

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12-13, 2009

Sunday Lectionary Readings

This Week's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18
 Next Week's Readings: Micah 5:1-4; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Scripture Reflection

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday, which means, "Rejoice." This is the theme of the first two readings that remind us "the Lord is in our midst" (1st reading) and "the Lord is near" (2nd reading). As many of us read these words, we might think, "Look at the mess our world is in! If the Lord is near, where is he? If the Lord is in our midst, why doesn't he do something to make the world a better place?" People from all ages have probably had these thoughts; we are not unique in this regard. And, although we might think that the rejoicing inherent in Gaudete Sunday simply means that Christmas is fast approaching, it means so much more. The reign of God *is* closer than it was a year ago or even yesterday, even though it might not be as close as we would like it. Do we live as if we believe this? Do we live in joy, confident in God's promises, and do our small part to usher in God's reign? Or, do we sigh about the state of our lives or the world, hoping that someone else will take care of it all?

Let Us Pray For Those in Need of Prayer

Curt Motton (*son-in-law of Charlotte Franklin*), Mary Beth Harry, Sr. Esther Bataille, Jo van Gaal, John Douglass, Marie Oberle, Sandy Neubauer, Annette Froehlich, Peter Landry, Fr. Bob Judge, Evelyn Steinrock, Terry Hawthorn-Nan, Kathleen Jones, Martha Moyer, Caylee Crews, Sr. Mary Louise Lynch, MMS, Riley Davis, Colette Bleistine, Kyla Zeilinger, Carol Tiffit, Colette Danek, Jane Schaberg, Paul Joop, Pat Kane, Natalie Barringer, Marion Jervey, Paula LaSalle, Barbara Cheles, Mary Smith, Ruby Strawberry, Bob Twynham, John Garvey. *Names will be listed for 6 weeks. If you would like a name listed for an additional 6 weeks, please notify the rectory).*

Let us pray for our deceased: Toine Valkenberg, father of Pim Valkenberg

This Week's Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec 12, Natalie Brooks, <i>deceased</i>	Thursday, Dec 17, Jean Ann von Briesen Sweeney, <i>deceased</i>
Sunday, Dec 13, Robert Leo Blatchley, <i>deceased</i>	Friday, Dec 18, Bea Ross, <i>deceased</i>
Monday, Dec 14, Andrew Bozzelli, Sr., <i>deceased</i>	Saturday, Dec 19, Dr. Bob Pitkiewicz, <i>deceased</i>
Wednesday, Dec 16, Thomas O. Wood, <i>deceased</i>	Sunday, Dec 20, Carolyn Chin, <i>deceased</i>

Collection Update

Last Weekend's Offertory: \$5,661.00
 Last Weekend's 2nd Collection for the benefit of the Retired Religious: \$1,196.00
 This Weekend's 2nd Collection will benefit our Community Center and outreach ministries.
 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection will benefit our Community Center and outreach ministries.

This Week at Corpus Christi

Sun, Dec 13, 9:15 am	Sunday School / Coffee Café	Midtown / Rectory
Sun, Dec 13, 11:30 am	Hospitality	Church 1
Mon, Dec 14, 7:00 pm	Liturgy Committee Meeting	Rectory
Wed-Fri, Dec 16-18, 6:00 pm	Misa De Gallo Mass	Church
Wed, Dec 16, 7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Rectory
Thu, Dec 17, 7:00 pm	Pastoral Council Exec. Comm. Meeting	Rectory
Sat-Sun, Dec 19-20, after Mass	Sister Parish Coffee Sales	Church
Sat, Dec 19, 5:00 pm	Misa De Gallo Reception	Rectory

Coming Up at Corpus Christi

Mon-Wed, Dec 21-23, 6:00 pm	Misa de Gallo Mass	Church
Thu, Dec 24, 4:00 pm	Christmas Family Mass	Church
Thu, Dec 24, 10:00 pm	Christmas "Midnite" Mass	Church
Fri, Dec 25, 10:30 am	Christmas Day Mass	Church
Mon-Fri, Dec 28-Jan 1	Parish Offices Closed	
Fri, Jan 1, 10:30 am	New Year's Day Mass	Church

Visit our website at www.corpuschristibaltimore.org for our more complete calendar of events.

Congratulations to Christopher Cutillo and Tara Markowski, married this Saturday at Corpus Christi!

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWS

Help Send Christmas Greetings To Our Sister Parish

Please stop by after the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, December 13 to send a short Christmas greeting to our brothers and sisters in Sepalau, Guatemala. We will supply paper and markers, then scan and email the greeting for Adela, who is in Guatemala City, to take home to the village for Christmas. Or, email your greeting to msweeney@law.umaryland.edu. We are taking advantage of modern communications to send Christmas well wishes to our friends in the village!

Shop Online and Benefit Corpus Christi!

