

**DECEMBER-Month of Divine Infancy**

The special name for this Third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudete Sunday* comes from the Entrance Antiphon. Rejoicing is the theme of the day; "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice". *Gaudete* is the Latin word for "rejoice". The rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath symbolizes rejoicing. We remember today that God is faithful and that Jesus will come again as he promised. On that day, every tear will be wiped away and there will be no more pain or death.

The Advent readings of Year C, the current Lectionary cycle, call for a joyful celebration of this liturgical time. They remind the hearer of God's faithfulness in fulfilling his promises. They emphasize that the coming of Jesus is Good News to hope and believe in. God is really the source of joy and we can pass on that joy to others. In the excerpt from the letter to the Philippians that we hear today, Paul encourages the people to look past their conflicts and troubles and rejoice because the Lord is near.

**FIRST READING** (Zephaniah 3:14-18a) On this day of rejoicing as the celebration of the Incarnation draws near, Zephaniah announces hope and declares the people must rejoice because God comes not with judgment but with merciful deliverance.

Joy resounds, The Lord, the King of Israel, the Savior, is in your midst. Note that the people experience joy at the Lord's presence and the Lord rejoices in his people.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6) Today's Responsorial Psalm is actually a hymn taken from the prophet Isaiah. Our antiphon is the last line of the third stanza and echoes the joyful realization of God's presence in the midst of Israel as heard in the First Reading. The stanzas are a confident and joyful hymn of praise to the Lord who is and has been experienced as Savior.

**SECOND READING** (Philippians 4:4-7) Contrary to those who might anticipate the coming of the Lord with trepidation, Philippians exhorts us to abandon fear and worry and surrender instead to joyful prayer. And we are not to shy from making our needs known to God. Peace should characterize our anticipation of Christ's coming—whether at the end of time, at Christmas, or in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

The theme of joy continues in this reading from the last chapter of Paul's letter to the Philippians. The nearness of the Lord that Paul speaks of is actually a reference to his Second Coming, which the first Christians believed would happen in their own lifetimes. Once again, Paul speaks of the attitudes and practices which should characterize the lives of believers as they prepare for this day.

**GOSPEL** (Luke 3:10-18) John the Baptist has very practical things in mind when he speaks of the behaviors that should characterize those who repent in expectation of the coming of the Lord. His words could well speak to our own manner of life. For the Baptist, for Luke, the coming of Jesus will be Good News for the faithful people who receive him. His coming will bring not only judgment, but the Holy Spirit, into the lives of believers.

John's responses are blunt and sparse to those who come asking advice: "Do this. Don't do that." His confidence is clear and he demonstrates a boldness that's born of his ability to see as God sees. His obvious authority prompts his questioners to ask if he is the Messiah, which he roundly denies by pointing away from himself to one who is more powerful. There is no false humility in his words and we sense his own longing for the one who will be the Good News he proclaims.



**Readings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent (C)**

Su	12/16	Zeph 3:14-18 • Is 12:2-6 • Philip 4:4-7 • Luke 3:10-18
M	12/17	Gen 49:2, 8-10 • Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17 • Matt 1:1-17
Tu	12/18	Jer 23:5-8 • Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 • Matt 1:18-25
W	12/19	Judg 13:2-7, 24-25 • Ps 71:3-6, 16-17 • Luke 1:5-25
Th	12/20	Is 7:1-14 • Ps 24:1-6 • Luke 1:26-38
F	12/21	SofS 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18 • Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 • Luke 1:39-45
Sa	12/22	1 Sam 1:24-28 • 1 Sam 2:1, 4-8 • Luke 1:46-56

**Anniversaries Dec 16<sup>th</sup> – Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>**

No anniversaries this week

**Birthdays Dec 16<sup>th</sup> – Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- 12/16 Elvia Garzon, Arturo Martinez
- 12/17 Etilcia Hendrickson, Erin Rudolph, Cheryl Spence
- 12/18 George Lombas, May Stuart
- 12/20 Alyssa Grissom, Nicolas Martin, Luis A. Portillo, Maria Vasquez
- 12/22 Erick Martinez, Adriana Ruiz

**FOOD DRIVE  
for Matthew 25:40**

Let's help fill Matthew's Food Pantry!!!  
Place donations in the grocery buggy  
in the foyer.

