

# THIRD SUNDAY

OF

# Advent

As the earth brings forth its plants,  
and a garden makes its growth spring up,  
so will the Lord God make justice and praise  
spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61:11



DECEMBER 13, 2020

## MASSSES for the WEEK

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### Monday, December 14

7:00pm - Helen DiLuciano - Family

### Tuesday, December 15

9:30am - Sr. St. Leo DeChant - Burke Family

### Wednesday, December 16

7:00pm - Nicole Rothmann - Family

### Thursday, December 17

9:30am - Timothy Smith - Family

### Friday, December 18

9:30am - Tammy Kazmierczak - Family

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Saturday, December 19

4:30pm - Tami Lynsky - Family

### Sunday, December 20

8:30am - Leonard Dybzinski - Russ & Carol Cordy

11:00am - Dominic Zunis - Dave & Terri Zunis

**Pray for the Sick: Pray for the Sick:** David Blackburn, Jose' Magiste, Leon Denomme, David Myers, Kathy Borowy, Jerry & Lee Severns, Bille Updegrove, Al Machovina, Pat Wracker, Cathy Buckland, Don Gates, Ken Schroeder, Shayne Reisinger, Dennis Frabotta, Bob Lewis, Carol Cordy, Alex Krutowskis, Guy Page, Pastora Galarza, Colette Williams, Gail Falk, Mary Welther, Jeff Frantz, Patrick Weir, Kevin Stanard, Randy Wrege, Mark Petricevic, Gladys Rising, Mike Kuchenrither, Laura Wickes and Jeff Pfeiffer.

Please call the Parish Office 440-926-2364, or email us at [info@olqpgrafton.org](mailto:info@olqpgrafton.org) to have a name of a friend or relative included in this list.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

**ADVENT SEASON:** You will notice in the daily readings for Mass this week a change beginning on Thursday. Starting on the 17<sup>th</sup>, the focus turns from preparing for Jesus' Second Coming to now preparing to celebrate His First Coming at Christmas. These are the days to read the infancy stories in the gospels of Matthew and Luke and to place yourself in each of the characters in the story. What are you seeing? Feeling? Smelling? What is God saying to you through these people and events? How is he using you today to tell the story of his love dwelling among us?

**CONFESSIONS** will take place in the Sts. Joachim and Ann room off of the Gathering Area. The main body of the church will not be open during this time and the waiting line will be in the Gathering Area, allowing for sanitizing after each confession. The obligation to attend Mass continues to be dispensed until further notice. The confession schedule is:

**Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>; 11:30-12**

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** With the current situation and strict social distancing guidelines, we will require our parishioners and guests to register and print out ticket(s) to attend Christmas Eve and Day services. We will be assigning seats for each registration in order to fit as many people as permitted into the church. Currently we are limiting tickets to 100 per Mass. If during registration we see we can accommodate more seating for a particular Mass, then we will add more tickets for that Mass.

To register go to our website [www.olqpgrafton.org](http://www.olqpgrafton.org) and click on the button "**Christmas Mass Tickets**".

You will not be able to enter the church without registering and bringing your ticket(s) to the Mass you selected. When you arrive an usher will escort you to your assigned seat.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but we are trying to keep all of our parishioners and guests safe and to allow us to seat as many parishioners as possible.

For those of you that do not have internet access or are having trouble registering online, please call the parish office and we will register you over the phone.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SIGNUPS:** There will be 5 Masses for Christmas as well as the 3 Masses on the weekend for the week of December 21 -27. We will need much help to cover all of these Masses. The Christmas Mass Schedule has been posted to the website. Many hands make light the work.

**Sympathy** to the families of **James Wracker and Jerry Logar** who recently died. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**PASTOR'S CORNER:** I have found Pope Francis' latest encyclical *Fratelli Tutti – On Fraternity and Social Friendship*, to be a very good reflection to read during these days of Advent waiting. If you go to the Vatican website you can not only find the document but you can also find “An overview of the Encyclical” which gives the highlights of each chapter. And if you want an even shorter summary you can read the “Quick Key” which is a two page summary.

The Holy Father calls us to hope. All men and women experience a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice, and love. Hope can look beyond personal convenience, security, and the trade-offs that limit our horizons, and open us to grand ideals (FT 55).

One of the results of the global pandemic is the realization of how much we need one another. Living in isolation is not comfortable because it is not normal. We are social people. During these Advent days of active waiting and during these pandemic days of waiting, contemplate the reality that we are all in this life together and that in community there is strength. How can we reach out during this time to assure others that they are not alone? We are preparing to celebrate our belief in our God who has come to dwell among us. How do we let those who are alone and isolated during these days to experience God's dwelling with them?

**WEGIVECATHOLIC:** It was a long day for Team OLQP, but thanks to 107 donors and a \$1,000 prize, we raised \$14,560 on Giving Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. We are grateful for all of your support and the monies raised were put in the reserved account of the church for the new flooring. It is still not too late if you would like to make a donation. You can drop your donation in the basket in the church, mail it to the parish office or use the “One Time Gift” button on the E-Giving site and add a note that this is for the WeGiveCatholic fundraiser. Thanks again for your generosity.

**RIGHT TO LIFE:** Our Lorain County Right to Life “Bring America Back to Life” billboard campaign will be somewhat different this year. In lieu of the sign up table after Mass in the Gathering area, we will be doing an online or mail-in campaign. Please visit: <https://give.cornerstone.cc/Lorain+County+Right+to+Life+bring+America+Back> to make an online donation to offset the cost of the billboards. If you prefer to mail in your donation, a form is available on our website. On behalf of Lorain County Right to Life we thank you for financial and prayerful support. Please respond by January 8, 2010.

**SHARING CHRISTMAS** which is run out of St. Vincent de Paul church, and which we were going to be a satellite on Christmas day for meal pick-up and deliveries, has been canceled and will aim for Christmas 2021. Helping Hands ministry is working to provide Christmas meal items in the food boxes that are distributed on December 19<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to make a monetary donation to help cover the Christmas meal items you can do so by dropping off in the basket at Mass, mail to the parish office or use the e-giving option. Thank you and please keep all those in need in your prayers.

**MEN'S FAITH SHARING** will be Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the parish hall. We will begin with a time of private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and then have our prayer and reflection time.

**OPLATKI:** Oplatki is available for \$2.00 on the counter by the Helping Hands box.

**YEAR-END GIVING:** In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life. As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2020, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds. *Even if you don't itemize your taxes, because of the new stimulus package passed by Congress, qualified charitable donations up to \$300 for individuals may be tax-deductible.* The CARES Act legislation also temporarily suspended the limitation on qualified charitable contributions of cash, allowing for a current year deduction (for those who itemize) up to 100% of AGI. **This provision is in effect only for the 2020 tax year.** And, if you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish.



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