If you plan to shop online, you may be able to benefit Corpus Christi with your order. First, visit the GoodShop.com website – www.goodshop.com. Next, search to see if the online store you plan to shop at is part of the GoodShop program. Finally, enter “Corpus Christi Church (Baltimore, MD)” as the beneficiary of your purchase. (Be sure to verify that it is our parish, because there are several Corpus Christi’s in their database.) Click on “Shop Now!” and a portion of your purchase will benefit Corpus Christi. Try it! It works!

Misa de Gallo – Dec 16-24

Join us in this Filipino custom of celebrating Mass for the nine days before Christmas. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday thru Friday, Dec 16-19, and Monday thru Wednesday, Dec 21-23. Weekend Masses will be celebrated at their usual times. There will be no 12:10 p.m. weekday Mass during Misa de Gallo. Also, consider joining us for a potluck Misa de Gallo reception after the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, December 19.

Christmas Liturgy Memorials

We would like to offer our Christmas liturgies, including their environment, flowers, decorations, and programs, in memory of loved ones who have passed away. A special Christmas Memorial Bulletin will be distributed listing the names of the individuals remembered and the donors. We request a \$5 donation for each individual remembered. If you would like to participate, please fill out the envelope, found on the table in the back of church, and drop it in the collection basket or rectory mail slot no later than Sunday, December 20.

Having Trouble Deciding on a Gift?

Consider giving an Alternate Gift this Christmas season to honor a friend or family member (living or deceased) to be used for the community center, sister parish, church sanctuary, maintenance of our church buildings, or the parish endowment. Alternate Giving packets are in the back of the church. To make an alternate gift, complete and return the large alternate giving card in the self-addressed envelope in the packet, together with your donation, to the rectory. There is also a smaller card and envelope in the packet that you may send to the one you are honoring or to a member of their family.

Christmas & New Year’s Schedule

Plan for our holiday Masses: Christmas Eve, December 24, 4:00 pm. (family Mass) and 10:00 pm (“Midnite Mass”); Christmas Day, December 25, 10:30 am; New Year’s Day, January 1, 10:30 a.m. There will be a choir prelude to Christmas “Midnite” Mass, beginning at 9:45 pm.

Food Allergies? Gluten Intolerance?

Corpus Christi has low-gluten (<0.01% gluten) altar bread for individuals with celiac disease or other wheat intolerances, as well as hosts prepared in dedicated kitchens without risk of peanut contamination. If dietary restrictions require you to receive these hosts at communion, please see Fr. Rich.

BEYOND CORPUS CHRISTI

Church Leadership Institute, Winter Session

Church Leadership Institute classes will begin the week of January 11, 2010. For more info, visit our website, www.archbalt.org/cli or call 410-547-5470.

Pilgrimage to Italy and Germany

The Catholic Review newspaper invites you on a 10-day pilgrimage – May 18-17 -- to Italy, Austria and Germany, including viewing of the Shroud of Turin and the 2010 Oberammergau Passion Play. Other cities include Milan, Innsbruck, Salzburg and Munich. Mass will be celebrated daily. Tour price of \$3,899 per person includes airfare from Baltimore/Washington area and accommodations in first-class and superior first-class hotels. For a brochure or other information, contact The Catholic Review at 443-524-3150 or cdavis@catholicreview.org.

Picturing the Birth of Christ in Medieval Manuscripts

The Walters Art Museum hosts *The Christmas Story* exhibit, December 3-February 28. This exhibition draws on the extraordinary holdings of the Walters Art Museum, and an anonymous private collection, to illustrate the Christmas story in the way that it has been understood for centuries, with Books of Hours and Missals from around the Christian world. Admission is free. 410-547-9000 or www.thewalters.org.

Beans & Bread Needs Volunteers

At Beans & Bread Center, we try to meet the many needs of the hungry and homeless in Baltimore city. We currently are looking for volunteers to help feed approximately 300 persons daily on 12/24/09, 12/29/09, 12/31/09, 1/5/10 and 1/7/10. Contact Erin Shutt at erin.shutt@vincentbaltimore.org or 410-732-1852 ext. 111 if you are interested in volunteering.

Ongoing Education in Theology and Spirituality

Washington Theological Union is offering a three-part series entitled, “Discernment: Discovering God’s Presence and Action in Life,” presented by Dr. Edward McCormack, PhD, on Saturday afternoons: January 23, 30 and Feb. 6, 2-4 p.m. To register, please contact Katherine Kandefér, BVM, kkandefer@wtu.edu or 202-541-5222.

Social Ministry Convocation

Saturday, March 6, 2010. Seton Keough High School. “Peace, Poverty, and Mother Earth”. Keynote: Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS. Attend 2 workshops: Practical Living of “Love in Truth” *How Communities Resist Energy Exploitation *Save Energy, Money, the Planet! *Local Environmental Issues *Eat Simple. Live Simple. Change the World. *Earth Is in the ER: How as People of Faith to Respond? *ABCs of Parish Social Ministry *Minorities & Workplace Environment *Precious Water: Cause of Global Conflicts? *Teach Peace! Registration mailing will be sent in early January. For information or to get on the mailing list: Carol Palmer, cpalmer@cc-md.org; 410.261.6780