**SHARE WHAT YOU CAN**

**Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention**

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month. Only one intention is offered per month, whether universal or related to evangelization.

**DECEMBER: Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith**

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

**Funerals**

When planning a funeral for a loved one, please call the pastor before making any arrangements with the funeral home regarding the date and time of visitation, the funeral Mass or service at the funeral home.

**Hospitality Committee**

Holy Angels will provide a funeral luncheon if the family of the deceased requests one. The Hospitality Committee consists of several women from the parish who volunteer to host the luncheons. Someone from the committee will be calling on you for food and help when the need arises.

**SAVE THE DATE – WMOS 2019**

(Women's Morning of Spirituality 2019)

**Saturday, February 23, 2019** at Catholic Church of the Incarnation. Johnette Benkovic Williams, EWTN television host, will be the keynote speaker; and Sr. Rita Marie Kampa, O.P. will be our local witness speaker.

# HOLY ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Rev. Patrick Hirtz*

**DECEMBER  
Month of the Divine Infancy**

*"Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel."  
–Ps 12:2-3, 4, 5-6*

**December 16, 2018 — 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (C)**

**Holy Angels Catholic Church  
535 Tucker Street  
Dyersburg, TN 38024-3873**

**Office Phone: (731) 287-8000  
Parish Email: hachurch@cableone.net**

**[www.holyangelscc.com](http://www.holyangelscc.com)**

**Office Hours >>>**

M/W/Th 8:00am – 5:00pm  
Friday 8:00am – 3:00pm  
Office Closed on Tuesdays

**Parish Staff >>>**

**Pastor**  
Rev. Patrick Hirtz  
Email: [revhirtz@cableone.net](mailto:revhirtz@cableone.net)

**Deacon**  
Rev. Mr. William Winston (Deacon Bill)  
Coordinator of Social Ministries

**Office Manager**  
Pete Hinkel

**Administrative Assistant**  
Cathi Cychol Shea

**Music Director**  
Sarah Jean

**Nursery**  
Therese Cohen

**Maintenance**  
Richard Spence

**Director of Religious Education (PRE)**  
Carrie Beld (cell: 731-882-9151)  
Email: [nanacbeld@yahoo.com](mailto:nanacbeld@yahoo.com)  
Office Hours: Sunday 8:45a.m.--10:45 a.m.

**Youth Group Minister**  
Sarah Alley

**Mission Statement**

Holy Angels is a Catholic community of faith joining past, present, and future members on a journey with Christ to the Father. Through worship, stewardship, evangelization, and works of charity, we strive to more perfectly image God, who is love.

**Mass Schedule**

**Sat Vigil: 5:00pm**  
**Sun: 8:00am & 10:45am**  
**Daily Mass: M, W, F at 12 noon; Th at 9:00am**  
**First Saturday ONLY is at 8:00am**  
**(Holydays: See special announcement in bulletin)**  
**Penance - Sat: 4:30-4:45pm; Sun: 7:30-7:45am & 10:15-10:30am**  
**(and by appointment)**

**GAUDETE SUNDAY (Rose Sunday) – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. The day takes its common name from the Latin word *Gaudete* ("Rejoice"), the first word of the introit of this day's Mass. The season of Advent originated as a fast of 40 days in preparation for Christmas, commencing on the day after the feast of St. Martin (11 November), whence it was often called "St. Martin's Lent". Gaudete Sunday is a counterpart to Lent's Laetare Sunday, and provides a similar break about midway through a season which is otherwise of a penitential character, and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming. The spirit of the Liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas as well as for the second coming of Christ. While the theme of Advent is a focus on the coming of Jesus in three ways: His first, His present and His final Advent, the readings for Gaudete Sunday deal with rejoicing in the Lord — Christian joy — as well as the mission of St. John the Baptist and his connection with Advent. On Gaudete Sunday (also known as "Rose Sunday", rose-colored vestments are worn. In churches that have an Advent wreath, the rose-colored candle is lit in addition to two of the violet candles, which represent the first two Sundays of Advent. Despite the otherwise somber readings of the season of Advent, which has as a secondary theme the need for penitence, the readings on the third Sunday emphasize the joyous anticipation of the Lord's coming. In his 2014 Gaudete Sunday homily, Pope Francis said that Gaudete Sunday is known as the "Sunday of joy," and that instead of fretting about "all they still haven't" done to prepare for Christmas, people should "think of all the good things life has given you."

