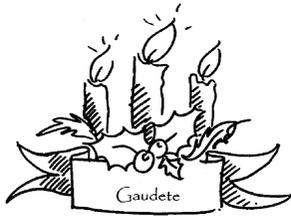


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Joy to The World

Today John the Baptist points his finger at the scribes and the Pharisees. As religious leaders, the scribes and the Pharisees might have thought they were beyond repentance, but John makes no distinction between the sinners and the religious.

Repentance is a challenge for each and every one of us to take a good long look at ourselves. We might be nice people; we might have kind and caring dispositions; we might have values and good intentions, but what legacy do we leave in practical terms? How important is it to a starving child on the other side of the world that we go to church on Sunday? How much does it matter to someone lonely, sick poor or marginalised that we sit and read our bibles each night? Today we are being asked to put our money where our mouths are. Our faith is void if we don't live by it. We are asked to share by giving up our time and our money. We are asked to share by not exploiting others.

Before we can firmly celebrate the joy of Christmas, we are asked to ensure that the less well-off are also experiencing the joy of Christmas in practical terms, food warmth and security. We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift. Today we are asked to experience the same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing.

Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we've got.

Bitesize – 'If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.' ~ Dalai Lama



PARISH PRAYER – Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love might grow among us and your kingdom come, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Useful links: Diocesan Safeguarding – <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/>
 Diocesan Website – <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>
 Notre Dame High School, Norwich – <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>
 Daily Liturgy Website – www.universalis.com

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST. MARGARET MARY [Registered Charity 278742]

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Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: michaeljwking@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

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16TH DECEMBER 2018 – 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C

[3rd Week of Advent, Weekday Year I, Psalter Week 3]

Mass Times for the Week			Intentions
Sat. 15 th Dec.	6.00 pm	3 rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) <i>[Parish Mass Book p87]</i>	People of the Parish John Perkins Maria Alexandra Coito Pita
Sun. 16 th Dec.	9.00 am 11.00 am		
Mon. 17 th Dec.	10.00 am		
Tues. 18 th Dec.	-	Advent Feria	No Mass today – PP's day off
Weds. 19 th Dec.	10.00 am	Advent Feria	Barnwell Family
Thurs. 20 th Dec.	10.00 am	Advent Feria	Macdonald Family
Fri. 21 st Dec.	10.00 am	Advent Feria	Maria Heald
Sat. 22 nd Dec.	-	Advent Feria	No morning Mass.
Sat. 22 nd Dec.	6.00 pm	4 th Sunday of Advent	Tony, George & Agnes Harmer Francis Lynch People of the Parish
Sun. 23 rd Dec.	9.00 am 11.00 am		

Music for 3rd Sunday of Advent – *Setting:* The Belmont Mass

Entry: 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 851 – Awake, awake: fling off the night!

Psalm is sung at 11am Mass this week - R. *Sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

Offertory: Hymn 881 – God of day and God of darkness ...

Recessional: 11am – Angelus (said); Hymn 112 – O come, O come, Emmanuel ..

Anniversaries this week: Evelyn Flanagan, Pat Chapman, Gabriel Shelley, Frances Shaw, Margaret Doherty, Patrick Keatley, Agnes Harmer, Mary Lingwood, Priscilla Louise Reavey,

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday at 5.30pm, or by request/appointment

The parish newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

Patricia Huizar, Florence Sayer, John Thomas Macdonald, Kit Blackburn and Terence Blakiston. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits: If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn (QEII), and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St. John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or call the NNUH Hospital Chaplaincy direct on 01603 287470 for people needing urgent spiritual attention, or for visits to QEII Hospital, call Fr. Peter Rollings on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament or Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – **Please pray for:** David Peek, Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Peter Gormans, Sarah Chaudri, Rita Smith, Carol Whitesides, Catherine (Kay) Garrard and Robert Nicol.

Money Matters: Thank you for your contribution to the day-to-day maintenance of our parish, which amounted to £473.30 last weekend and for contributions amounting to £437.00 by Standing Order during November.

The collection taken during the Christmas Masses is the traditional Christmas offering to the Parish Priest.

This weekend, there is a retiring collection for the Diocesan Dependent Priests' Fund after all Masses. There are Gift Aid envelopes available for this collection at the back of church.

130 Club Draw for November 2018 - 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 71; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 186; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 162; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 79; 5th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 22.

Diary Dates for this week -		
Sun. 16 th Dec.	2.00pm	Children's Nativity Play – in the Church.
Tues. 18 th Dec.	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group - Emmaus Room
Weds. 19 th Dec.	7.30pm	Carols at St John's Cathedral, Norwich – <i>see item opposite.</i>
Sat. 22 nd Dec.	Saturday Club is on Christmas holidays. Classes resume 5 th January.	

Gaudete Sunday - Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments can be worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

A Christmas Celebration at St John's Cathedral, Norwich – An evening of Christmas carols and motets with the Cathedral choirs and brass ensemble on **Wednesday, 19th December at 7.30pm**. Tickets £10, under-16s free – includes glass of mulled wine. Tickets available from the Cathedral shop and Cathedral website: www.sjbcathedral.org.uk. See the poster at the back of church.

Foodbank – All the Christmas boxes have been done now but if anyone is wondering what to donate, there is a particular need for size 4 nappies at the moment.

Christmas Mass Times –



Christmas Eve

- 6.00pm (Private Int.)
- 10.00pm (Private int.)



Christmas Day

- 10.00am (Int.: People of the Parish)



There will be Christmas Carols for 30 minutes before each Christmas Mass.

Readers, Lay Ministers of Communion and Offertory Collectors – Volunteers are needed to assist with the Christmas Liturgy – if you will be attending one of the Christmas Masses, please could you help by signing up for one of the vacancies on the Christmas Mass rota at the back of church. Thank you very much.

Altar Servers' Mass: 26th December, Feast of St Stephen (Boxing Day) at 12 noon – All Altar Servers are asked to attend Mass and renew their commitment in the Guild of St. Stephen at 12 Noon on St. Stephen's Day (Boxing Day). Three new Servers will also be enrolled at the Mass.

Union of Catholic Mothers – UCM members are kindly reminded to check their pigeon holes in the letter rack for their copy of the minutes from the December meeting.

UCM Gift Stall – The Union of Catholic Mothers extends its grateful thanks to the parish for their help in supporting the UCM's fund-raising activities over the past weeks. The sum of £448 has been raised which will be given to various charities in the New Year. The raffle has been drawn and a list of prize winners is on the notice board.

Epiphany Candlelight Mass: Saturday, 6th January, 5.00pm - A celebration for all young people and their families from across the Diocese. Followed by hot dogs, a bonfire and fireworks. There will be a collection of presents for children who are refugees (please bring wrapped presents and indicate whether suitable for a boy or girl or either, and approximate age). Held at The White House, 21 Uppgate, Poringland, Norwich. Organised by the Diocesan Youth Service.

The Angelus

☩. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. **R.** *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary ...*

☩. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. **R.** *Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary ...*

☩. And the Word was made flesh. **R.** *And dwelt among us. Hail Mary ...*

☩. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. **R.** *That we may be made worth of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may, by his Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.