



## Third Sunday Of Advent -Year C

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** "Let us work for the good of all, and especially for the family of the faith" (Galatians 6.10b).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish through the liturgy, faith formation and sacramental life, provides opportunities for members to develop their faith and service to others.



### Saturday, Dec. 15

**4:30 pm**-For the repose of the soul of Jack Tyo by Pauline and family

### Sunday, Dec. 16-Third Sunday of Advent

**9:00 am**-For the birthday intentions of Brianna Hamilton by her family

**10:45 am**- For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

### Tuesday, Dec. 18

**7:00 pm**

### Wednesday, Dec. 19

**8:30 am**-STA

**9:30 am**-OLMM

### Thursday, Dec. 20

**9:00 am**- For the repose of the soul of Raymond Parenteau by Denise Parenteau

### Friday, Dec. 21-St. John of the Cross

**9:00 am**- For the repose of the soul of Jared Oldford and for the intentions of his family by the Baker family

### Saturday, Dec. 22

**4:30 pm**-For the birthday intentions of Miled Nahri by Nellie Nahri

### Sunday, Dec. 23-Fourth Sunday of Advent

**9:00 am**-For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

**10:45 am**- For the repose of the soul of Jared Oldford by Kathy Mack

~IN OUR PRAYERS~

For the sick among our families and friends especially:  
Pam Latour, Genny Detillieux, Alice Lavigne,  
Melanie Joannette, & Marie Kirkham

### YOUR OFFERINGS FOR:

December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018-\$4,219.00

Thank you for your generosity and support

### INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR 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.

**Please Note: The office will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

### A Brief Examination of Conscience Based on the Ten Commandments

**I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.** Have I treated people, events, or things more important than God?

**You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.** Have my words, actively or passively, put down God, the Church, or people?

**Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.** Do I go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) and on Holy Days of Obligation (Jan. 1; the Ascension; Aug. 15; Nov. 1; Dec. 8; Dec. 25)? Do I avoid, when possible, work that impedes worship to God, joy for the Lord's Day, and proper relaxation of mind and body? Do I look for ways to spend time with family or in service on Sunday?

**Honor your father and your mother.** Do I show my parents due respect? Do I seek to maintain good communication with my parents where possible? Do I criticize them for lacking skills I think they should have?

**You shall not kill.** Have I harmed another through physical, verbal, or emotional means, including gossip or manipulation of any kind?

**You shall not commit adultery.** Have I respected the physical and sexual dignity of others and of myself?

**You shall not steal.** Have I taken or wasted time or resources that belonged to another?

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.** Have I gossiped, told lies, or embellished stories at the expense of another?

**You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.** Have I honored my spouse with my full affection and exclusive love?

**You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.** Am I content with my own means and needs, or do I compare myself to others unnecessarily?

### Christ's Two Commandments

How well do we love God and others? Do we love as Christ calls us to? In the Gospel of Matthew, Christ gives us two Commandments: He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.

Blessings!  
Have a great week.

DECEMBER 16, 2018

**Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?  
WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration  
form found in the foyer or in the office.  
You may bring the completed form to the office**

**What's Happening This Week**

- Mon.-Dec. 17 -Bible Study-7:00pm-hall
- Tues.-Dec. 18- CGS-Level three-4:30-6:30pm-hall
- Tues. -Dec. 18-Adult choir-7:30-church

**The 2019 envelopes are now available for pick up in the foyer.**

**Advent Penance Service**

Advent is a time to "make straight the way of the Lord." The best way of preparing the way of the Lord, therefore, is to rid our hearts, through the sacrament of reconciliation, of those clutters that may impede Christ from coming into our hearts, so as to make room for Him. So please join us on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm for our Parish Advent Penance Service. Visiting priests will be available.

**Notre Dame Cathedral's Christmas Concert:** The choirs of Notre Dame Cathedral will present a Choral Celebration on Sun., Dec. 16, 2:30 pm. Young and old, friends and family, all come together to sing our joy at welcoming Jesus into our world. Free will offering. Followed by a reception in the parish hall. Info: 613-241-7496.

**"Called and Gifted" Spiritual Gifts Introductory**

**Workshop :** At St. Mary's Parish, 100 Young St. Presented by Catherine of Siena Institute. Sat., Feb. 23, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Cost: \$50 for member of St. Mary's Parish; \$60 for non-member. Info and registration: [spiritual.gifts@stmarysottawa.ca](mailto:spiritual.gifts@stmarysottawa.ca) or 613-728-9811 x734. Come and discover the charisms the Lord has given you.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Penitential Service**

Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> -7:00pm

**Christmas Eve**

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> -4:30pm-(STA)

-7:00pm (OLMM)

-9:00pm-(OLMM)

**Christmas Day**

Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>-10:00am-(OLMM)

**New Years Eve**

Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup> -4:30pm

**New Years Day**

Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, -10:00am

**Turning Pink With Joy On Gaudete Sunday**

Why is one candle not like all the others? Advent and its counterpart, Lent, are seasons of penitence. On the Advent wreath, the three purple candles mark the preparation Christians undergo while awaiting the arrival of Christ on earth.

But, unlike Lent, Advent is usually a happy season, full of food, parties, shopping, music and lights. In the retail world, Christmas begins right after Halloween and then kicks into overdrive on the day after thanksgiving. Many people mirror this, barely putting away the leftover turkey before putting up every Christmas decoration they own. While this calendar is fine for secular society, it has nothing to do with the Child at the heart of the season. He won't be here until Christmas Eve, and all the early bird sales in the world won't speed that up.

That's why it's traditional to refrain from putting the Christ Child into a Catholic church's nativity manger scene until the appointed moment. So, why do we need a reminder to rejoice on the Third Sunday of Advent, called Gaudete Sunday (Latin for "rejoice")— by lighting a rose-colored candle on our wreaths and having priests wear rose-colored vestments at Mass? Because the happiness that comes from fun and friends and a full belly is not the same thing as Christian joy.

Pope Francis once talked about the difference between happiness and joy: "To be happy is good, yet joy is something more. It's another thing, something, which does not depend on external motivations, or on passing, issues: it is more profound. It is a gift. To be happy at all moments, at all cost, can at the end turn into superficiality and shallowness. This leaves us without Christian wisdom, which makes us dumb and naïve, right? All is joy ... no. Joy is something else; it is a gift from the Lord."

If joy is a gift from the Lord, then the Lord Himself is our first and greatest gift, and the only one that will never tarnish or break or fade. Gaudete Sunday reminds us that the gift has not yet arrived, but it's very near. It takes its name from the first word of the Introit, "Gaudete in Domino Semper," which is Latin for the introduction of Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord always." To continue with Philippians, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again, rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." So even though you may be having happy times during Advent, Gaudete Sunday is a moment to stop and reflect on the source of true joy. And if the Advent season has brought causes for stress and sorrow into your life, then lighting the rose candle is an opportunity to take heart and refocus on what the Mass of Christ is all about.