We welcome any visitors, including those who may not be of our Catholic faith. We pray that our celebration of the sacred liturgy today was a meaningful one for you. If you are a new member in the parish, complete a census form and return it to the church office. Census forms can be found in the foyer. To date we have 226 families and 664 members.

**WEEK OF DEC 16<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent (C)**

Sanctuary Candle - †In memory of Delmer McNeil (†7 yr anniv 12/19/2011)

Flowers - (Sat 12/15) Richard & Irene Leighton / (Sat 12/22) Rudy & Jeanette Meyer

12/16	Su	8:00am 10:45am	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> People of Holy Angels Repose of the soul of Charles West by Terrence & Susan West
12/17	M	12 Noon	Special Intentions of Lynn Rainey by Ed & CeLina Sumara
12/19	W	12 Noon 6:00pm	Repose of the soul of Helen Suhre by John Brunner <b>Filipino Christmas Tradition – Simbang Gabi</b> Repose of the souls of the Ruhanni Suan Family, the Jerome Betonio Family and the Janelito Betonio Family
12/20	Th	9:00am 6:00pm	Repose of the souls of Bill & Beth Haynes by Charles & Sandra Haynes <b>Mexican Christmas Tradition – Las Posadas</b> Repose of the soul of Judy Spitzenberger by Jim Kennedy
12/21	F	12 Noon	Repose of the soul of Don Fisher by Joan Fisher
12/22	Sa	5:00pm	Repose of the soul of Roger Charest by the Charest Family

**MEETINGS & SCHEDULED EVENTS**

12/17	M	6:30-8:00pm	<b>RCIA/AFF</b> (Adult Faith Formation) in Conference Room
12/19	W	6:00pm	<b>Simbang Gabi - Filipino Christmas Tradition</b>
12/20	Th	6:00pm	<b>Las Posadas - Mexican Christmas Tradition</b>
12/21	F	6:00pm	<b>Candlelight Service w/ Handbell Christmas Concert</b>
12/22	Sa	6:30pm	<b>The Polar Express Pajama Party</b>

**Dec 16-24 — Christmas Novena to the Infant Jesus** Amid the distractions we face as Christmas draws near, this novena helps us take time to focus on God's plan of mercy for mankind. As a way of preparing for festivities in the Middle Ages, people used to offer novenas of prayers for nine days, recalling the nine months our Blessed Mother lovingly carried Our Lord in her womb. During this month of December, as we look forward to Christmas, we recall the Divine Infancy of Christ. This month, let the paradox of Christ's birth and childhood strike us anew. December, the month of Divine Infancy, celebrates the divinity and humanity of Jesus Christ. The pairing of words in this title is a reflection of the mystery of Jesus' nature. We each are one person with one nature. However, Jesus is one person with two natures. He is fully God and fully man, that is, He is 100% God and %100 man, not 50/50, or any other percentage. Jesus' Incarnation is one of the most important moments in history and its memorial is prepared for in the liturgical season of Advent, a four week anticipation. A copy of this novena can be found on the flip side of the December Prayer List that was inserted in last week's bulletin. Extra copies are in the foyer. Have a very blessed Christmas!

