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MASSES
Daily: Mon - Fri : 8:00 AM
Saturday 4:30PM LIVE,
Sunday 10AM LIVE and ZOOM
PENANCE Saturdays 2:30-3:30 PM

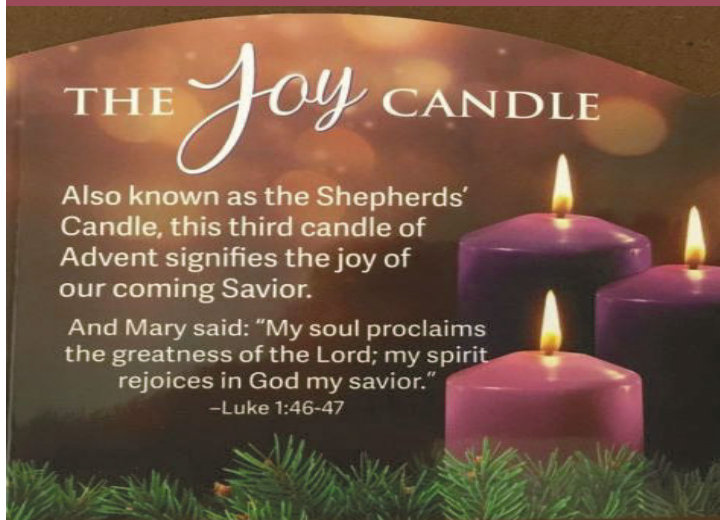


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Mission Statement:

"Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, disciples of Jesus Christ in Worcester, MA, reaches out with love into the neighborhoods to welcome, serve, support, and engage the community in Jesus. In creating a welcoming relationship with Eucharistic and prayerful celebrations, we gather to make a difference by coming closer to God and one another."

December 17, 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent



"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

~1 thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

Daily Rosary—Praying of the Rosary will continue after the 8am daily mass in the church on Monday through Friday and at 9:15am before the 10am Sunday Mass both Live and via Zoom. If you need the Zoom information, please contact the rectory.

Mass Intentions & Calendar

Sat, Dec 16

4:30 pm **Dorius Brodeur & Lorraine Kosiba** req by the family

Sun, Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom **Deceased Members of Pope John XXIII Council:**

Philip Brunelle and Anthony Coffone

11:00 am **Advent Breakfast** in church hall after mass

Mon, Dec 18

8:00 am **Sandra Packard** birthday remembrance req by brother and sister-in-law

Tue, Dec 19

8:00 am

Wed, Dec 20

8:00 am

Thu, Dec 21

8:00 am

Fri, Dec 22

8:00 am **Mary Ellen Dooher** req by Carol Roe Bergeron

Sat, Dec 23

4:30 pm **George and Emily Yankus** req by Cindy and Art
Janet Kunigonis 2yr anniv req by the family

Sun, Dec 24 4th Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass

SCRIPTURE READINGS

17 SUN Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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

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

20 WED Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

21 THU Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/
Lk 1:39-45

22 FRI 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

23 SAT Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/
Lk 1:57-66

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Advent Breakfast... This weekend is our last church event of the year....we will be having our Advent breakfast on Sunday, after mass. We are looking for raffle basket donations to raffle off and pastry donations as well. Let's make this a big last event of the year!!!



December Newsletter

The December newsletter was emailed and mailed on Friday, December 1st to those on our list. If you did not receive and would like to, please call or email us to let us know. Thanks.

Christmas Masses

Sunday, Christmas Eve at 4:30 pm
Monday, Christmas Day at 8:00 am
and 10 am.

On Sunday, December 24th, we will still have our Sunday morning mass at 10:00am to celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent and light the last candle.

Invite someone to Mass this Christmas Season!

So many messages during the Christmas Season are about coming home, being with family and friends. Consider inviting someone with you and your family to Mass this Christmas and experience the joys of the Christmas Season. It could be the greatest gift you give this year!

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

WEEKLY OFFERING

Due to the holiday coming up, all the bulletin deadlines have been moved up. The offertory for weekend of 12/9-12/10 will be in the 12/24/23 bulletin.

Thank you for your continued, generous support.
We appreciate your support of the church.

3rd Sunday of Advent

The third week of Advent, also known as "Gaudete Sunday," means we have passed the half-way point and Christmas is drawing near. The word gaudete means "rejoice," and at this point in our Advent journey our hearts should be filled with joy as we ponder the magnitude of Christ's birth. We mark this joyful time by lighting the one and only pink candle on the wreath. This candle is called the "**Shepard's Candle**," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. Throughout Advent, priests wear purple vestments, except on Gaudete Sunday, when they wear pink vestments during the mass.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

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 ©LPi

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CYCLE B

GATHERING HYMN

Comfort, Comfort, O My People

GENEVA 42



1. Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple, Speak of peace, now
2. Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing In the des - ert
3. O make straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er

1. says our God; Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
2. far and near, Bid - ding all to full re - pent - ance
3. plac - es plain; Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

1. Mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak un - to Je - ru - sa -
2. Since the king - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o -
3. As be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the

1. lem Of the peace that waits for them; Tell of all the
2. bey! Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
3. Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad; And all flesh shall

1. sins I cov - er, And that war - fare now is o - ver.
2. rise to meet him And the hills bow down to greet him.
3. see the to - ken That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 61:1-2A, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

LUKE 1: BENEDICTUS

Steve Angrisano and Curtis Stephan



SECOND READING

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

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. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" 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." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. ·

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Please respond: “Come Lord Jesus Come.”


