



Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

-- Thessalonians 5:16



Daily Mass

Week of December 18th – 22nd

- Monday: 8:00 Paolo Marigonda+
- Tuesday: 8:00 Gary Rinehart+
- Wednesday: 8:00 Wendy Massi+
- Thursday: 8:00 Michael & Mary Ann McBride+
- Friday: 8:00 Viola Ann Simmons+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Marian Flandrick, Mike Abell, Sunny Ray, Tara Singh, Kerrie Roye, Mark Lutz, Michael Carter, Rufus Smith, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini, Pamela M., Rita Jurin, Julia and Cecilia Uyeda.

Weekly Collection	December 10 th
Plate	\$10,807.00
Religious Retirement	\$1,843.00

From
Father Leo



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday or Rejoice Sunday. We light the rose colored candle on the Advent wreath. The Presider at Mass has the option of wearing rose colored vestments.

In the first reading, the Prophet Isaiah writes: "Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you."

The coming of the Lord is near, but staying focused on the true significance of his arrival can be a struggle. If we are not careful, this can become a season in which we "rejoice" in the superficial and the material. It is easy to lose sight of what is holy and important.

In this week's gospel, Jesus proclaims that he has come to heal, to bless and to save.

If we acknowledge our need for healing, blessing and saving, we will be prepared to experience the joy of Christmas. We will rejoice in the Lord! And he will rejoice in us!

Love, Fr. Leo

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24th

5:00 p.m. – Family Mass

9:00 p.m. – Christmas Carols

9:30 p.m. – Mass

Christmas Day – Monday, December 25th

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Mass

Feast of the Holy Family – December 30th

5:00 p.m. – Mass

Sunday, December 31st

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

New Year's Day – January 1, 2024

9:00 a.m. – Mass



An Evening of Caroling!

Christmas Caroling returns! We'll be singing all the Yuletide favorites this Sunday, December 17th, beginning at 4:30 p.m. We will sing for roughly an hour, assuming that Fr. Leo finds our efforts of, *The Twelve Days of Christmas* satisfactory. Hope to see you there!

Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!

As We Await The Coming Of Emmanuel...

***Taize & Adoration Service* -- Wednesday, December 20th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Measuring Success!

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles that one has overcome while trying to succeed.

-- Booker T. Washington



Boy Scout Tree Lot!

The Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot is now open! Piedmont Scouts, including Corpus Christi's Troop 6, are again operating a Christmas Tree lot located at Coaches Field, 890 Moraga Avenue in Piedmont. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., until all the trees are sold. A great selection of Silvertips, Noble and Douglas firs, as well as wreaths, garlands, mistletoe and tree stands are available. The Scouts and volunteers can help you select a tree and load in onto your vehicle. Home delivery is also available for an additional fee. You can also shop online at: www.scouttreelot.org and pre-order a tree, then schedule a delivery or come to the lot for pick-up. This is the Scouts biggest fund raiser of the year. The Boy Scouts wish the community of Corpus Christi a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season!

2024-2025 Corpus Christi School Applications!

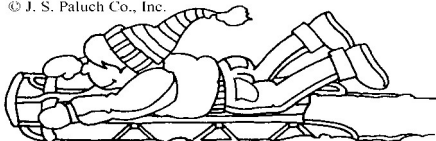
Are you thinking about joining our School community of Corpus Christi? Do you know someone who is looking for a new school? Tell your friends and neighbors that our application for the 2024-2025 School Year is now available on our School website! The application deadline for submission is Friday, January 12th, so encourage them to apply now. Thanks for helping us spread the word!

More Than Disciples!

Each of today's four scriptural roles -- disciple, prophet, apostle, herald -- forms a facet of our life in Christ as we live it day by day. Isaiah tells us that a prophet is anointed, as we were anointed at our baptism in water and the Spirit, to bring glad tidings and to promote God's reign of healing, justice and peace. An apostle, like Paul, is one who is "sent." Each of us, in his or her own way, is sent by Christ to be a voice of rejoicing, to encourage prophetic voices in the world and to make sure that the work of the Spirit thrives. John the Baptist shows us the job of the herald, making the Lord's way straight, announcing the coming of the Light of the World.

Today, we also hear from Mary, model disciple. Her song, the Magnificat, shows us the world we must believe in and work for: one in which God is praised, where God's favor is bestowed on the humble, where the hungry are filled and the rich are sent away empty, a world that continues to know and rejoice in the mercy of God that lasts for all ages.

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**Readings For The Week
December 18th -- 23rd**

- Monday: First Reading Jeremiah 23:5-8;
Psalm 72;
Gospel Matthew 1:18-25
- Tuesday: First Reading Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a;
Psalm 71;
Gospel Luke 1:5-25
- Wednesday: First Reading Isaiah 7:10-14;
Psalm 24;
Gospel Luke 1:26-38
- Thursday: First Reading Song of Songs 2:8-14;
Psalm 33;
Gospel Luke 1:39-45
- Friday: First Reading 1 Samuel 1:24-28;
Psalm 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;
Gospel Luke 1:46-56
- Saturday: First Reading Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24;
Psalm 25;
Gospel Luke 1:57-66

Today's Readings!

First Reading -- As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

Psalm -- My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

Second Reading -- Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

Gospel -- I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

Please Note!

The Living Our Faith Ministry meeting, scheduled for Saturday, December 23rd, has been cancelled. The date for the January meeting has not yet been set, but will be announced soon!

An Old English Prayer!

Give us, Lord, a bit of sun
a bit of work and a bit of fun.
Give us in all the struggle and sputter
our daily bread and a bit of butter;
Give us health and our keep to make,
and a bit to spare for others' sake;
Give us, too, a bit of song,
and a tale, and a book to help us along.
Give us, Lord, a chance to be
our goodly best, brave, wise and free.