

DECEMBER 16, 2018 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time

Sunday, Dec 16, 2018
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The forgotten wrong

In an affluent society, the sin rarely referred to is avarice. We redefine it as ambition, upward mobility, or simply "doing well." But the clutch of personal possessions is still the spiritual stranglehold it always was. The needle's eye isn't getting any bigger, and our modern camels still won't pass through. John the Baptist offers several key remedies. First, share what you have with those who don't have. Second, don't cheat, ever. Third, don't keep striving for more. Finally, be humble. These remedies for avarice are countercultural. They also prepare the way of the One who is coming.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18 "The crowds asked John the Baptist: 'What should we do?'*

Monday, Dec 17, 2018

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Trace your holy family tree

The internet has given a boost to the widespread fascination with genealogy. Any number of websites will do the research for people who want to find out more about their ancestors. Folks in the ancient world also took a keen interest in their forebears. For them, where you came from and who came before you had a lot to do with your social standing. It's not surprising, then, that Jesus got the ancestry.com treatment not once but twice in the gospels: in Matthew and Luke. While Matthew's version had some unexpected characters, it also traced Jesus back to David and Abraham and therefore made him worthy of great esteem. Advent is a good time to renew your acquaintance with Christian tradition. Read a good history of the church, like Paul Johnson's now classic *A History of Christianity* (1976).

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17 (193). "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."*

Tuesday, Dec 18, 2018

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Give measure for measure

Joseph, Mary's betrothed, is called a *righteous* man. That is an antique word best explained in terms of weights. A righteous weight is truthful in its measure. Joseph weighed the situation—pregnant fiancée, not his child—and originally determined the

most generous measure of his response: to get out of the deal and protect Mary without causing scandal. God, however, asked for more from this good man: to marry the woman and raise the child as his own. This baker's-dozen measure of what justice requires is still in force today. Pray that the Lord of justice will help you imitate Joseph's brand of benevolent giving.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25 (194). "This is the name they give him: 'The Lord our justice.'"*

Wednesday, Dec 19, 2018

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Turn your heart toward children

After hearing of a newborn king in Bethlehem, King Herod ordered the slaughter of all young male children in the village. Truth be told, it has never been easy to be a child. Historian John Boswell reveals in *The Kindness of Strangers* that child abandonment was a common and often accepted practice from antiquity until the Renaissance. Although strides have been made in child welfare, abuse, neglect, and exploitation are still alarmingly widespread. A society that puts children first has a great future to look forward to. Be a voice for those who are still learning to speak.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25 (195). "He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers toward children."*

Thursday, Dec 20, 2018

ADVENT WEEKDAY

The key to the mystery

With all the Advent talk of expectant waiting for new life, the reality for many families is that some of their sick and elderly are choosing this time of year to let go and go home to God. We hold these mysteries of birth and death together. If you are around death and the dying at this time of year—or any time—remember that a God who can bring life from Mary, a virgin, and Elizabeth, an elderly woman, can draw eternal life out of the bounds of death. **TODAY'S READINGS:** *Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38 (196). "She was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be."*

Friday, Dec 21, 2018

MEMORIAL OF PETER CANISIUS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH OR ADVENT WEEKDAY

How to get things done

Have you noticed there are only four more shopping days left till Christmas? Better get moving or there won't be enough time to put up the decorations,

finish sending Christmas greetings, get the food prepared, and clean up the house for the guests. Maybe you need to beg the intercession of today's saint, Peter Canisius (1521-97), who is known as the patron saint of getting things done. He said, "If you have too much to do, with God's help you will find time to do it all." Hey, it's worth a try. Otherwise, you might need to call on Saint Jude, patron of hopeless causes! **TODAY'S READINGS:** *Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45 "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."*

Saturday, Dec 22, 2018

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Generous Christmas to you

The constant jingle-jangle of ads this time of year reminds us that it is not too late to get into the "spirit of giving." Most of the time those words are followed by encouragement to run to the local mall for last-minute shopping, but there are many other ways to give as well. We can give of our time, lend an ear, share our table, make a donation, deliver a gift to those who are less fortunate. There are many ways to experience the special feeling that comes from an act of generosity. If there is magic to the season, that is surely it.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). "He has filled the hungry with good things."*

Next Sunday

Sunday, Dec 23, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cherish the future

TODAY'S READINGS: *Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45. "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."*

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

Dec. 15-16, Third Sunday of Advent

The communion antiphon for Gaudete Sunday invites the faint of heart to be strong without fear because God will save his people. Considering Auxiliary Bishop Daniel Garcia's episcopal motto, to "walk humbly with God" and having the heart of God, as long as we continue to follow and effect what is right and just in the world, the call of Christ on our lives will be a source of great liberty and happiness.