Lord Jesus Christ, who by your gift of your Body and Blood, are really present in our lives, hear the prayers of the Church of Worcester. Give us the faith of your Church, confident in your presence in our Masses, our tabernacles and our lives. Give us the faith to offer our lives to you, joined with the perfect sacrifice, which you offered on the altar of the Cross. Good and loving Shepherd, teach us how to lead your children home, that we might long together to glorify your name at the Supper of the Lord. For you are Lord forever and ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

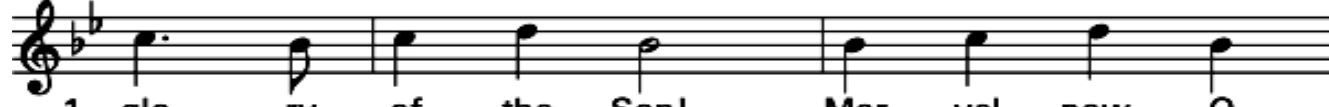
PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Savior Of The Nations, Come

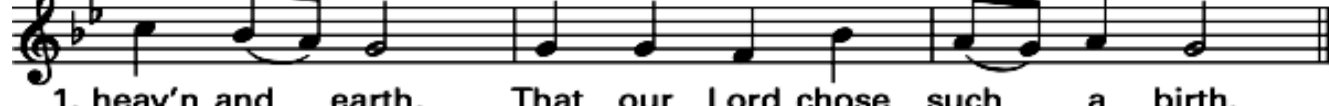
NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Show the
2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the
3. Won - drous birth! O won - drous child Of the
4. God Cre - a - tor is his source, Back to
5. Now your low - ly man - ger bright Hal - lows



1. glo - ry of the Son! Mar - vel now, O
2. spir - it of our God Was the word of
3. Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
4. God he runs his course, Down to death and
5. night with new - born light; Let no night this



1. heav'n and earth, That our Lord chose such a birth.
2. God made flesh, Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
3. man in one, Ea - ger now his race to run!
4. hell de - scends, God's high throne he re - as - cends.
5. light sub - due, Let our faith shine ev - er new.

HOLY, HOLY

MASS OF RENEWAL

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

MASS OF RENEWAL

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again

GREAT AMEN

MASS OF RENEWAL

OUR FATHER

SIGN OF PEACE

LAMB OF GOD

MASS OF RENEWAL

COMMUNION

Christ The Lord

Sarah Hart and Robert Feduccia



1. Dark - ness hangs, the world is ach - ing, Yearn - ing for the
2. As we wait with hope for res - cue Love de - scends and
3. Part - ing clouds re - veal his won - der: Might - y King in
4. On us now the Son is shin - ing, Lift - ing us to



1. com - ing light. In his ris - ing, hope a - wak - ing,
2. all is well. Proph - ets tell, "Your God is with us.
3. vic - to - ry. Trem - bling earth and roll - ing thun - der,
4. his em - brace. Shame is cursed, no more con - found - ing;



1. Love has come to steal the night. In our hearts true east we're
2. Heav - en's gift, Em - ma - nu - el." He is here, but hid as
3. Blaz - ing sun and quak - ing sea. Now he comes, our King, in
4. Lift your head and know his face. Love in - car - nate, breath in -



1. fac - ing, Toward the com - ing of our Lord. Morn - ing ris - ing,
2. low - ly In the poor and mys - ter - y. Where the bread and
3. glo - ry; Saints re - joice and dark - ness flees. Ris - ing rays of
4. dwell - ing, Now in truth is truth made known. We are his and



1. gloom now flee - ing; Christ re - turned! His word is true!
2. wine are of - fered He is here: our God and King.
3. light his char - iot, Christ the Lord has made us free.
4. he for - ev - er Is our God and he a - lone.

RECESSIONAL

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO



1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; Be - hold the
2. O blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
3. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
4. So come, my Sov - 'reign; en - ter in! Let new and



1. King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is draw - ing
2. rul - er is con - fest! O hap - py hearts and hap - py
3. tem - ple, set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
4. no - bler life be - gin; Thy Ho - ly Spir - it guide us



1. near; The Sav - ior of the world is here.
2. homes To whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3. ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4. on, Un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

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