

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Gaudete Sunday

December 14, 2025

„*And blessed is the one who does not lose faith in Me.*” Mt 11:6

Why did John the Baptist send his disciples to Jesus to ask whether He is the one who is to come, or whether they should expect someone else? Did he begin to doubt Jesus' mission? Had he prepared the way for someone other than the one who truly needed it? Or perhaps he wanted, in a way, to *prompt* Jesus to declare Himself clearly so that John's disciples could now follow Jesus with confidence - especially since John was in prison and his time was coming to an end? Maybe he asked not because of his own doubts but rather out of concern for the good of his disciples.

Jesus does not answer directly, but points to the concrete facts of His mission: healings, raising the dead, and proclaiming the truth about the Kingdom of God. From these signs, they are to answer for themselves whether He is the awaited Messiah or not - whether He is truly God or not. And what answer do I give to this question? If I hesitate, Jesus offers me a gentle hint: *“Blessed is the one who does not lose faith in Me.”* (Fr. WM)

Parish News

*During Advent, **food donations** can be placed in the containers at the back of the church.

***Friday, Dec. 19:** We ask for help in decorating the church for Christmas. Work will begin at 10:30 am.

***Saturday, Dec. 20:** Last Rorate Mass at 8 am. The Mass will be in Polish, with the Gospel and homily (Fr. Glen) in English. Please bring lanterns with you. Traditionally, after Mass, children and youth are invited to breakfast, and adults to coffee.

***The next Living Rosary meeting** will take place on Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

***Christmas Carol Concert** “Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace...” will take place on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026. The Holy Mass will be celebrated at 5 pm, and the Christmas Carol Concert will follow immediately after the Mass. Everyone is invited to participate. Let us sing for the glory of God and pray for peace. Soloists, choirs, family groups, and parish groups may perform. Registration by Jan. 11. Information and registration forms are available from Fr. Stanislaw.

***The last day to make donations** for 2025 is Monday, December 29. Donations made after this date will be recorded for the following year. Please begin using the new envelopes starting January 1, 2026, and destroy any old envelopes.

***The 2026 offering envelopes** are available for pick-up in the parish hall, along with the Christmas letter and program.


***We kindly ask parishioners to write their name and address** on their envelopes in January and February. This will help ensure that the envelope number is correctly assigned to the appropriate person.

***Hay for the Christmas Eve table** is distributed by the Scouts at the door. The offering supports their patrols.

***Bulletin Advertisements:** We are accepting paid business ads for 2026. Contact: Mirka: 519-253-5863, htcwindsor@dol.ca

***Donations Dec 7:** W-D \$4,200; B-F \$11,940 (D & G. Rodzik \$10,000); Christmas \$170; Flowers \$125; WMS \$20; Ursuline Sisters \$7,000 (D.G. Rodzik \$3,000) - Thank you! **Misson Bazaar:** \$6,685 + \$60 = \$6,745. **Thank you!**

Acknowledgment

 *We sincerely thank the Parish Council, the Ursuline Sisters, Parishioners, and all Guests for their beautiful and kind participation in the Mission Bazaar.* Thank you for your

prayers, preparations, attention to every detail, and the unity of hearts and hands. Special thanks to Sr. Anna and the group of ladies who prepared the gingerbread cookies, Mrs. Wanda Petrelli with her husband and sister for the exceptional decorations, and the Byra family for the wonderful Polish dinner. Thank you to the Charity Group and to everyone who baked cakes, made Christmas cards, prepared raffle items, and helped both beforehand and during the event. Thanks to our joint effort, generosity, and big hearts, we were able to raise funds to support the mission center in Sierra Leone, led by Fr. Łukasz Krupa. May God reward your goodness, strengthen your families, and bless you abundantly. God bless you! – Fr. Stanislaw

***We sincerely thank Fr. Slawek Szwagrzyk** for leading this year's Advent Retreat in our parish. His words, full of faith, simplicity, and depth, helped us enter the Advent season with greater trust and hope. We thank him for his teachings, sacramental ministry, and witness of priestly zeal. May God

bless Fr. Slawek with the graces he needs, and reward all the good he has given to our community. God bless you!

