope we share.

Even Advent can get too serious. True, this is a time of preparation. We confess our sins and mend fences so that Christmas will have more meaning for us. But Advent aims to keep us joyful all the way to Christmas. "Rejoice always," we hear Paul say today. "In all circumstances give thanks."

Paul was addressing the Christian community in Thessalonica. He reaffirmed their belief that the second coming of Christ was very close. He prayed for them, that they "be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

One sign of their blamelessness would be their joy. Rejoice always, Paul says. Always.

Throughout Advent, we get distracted. We have many duties in the weeks ahead. There isn't much time to get everything done. But even this time of preparation is a time to lighten up. Let us not lose sight of where we're headed: Christmas Day! Rejoice!



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 12th

4:30 PM † John Mansingh

Sunday, December 13th

8:30 AM † Kylie Kelleher

10:30 AM † Maria Jimenez, Francisco
Leonardo & Miguel Lora

Monday, December 14th

8:30 AM † Fr. Peter Hoang Xuan Nghiem

Tuesday, December 15th

8:30 AM † Marie Sanada

Wednesday, December 16th

8:30 AM

Thursday, December 17th

8:30 AM

Friday, December 18th

8:30 AM People of the Parish

Saturday, December 19th

4:30 PM † Lorraine Simpson

Sunday, December 20th

8:30 AM † Deacon Richard & Marge Basso

10:30 AM † Paul Hughes

DEVOTIONS

Monday (before Mass)

Our Lady of The Miraculous Medal

Tuesday - Friday (before Mass)

The Holy Rosary

Tuesday (after Mass)

Adoration of the Most Holy Sacrament

Thursday (after Mass)

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

May (after Mass: Mon.- Fri.)

Litany of Loreto in honor of Mary

June (after Mass: Mon. - Fri.)

Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13TH

3rd Sunday of Advent

Sun
13

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Mon
14

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tues
15

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

Wed
16

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

Thurs
17

Cn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Fri
18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Sat
19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

Sun
20

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

4th Sunday of Advent



Rejoice in the wonder of His birth this Christmas and always

*Fr. Mark, SDS, Dc. Nick, Dc. Bill
and*

Blessed Sacrament Parish

Christmas Blessings

Nov. 29 – Dec. 24, 2020 Advent, Christmas and New Year 2021 Schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

- *Mon. — Fri.: 7:45am—8:15am
- *Sat.: 3:30pm—4:15pm
- *No Confessions on Dec. 24th and 25th

Holy Masses:

- *Mon.: — Fri. 8:30am
- *Sat.: 4:30pm
- *Sun.: 8:30am & 10:30am

*Dec 8th, Tue.: **Immaculate Conception of BVM:** Mass: 8:30am & 7:00pm

*Dec 24th, Thu.: **Christmas Eve:** Masses: 4:30pm & 10:00pm

*Dec 24th, Thu.: **Christmas Eve:** Concert of Blessed Sacrament Choir: 9:30pm

*Dec 25th, Fri.: **Christmas:** Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am

*Dec 26th, Sat.: **Holy Family of Jesus:** Vigil Mass: 4:30pm

*Dec 27th, Sun.: **Holy Family of Jesus:** Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am

*Dec 31st, Thu.: Mass 8:30am and

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Vigil Mass 7:00pm

*Jan 01st, 2021, Fri.: **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God,** Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am

*Jan 02nd, 2021, Sat.: **Epiphany of the Lord:** Vigil Mass: 4:30pm

*Jan 03rd, 2021, Sun.: **Epiphany of the Lord:** Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am

A Blessed Advent & Christmas to All!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Due to COVID19 virus concerns, the traditional Jesse Tree program will not take place this year. We plan to resume the traditional Jesse Tree program next year. However, Blessed Sacrament and Catholic Charities still wish to help children who could be overlooked this Christmas. Families will be allowed to pick two items for each child at the Blessed Sacrament Thrift Store. Applications will be available every Friday (11:00am – 1:00pm) and Saturday, December 5th (11:00am – 1:00pm). The Jesse Tree will be setup in the back of the church, but

instead of angels on the tree, there will be a donation box in front of the tree for anyone who wishes to make a donation.

- “For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” - Matthew 18:20. Let's reunite the Small Christian Community group for women. This is a group where we can grow in Christ together. Learning in God's word and strengthening each other through prayer. Join us each Wednesday from 6:00 pm - 7:00pm in the parish hall and please contact the parish office for more information.



Thank you to the Knights of Columbus who sponsored the Memorial Garden brick pavers. Thank you for your generosity and restoring our Memorial Garden.



- The Knights of Columbus regret to announce that our annual Christmas tree sale will not be held this year. Due to our order being received late and a shortage of Class A trees for a late order, we feel that our loyal customers still deserve a quality product. Therefore, we do recommend that our regular buyers take their business, this year, to the Knights of Columbus at St. Teresa Catholic. They obtain trees from the same supplier and prices are very similar to what we normally charge. Also, Knights of Columbus Christmas tree sale proceeds all go to charity.
- The Knights of Columbus will be selling Christmas cards after each Mass until the need is no longer or we are sold out, whichever comes first. All proceeds from our Christmas card sale go to assisting with the education of a diocesan seminarian whom we sponsor – Eddiel Rivera. In addition to financial support, we ask for your prayers to help him, spiritually, in the pursuit of his priestly vocation.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

• THRIFT SHOP

If you have a few hours a week available and would like to volunteer we would love to have you join us. There are various volunteer opportunities such as helping within the store and sorting donations. Please contact the parish office for more information.

• CHOIR

Love to Sing? The Bible says to Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord! The Blessed Sacrament Choir is looking for new members to join their Family. No experience is needed, just the willingness to contribute your time and talent to enhance worship for our church community. Rehearsals are Wednesday evening @ 7:00pm and the choir rotates through all the Masses. Remember - to sing is to pray twice! Everyone is welcome to join in making a joyful noise unto the Lord! Social distancing will be observed during rehearsals, and please bring your mask.

Please contact Jeanmarie-
jbailey@blessedsacramentcocoa.org

Help Us Grow: Give Electronically

Electronic gifts are fast and secure, and they reduce administrative costs, allowing more of every dollar to fund the important work we are called to do.

- Give anytime, anywhere to your favorite funds
- Schedule and manage recurring donations
- Make one-time donations to special appeals
- Pay for events, programs and other activities

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office.

Food Pantry

Our food pantry is on Fridays from 11am—1pm. Items needed for the food pantry are small bags of rice, cereal, canned fruit, canned chicken/fish, soups, pasta (spaghetti), 24oz canned pasta sauce, 18oz peanut butter, 20oz jelly & 15oz cans of pasta/veggies. Thank you for your generous donations which can be dropped off in the back of the Church.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

FIRST READING

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)



PSALM

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)



SECOND READING

May the God of peace make you
perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of
our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)



GOSPEL

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)

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**GOD IS
THE JOY OF
MY SOUL**

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

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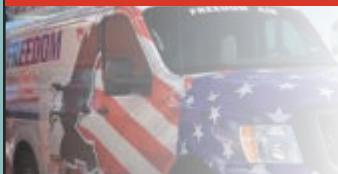
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