

Gaudete Sunday of Advent—Cycle A
December 11th, 2016

In the person of Jesus, God has come to heal and save us. Patiently, yet joyfully, we await the fulfillment of his advent.

Opportunities to Worship This Week:

Sat. 12/10, 6PM (Vigil-Third Sunday of Advent)-John Robison III+
Sun. 12/11, 8:30AM (Third Sunday of Advent)-Kirk & Elaine Kerchner+
Thurs. 12/15, 6:30PM (Weekday)-Aaron Crosby+
Fri. 12/16, 8:00AM (Weekday)-Patty Brunell+
Sat. 12/17, 6:00PM (Vigil-Fourth Sunday of Advent)-Dennis Milligan+
Sun. 12/18, 8:30AM (Fourth Sunday of Advent)-Larry McClure+

Sacrament of Penance

Anytime by Appointment/
Fri. mornings after Mass

Mass Attendance

Saturday
Sunday

Anointing of the Sick: Call the rectory any time when anointing of the sick is needed. In the absence of Fr. Martin-Edward, call Peg Garrison, Denise Zurliene or Jim Thompson and they will contact a deacon.

Prayer List:

Way-Fair Nursing Home – Kimberly Buchanan

Garland Keck, Lanora Neavill, Ute Ferido, Leon Chamness, Jack Ciesielczyk, Sharon Reyling, Dan Kinsolving, Brenda Belangee, Jim & Jane Mowry, Phyllis Laird, Kurt Wiseman, Stacy Winkeler, Nanette Williams, Julie Griffith, Gina Williams, Emilee Stanley, Noreen Reeves, Maddox Oppenheimer, Paula Zdan, Sara Kerchner, Charles Drechsel, Shirley Byars, Dorothy Baylor, Eva Decker, Matthew Rorban, Kathy Bramlet, Virginia Winkeler, Tom Colvin, Jim Lawler, Sydney Lawhon, Justin McKnight, Ryan McGehee, Teresa Williams, Andy Reyling, Andrew Mayo, Zeth Frank, Jan Mrozek, Robyn Meagher, Sheila Zurliene and all priests who are sick.

Saturday, December 17, 2016

Lector: Mike Oppenheimer
E. Mins: Sally Conley, Diana Zurliene
Ushers: Nick Zurliene, Don Zurliene
Gifts: Ray & Sally Conley
Servers: volunteer

Sunday, December 18, 2016

Mike Ferido
Don & Ginny Barrett
Teresa Williams, Libby Pond
Kent Ochs Family
Jeff Zurliene, Garion Sheraden

Our Daily Scripture Readings:

Monday:	Zec 2:14-17	Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13	Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25	Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Is 54:1-10	Lk 7:24-30
Friday:	Is 56:1-3a, 6-8	Jn 5:33-36
Saturday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10	Mt 1:1-17
Sunday:	Is 7:10-14	Mt 1:18-24

“One Thing I ask of the Lord, and this I long, to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.” (Ps.27, 4)

That should be our daily prayer

That should be our daily desire

That should be our daily wish.

Third Sunday of Advent – Come to save us.

That is our prayer. It is God’s promise. How do we know? Our own eyes will show us. Our own ears will tell us. The feeble are made strong. The frightened do not fear. The blind see. The sick are healed. The poor are cared for. Jesus’ ministry of healing and mercy is evident everywhere. At this mid-point of Advent, this time of waiting for the Second Coming of Christ is not a passive waiting in easy chairs. It is active. It is robust. It is filled with behavior as if Jesus is right here, right now. Because he is! In what ways can his ministry of healing and mercy be my own?

~Who needs a ride to doctor or grocery?

~Who needs a visit to ease loneliness or fear?

~And let me recite Psalm 146:6-10 all week – it sings of mercy works.

Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; Who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, give food to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free; the Lord give sight to the blind. The Lord raises up those that were bowed down; the Lord love the just. The Lord protects strangers; the fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. ALLELUIA.

Psalm 146:6-10

TIME CHANGE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY MASS: THE NEW TIME IS 11:00AM. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND MASS THAT DAY. THANK-YOU AND SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

THANK-YOU

The ladies of St. Ann Altar Society, St. Stephen Church, Flora, wish to thank those ladies of St. Edward Parish who brought sweets for their Cookie Walk last Saturday. The Cookie Walk was a big success and we are grateful for your help and thoughtfulness.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

We will be purchasing the Christmas Flowers for the church soon. If you would like to donate in Memory or in Honor of a loved one please place in collection basket marked “ For Christmas Flowers” with the name or names of who they are for. Thank-you.

The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

The ministries and programs that rely on The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal ensure the healing, teaching, and redemptive presence of Jesus Christ for the people of our Belleville Diocese. Yet, their work cannot continue without your help and support. We ask for your continued prayers for the success of the appeal and, if you are able, please consider making a gift. No amount is too large or small. Thank-you and God Bless.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2017

The 44th Annual National March for Life is January 26-28, 2017. Join us and thousands of others from across the nation for this huge pro-life gathering in the nation’s capitol. Have questions or need more info? Want to sponsor someone to go on the trip? Contact Doug Lugge by phone 618-476-9505 or email jdlugge@gmail.com. Registration forms and info are also on the Diocese of Belleville Respect Life’s website at www.RespectLife.catholicweb.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUN, December 11: St. Edward Christmas Party (Mass 8:00am)
MON, December 12: St. Stephen—6:30pm—Our Lady of Guadalupe
WED, December 14: Penitential Service at St. Stephen’s 6:30pm
SUN, December 18: PSR 9:30am (last class until Jan. 8th, 2017)
SAT, December 24: CHRISTMAS EVE MASS—St. Edward 6:00pm/music at 5:30pm.
St. Stephen 10:30pm/music at 10:00pm.
SUNDAY, December 25: CHRISTMAS DAY MASS—St. Stephen 9:00am
St. Edward 11:00am
NO WEEKDAY MASSES: December 26th thru 30th.