



Third Sunday of Advent – Year C

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life”. (John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous members to develop their faith and service to others.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 14th – St. John the Cross

4:30pm Repose of the souls of the deceased members of the Rosary Apostolate

Sunday, December 15th – Third Sunday of Advent

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the soul of Gerry Redsell by his family

Wednesday, December 18th

9:30am Intentions of Noah Texmo by the Gambell family

Thursday, December 19th

9:00am Blessings and intentions of Brandon Amador on his 18th birthday by the Amador family

Friday, December 20th

9:00am Repose of the soul of Toni Lynn Caron by Tom and Leslie Joiner

Saturday, December 21st

4:30pm Blessings for Stuart and France Beare on their 39th wedding anniversary by the Dumais family

Sunday, December 22nd – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the souls of Pauline Harper and Cy Powers by Dale and Lorraine Harper

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, that 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 costs, can in 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.

Intentions of the Holy Father for December FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Have you moved or changed your phone number in the past two years? If so, please get in touch with the office with your updated information so we can input the information for the upcoming tax receipts. Thank you.

December 15, 2024

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 or drop in the collection basket.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th ~ 4:00 pm
~ 6:00 pm
~ 8:00 pm

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th ~ 10:00 am

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31st ~ 4:30 pm

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1st ~ 10:00 am

CHURCH DECORATIONS & FLOWERS

Parishioners can help beautify the church for Christmas by making a donation for church flowers and decorations in the name of a departed loved one. The names of the donors and the names of their departed loved ones will be published in the church bulletin at Christmas. If you have a loved one you would like to honor in this way, please fill out the envelope found in the pews including your donation. The deadline for envelopes to be in is December 15th. Thank you!

OLMM Spiritual Library

Do you have a suggestion for books for the Spiritual Library?

The Spiritual Library committee would like to purchase some new books for the Christmas season – children, youth, and adults. Please give us your suggestions. Contact: Jane Munro 613-443-3692.

INSPIRE

Catholic Women's League members' passion is to inspire women, to grow in faith, and to witness love of God through ministry and service. Need inspiration or have inspiration to share? Join the OLMM CWL.

Please pick up your 2025 donation envelopes in the foyer. The envelopes are only for those parishioners who are not on automatic payment. For the special collections throughout 2025, there will be envelopes in the pews. **NOTE THAT YOUR ENVELOPE NUMBER MIGHT HAVE CHANGED.** Please do not reuse the previous year's donation envelopes for 2025.

Waupoos Family Farm.

Our parish has been asked to sponsor two sisters and their 4 children this year.

This is the information on their children: Boy, age - 10, Girls ages - 9, 6, and 3. There is a sign-up sheet and a list of gift ideas in the foyer. Please bring your labeled unwrapped gifts to the church foyer before Sunday, December 15th. For any additional information, please contact Karen Urlocker at 613-445-2962 Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting families in need at Waupoos Family Farm!

If you are in grades 7-12, come to the Youth Group, where we have fun, fellowship, food and more! Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month in the hall, from 7-9pm. Our next night is Friday, December 20th. If you have any questions, contact Chris Smith at 613-223-7582 or email youthgroup@olmm.ca

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 12401 CORNER


- The Knights wish to extend a sincere thank you to all parishioners who joined us for our parish breakfast last week. Thank you for supporting Council 12401.
- All baby bottles in support of the Miriam Centre can be returned to the box at the back of the church. Please have all bottles returned no later than Sunday December 22. The Knights of Columbus, council 12401 thank you for your support.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
7:00 - 8:30PM ET



PRAYERS
FOR MORE

SIGN UP FOR PROPHETIC PRAYER MINISTRY.

 SERVANTSOFTHECROSS.CA