



St. Regina's Church Staff

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Remember In Prayer

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019

Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting
joy.

REASON TO REJOICE

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and “the coming of the Lord.” But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as *Gaudete* (Latin for “rejoice”) Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing.

Today’s first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God’s saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God’s presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah’s prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus’ presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: “The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” (Matthew 11:5).

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We make transitions along life’s journey, and search for meaning. Watch an infant take those first wobbly steps. Inevitably they are toward the arms of a dear one, and the gleeful smile and wordless laughter let us know that the baby understands that the whole world is renewed in an instant. Parents may see that wide-eyed smile again some years later as they flip car keys in the teenager’s direction, and by God’s grace at in-between moments of forgiveness and affirmation.

Sacraments open a window to the blessings of everyday life and help us claim their deep meaning. A voice from a fiery bush warned Moses to take off his shoes because he stood on “holy ground.” Your first steps, your first word, taking your place at the family table, stirring to new love, forgiving and being forgiven: all of this is holy, laden with meaning, full of possibilities. Sacraments are not escape pods from the realities of the everyday; rather they invest us ever more deeply in life and recruit us for the kingdom inaugurated by Jesus. We take baby steps all our life long. In the world of sacrament, they are always directed toward the arms of a loving God, and always on the common holy ground of a community’s life.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalm — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

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

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

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

Friday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

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

Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7;
Mt 1:18-24

Coming Events

No PRE December 22nd or December 29th. Classes resume on January 5th.

The Office will be closed Monday through Thursday, December 23rd to December 26th.

Father Anthony will be leaving for vacation on December 25th, after the 11:00 am Mass at St Regina. He will return on Saturday, February 1st, in the evening.

Deacon Moss will have a class for those interested in the ministries of Lector and Eucharistic Minister. The class will be about an hour and a half Saturday at nine o’clock the date will be chosen later by those wishing to attend and ok’ed with Deacon.

The box for our Christmas family is in the front please be generous. The children a boy and a girl both are size 4t and the little girl wears size 5 diapers. The box and gifts will be given to the family on Sunday Dec 22nd



PERSPECTIVE

A mountain shames a molehill
until they both are humbled by the
stars.

Dec 22nd

LECTOR MAURISIO
E/M FLORENCIA/ANITA
USHERS OLIVIA/JPEACH
SERVERS JESUS

Offertory 12/8/2019

BUDGET \$1351.00

ACTUAL \$ 114100

-\$210.00

B&M

\$50.00

**CHRISTMAS
FLOWERS**

\$30.00