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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 5:30PM

For the repose of the soul Mike Martin, Elizabeth, William and William Phillips II, Gerry Donuhoue and Raleigh Haydel, requested by Derek Phillips

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 8:00AM

For the repose of the souls of, Joseph, and Daisy Linton, George and Mary Javey requested by Alice Javey-Linton

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 10:00AM

Thanksgiving Mass, requested by the Catholic Women's Organization

For the repose of the souls of Frank, Leona, Earl, Phrenel, Jim, Dock and Tony Coleman, Josephine Baker and Gladys Champagne, requested by John Hardeman, Jr.

TUESDAY, Noon Mass, December 18

Arthur, Gilford and Maude Baltrip, Sir Clefton Cobb, Terry and Ruth Johnson, Ella Collin, Marie Massey and Brandon Fontenette, requested by Karen Baltrip Cobb

WEDNESDAY, Noon Mass, Dec 19

Repose of the souls of Frank and Angie Laratta and Kaylin Nabors, requested by Chris & Kaye Crawford

THURSDAY, Noon Mass, Dec 20

For the repose of the soul of Kimberly Rene Scott, requested by Barbara Scott

FRIDAY, Noon MASS, Dec 21

Repose of the souls of Pierre and Lawrence Barre, Beatrice Roberts, and Edith Meadoux requested by Jennifer Brooks

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16, 2018

Mass 8:00AM
Rosary 9:30AM
Mass 10:00AM

Tuesday Dec 18, 2018

Noon Mass

Wednesday Dec 19, 2018

Noon Mass

Thursday, Dec 20, 2018

Noon Mass
Choir 6:00PM

Friday Dec 21, 2018

Noon Mass

Saturday Dec 22 2018

Vigil Mass 5:30PM

Weekend December 8/9 - 2018

OFFERTORY	\$3506.00
Children	21.00
E-GIVING	2,354.36
SVDP (E-GIVING)	110.00
SVDP	125.00
Retired Clergy	474.00
Immaculate Concept	223.00
Candles	126.00
Gift Store	375.00

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

*Our Christmas Lunch will be Sunday, December 23, 2018, 1:30PM; at Pappadeaux's (Research Blvd location), cost \$45.00 per person, includes drink and dessert, cash bar is available. **RSVP by December 16th**, See insert in bulletin, for your choice of menu*

*Entrée,
**But most importantly!
"Save The Date"***

DCYC

The Holy Cross Youth Group will be attending the 2019 Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference in Waco Texas on February 1-3. This year's conference theme is "To the Heights" and is set to be one to remember. The price for the entire weekend is \$100.00; this includes, DCYC registration, T-shirt, goodie bag, hotel, transportation, and food. Our hope is for all our youth to experience this amazing event filled with dynamic speakers, and worship with thousands of teens across our diocese. The deadline for registration is **December 30, 2018**. If you would like to make a donation or sponsor a youth, please see Felicia McClain, or Jennifer Brooks. Thank you in advance for your support, God loves a cheerful giver.

TRAVELING CHALICE

Thank you to these families who have received the Traveling Chalice into their homes and prayed for vocations for one week: The Michel Ukanda Family, Alice and Ron Scharfe, Tina and Tony Frank, Debbie Ruiz, and The Patrick Onyenaka Family, The Agwuncha Family, Marie Thompson and Ed and Elina Mullen, Johnnie and Dean Dorsey. This Sunday, the Traveling

Chalice will be returned by Sam and Cynthia King and received by Tammi Javey.

IGBO MASS JANUARY 27, 2019

Next IGBO Mass, is Sunday, January 27, 2019, 1:30pm. Help spread the news. All Catholics are welcome.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY: December 24/25, 2018, 11:30PM caroling by Holy Cross Choir, 12:01AM Midnight Mass.

TUESDAY: December 25, 2018, Mass 10:00AM

TUESDAY: January 1, 2019, Mass 10:00AM

The church office will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. If you are in need of a Priest, please call the church office, the phones will be monitored during the holiday.



CONSIDER HOLY CROSS IN YOUR WILL

Call the Church Office 512 472 3741

Weekend December 8/9, 2018

ATTENDANCE

VIGIL MASS	31
SUNDAY	
8:00 am	49
10:00 am	209