***On behalf of the Parish and the Ursuline Sisters, we sincerely thank Mr. and Mrs. D. & G. Rodzik** for their generous individual donation - \$10,000 to the Parish Building Fund and \$3,000 to the Ursuline Sisters. We are deeply grateful for your kindness, generosity, and support of our parish community and the Sisters' apostolic works. May God reward your goodness with abundant blessings. With gratitude and prayer –

Fr. Stanislaw and the Ursuline Sisters SJK

***The Ursuline Sisters sincerely thank all donors who supported our community with individual gifts.** Your kindness and generosity are a great support in carrying out our mission and apostolic works. May God reward you with abundant blessings. With gratitude and prayer - Ursuline Sisters SJK

Other Announcements

***The Nativity Play of the Polish School** on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 2 pm. in the Polish Hall. Rehearsal on Tuesday, Dec. 16 from 6 to 6:55 pm in the parish hall, and the final rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 20 after Rorate Mass, and breakfast from 9:15 to 11:30 am in the Polish Hall. There will be no Polish School classes that day.

***Scout Caroling** will take place on Jan. 3. Youth will visit families who previously expressed willingness to host them. If interested, please contact today: kph.windsor@zhp.ca

***YTOL Retreat** - The “Youth Teams of Our Lady” group invites youth aged 18–30 to a retreat from Dec 26–30 at St. Ignatius Retreat Centre in Deemerton, ON. Cost \$350. Contact Karolina Jach: 226-789-1228; email: ytolcanada@gmail.com

From the Diary of St. Faustina

“My joy is in God and in His mercy; whoever looks upon the Lord with trust, their heart is filled with peace and joy.” (635).

“A person who looks upon God with trust will find in Him the source of all joy and peace.” (1256).

Jesus to Sr. Faustina: “You are a great joy to Me; your love and humility make Me leave the thrones of heaven and unite Myself with you. Love bridges the chasm between My greatness and your nothingness” (512).

Jesus to Sr. Faustina: “You see what you are of yourself, but do not be frightened by this. If I were to reveal to you all the misery that you are, you would die of fear. Yet know what you are. And because you are such great misery, I have unveiled to you the entire ocean of My mercy” (718).

Prayer After the Advent Retreat

Lord Jesus, we thank You for the time of retreat, for Your word full of wisdom that opened our hearts to Your love and mercy.

We are grateful for the moments of reflection, prayer, and encounter with You in the Sacraments.

Grant that this Advent may be a true time of waiting for Your coming, so that we may prepare our hearts to meet You in our daily lives. Give us the courage to turn back to You, sensitivity to the needs of others, and the joy of serving our neighbors. May the light of Your presence shine in our days, and may hope and peace fill our hearts. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thought for Advent

Today, the Sunday of Advent, called “Gaudete” (meaning “Rejoice”), introduces us to a joyful mood of expectation. Advent is a time that calls us to reflect, convert and prepare for the coming of the Lord. However, on this special Sunday, the Church invites us to look with joy towards the mystery of Christmas, which is approaching quickly. The joy we celebrate today is not a momentary or superficial joy. It is a joy rooted in hope, based on God's promise. In the first reading, we hear the prophet Isaiah proclaiming consolation for the people of God. This consolation is not only about alleviating suffering, but about the promise that God comes to satisfy our deepest longings. Joy is also the theme of the Gospel, where John the Baptist announces the imminent coming of the Messiah. He speaks about Who is coming, but also reminds us that our hearts must be ready to meet Him. This readiness is an expression of our inner transformation – conversion that leads to true joy. Gaudete Sunday reminds us that our waiting for the Savior is not a sad waiting, but a preparation full of hope and joy for an encounter with Love that has the power to transform our lives. May this joy fill our hearts, so that we await the coming of Jesus with even greater faith and hope. *“Rejoice in the Lord always; I say it again, rejoice!”* (Phil 4:4) - may these words of the apostle Paul become our prayer during this time of Advent.

For children

***Sunday catechesis** during Masses at 9 am and 12:30 pm,

***Preparation for Holy Communion** on Saturdays at 12:30 pm in church.

***Children's Choir** A meeting for children who wish to praise God through singing will be held in the church basement every Sunday at 11:50 am.

***Rorate Masses** will be held every Saturday of Advent at 8 am. Please bring lanterns. Traditionally, after Mass, children and youth are invited for breakfast, and adults for coffee.

For youth

***Monthly meeting** - Sunday, Dec 15, after the 12:30 pm Mass.