**Dec 17<sup>th</sup> — The O Antiphons** The song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is one of the oldest Christian hymns and it is a great connection to the O Antiphons. From December 17<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December, we mark seven days with a special antiphon known as an "O Antiphon" that is read/chanted before the Magnificat during Vespers (evening prayer) in the Liturgy of the Hours. The name is taken from the exclamation that starts each one and hence they are called the "O" Antiphons and they herald for us the coming of Christ into the world. They summarize the hopes of the people in the Old Testament who waited for the coming of the Messiah. The titles of Jesus used in the antiphons are all titles of the Messiah, rooted in the prophecies of Isaiah. Easily incorporated into individual or family prayer, they are the most important of the Church's unique prayers during these days:  
**17<sup>th</sup> - O Wisdom** Chapter 24 of the Book of Sirach speaks of Wisdom as coming from God and foreshadowing the Divine Word who is Jesus;  
**18<sup>th</sup> - O Adonai (O Lord of Might)** The Messiah would be a powerful Lord. In previous times, this powerful Lord was hidden but now his power and his person will be seen clearly;  
**19<sup>th</sup> - O Root of Jesse (O Flower of Jesse's Stem)** This refers to Jesus' relationship to David. Joseph, Jesus' earthly father, was a descendant of the line of David;  
**20<sup>th</sup> - O Key of David** David and his descendants (Joseph and Jesus) would hold the key that would unlock heaven; 2  
**21<sup>st</sup> - O Morning Star (O Dayspring)** The Messiah will be like the dawn bringing the hope of a new day. Even death will not stand in his way;  
**22<sup>nd</sup> - O King of Nations (O Desire of Nations)** The Messiah will not be a Savior just for the house of Israel, but all nations will be ruled by this Prince of Peace;  
**23<sup>rd</sup> - O Emmanuel** Emmanuel means "God-with-us" and is a term that applies to Jesus in the gospel (Mt 1:23). The O Antiphons and a song like "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" points to what Pope Benedict XVI calls the very connection between memory and hope. The Pope noted: "Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

**Collection Report for 12/9/18**

Reg Coll		\$1,785.97
Online donations		\$765.00
Total Reg Collection		\$2,550.97
<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$3,516.00</b>	<b>-\$965.03</b>
Reg Disbursements		\$11,157.27
Votive Candles		\$50.00
Mary, Mother of God		\$25.00
Immac Conception		\$237.00
Christmas		\$25.00
Latin America		\$6.00
Retired Religious		\$385.00
Villa Vianney		\$60.00
Christmas Flowers		\$329.00
B/M Collection:		\$45.00
B/M Disbursements:		\$124.74

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collections for December**  
 12/16 Decorations/Sanctuary Needs  
 12/25 Villa Vianney  
**December Special Collections**  
 12/25 Christmas Envelope

**PRE attendance – 12/9/18**  
 Present: 72 of 112 (64.2%)  
 Absent: 33 (7 excused; 26 non-excused)  
**REMEMBER -- you must call or email your excuse into CARRIE BELD, DRE**  
 cell: 731-882-9151  
 Email: [nanacbeld@yahoo.com](mailto:nanacbeld@yahoo.com)

**Attendance**  
 (226 families / 664 parishioners)  
 12/9 ??-77-73 ..... 150

**Alb Care Volunteers**  
 Dec – Kathy Yarbrow  
 Jan – Judy Boehmler  
**Altar Linen Care Volunteers**  
 Dec – Carri Stegeman  
 Jan – Debbie McAndrew

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
 On the foyer table is a notebook labeled "ALTAR FLOWERS". Inside this notebook is a calendar. If you would like to dedicate the altar flowers for a specific weekend Mass the suggested donation is \$25 per Mass or \$75 for all 3.  
**Write your name & dedication on the date** and put your money in an envelope marked "altar flowers" and drop in the collection basket. Thank You!

**During Cold and Flu Season**  
 We ask that you please be mindful of others when receiving the cup at Holy Communion. If you are ill or recovering from a cold or the flu, it might be best to refrain until you are better. Also, please do not be offended if parishioners do not wish to exchange a handshake during the Sign of Peace until after the flu season has passed.



**2018 Catholic Charities Annual Campaign**

*Serving Dignity and Hope. Building Self-Sufficiency.*

**Week III - Fig Tree Emergency Services**

Catholic Charities provides food and clothing to those in need through our food pantry, mobile food outreach and clothing closet. More than 20,000 individuals received help from the Fig Tree Emergency Services program last year. Please support the work of CCWT during this season of Advent in their annual campaign. Please donate at [ccwt.org/new-donate/](http://ccwt.org/new-donate/) or by returning the envelope found in the brochure mailed to your home.

**2019 Parish Calendars** The 2018 parish calendars are now available at the main entrance of the church and on the shelves under the bulletin board in the foyer. Please take one per family.

**Dec 19<sup>th</sup> — Simbang Gabi/Filipino Christmas Tradition/Mass at 6:00pm** The Christmas novena Simbang Gabi includes nine days of Masses and is part of the Catholic Filipino culture. Traditionally it was celebrated for the fisherman at the break of day (when the rooster crows and wakes them to go fishing) and to allow the farmers to hear Mass before going to the fields early in the morning. The novena's Masses are celebrated at times when many can easily attend. The last Mass of this novena is truly the "Mass of the Rooster" (Misa del Gallo), and a star-shaped lantern reminds the assembly of the star that led the Magi to the Blessed Infant. Processional movement with the lantern, plus feasting, are part of Simbang Gabi devotional celebrations.

**Dec 20<sup>th</sup> — Las Posadas/Mexican Christmas Tradition/Procession at 6:00pm** *Las Posadas* (meaning "lodging or inn") comes from Mexico and Central America, and narrates the story of the Holy Family seeking a place to stay and have their baby, in Bethlehem. Distinctive lyrics and antiphonal song characterize this nightly enactment, often carried out by an entire community and ending with Mass and a piñata for the children. The last night of Las Posadas finds the Holy Family in the center aisle of the church before Mass begins at midnight, asking for lodging, and the congregation responds in song, "Enter, enter, holy pilgrims....All I have please call your own." As the United States of America welcomes large numbers of Latino cultures, this devotion encourages hospitality to all migrants and refugees, while celebrating Hispanic culture with processions, prayer, music (and yes hot chocolate) during Advent. **§ Tamales & Tostadas will be provided. See sign-up sheets in the foyer for goodies for the children's treat bags, desserts & drinks. §**

**Dec 21<sup>st</sup> — Candlelight Service with Handbell Choir Christmas Concert** The 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church Handbell Choir will present a Christmas Concert under the direction of our Music Director, Sarah Jean. Come listen to these ringers express their love for music. The concert will be at 6:00pm in the sanctuary of Holy Angels. Everyone is welcome! **§ Wine & sherbet punch will be provided. See sign-up sheets in the foyer for appetizers & finger foods. §**

**THE POLAR EXPRESS Pajama Party**

Saturday, December 22 at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall  
 ALL ABOARD!! Come experience The Polar Express in your jammies!!  
*The bell still rings for all who truly believe*



**Jan 5<sup>th</sup> — Youth Group Salvation Army Soup Kitchen** Help us be the hands of Christ on the first Saturday of every month starting January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 9am--1pm at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. Join our Youth in this ministry.  
 Contact Sarah Alley [salleyalley1969@gmail.com](mailto:salleyalley1969@gmail.com) or cell 731- 445-2922

**SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism** - A preparation class is required of the parents requesting Baptism for their first child. Parents and godparents are encouraged to attend the class before the baby's birth. (Scheduled as needed.)

**Confirmation** - Confirmation is celebrated in the spring with students who are at least in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and have completed the requirements for the preparation process in our PRE program.

**Matrimony** - Couples planning to marry should contact the Pastor at least 5 months prior to the proposed date so all parish and diocesan requirements may be completed.

**Holy Orders** - If you feel called to a vocation in the priesthood or religious life, please contact the pastor.

**Anointing of the Sick** - If you wish to receive this sacrament, contact the pastor. If there is an emergency situation, an immediate family member should contact the pastor.

**Nursery**

The nursery is located in the classroom next to the kitchen in the parish hall. The nursery is open to children birth to 4 years.

**Notify the Parish of a Seriously Ill Family Member**

If a family member has been admitted to the hospital or is ill at home and wants it to be announced at the Masses so our parish community can pray for their intentions, please contact the parish office and let us know. We will only do this with the permission of the sick person or a member of his/her family.

**Bulletin Announcement Deadline**

Announcements for the bulletin must be received in writing by 12 noon on Monday to be printed in the following Sunday's bulletin.

**To report abuse in Tennessee**

If you suspect a child is in imminent danger from abuse, call **911** immediately. To report *known* or *suspected* child abuse, contact:

**Tennessee Dept of Child Protection**  
 1-877-237-0004

**For more information**  
 Director of Child Protection  
 901-359-2027

**Diocesan Victim Assistant**  
 Coordinator  
 901-652-4066

(9/5/2018)

**FORMED** – To sign up FREE of charge as a parishioner of Holy Angels Church, go to [www.holyangelscc.formed.org](http://www.holyangelscc.formed.org), click on the "REGISTER NOW" button and establish an account. After doing so, you'll have access to a wealth of material to grow in your faith. Please take advantage of this opportunity to benefit yourselves and others.