

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Please Pray For All The Sick

Barbara Correa, Annie Hurley, Gregory Kelly, Fred Weber, Miyanna Figueroa, Brian Cabral, Mariana Weglinski, and Aissa Aro.

And we pray for those whose death anniversaries occur about this time that they may live in glory forever with God and all the Saints.



Rejoicing amidst the Darkness

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." These are the words proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for Gaudete Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord.

In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead He says, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as 'the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing –sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death – can take that love away.'

So joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24)

Religious Book Sale

The Heralds of the Gospel will be at the Parish on the weekend of December 16 & 17, to offer "St. Faustina and the Divine Mercy", a book designed to introduce children and even adults to the profound message of Divine Mercy in an engaging and accessible way. After all Masses, we kindly invite you to pick up a copy of this wonderful book for a suggested donation of just \$5.00, a very nice Christmas gift. Let's come together as a parish community to embrace the message of God's infinite love and mercy, and share it with the next generation.

Thank you for your support!



Advent Confessions-Tuesday, December 19th, 2023

7:00pm to 9:00pm

Christmas Eve-Sunday, December 24th, 2023

5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm and 12:00 midnight

Christmas Day-Monday, December 25th, 2023

10:00am and 12:00 noon

Tuesday, December 26th, 2023

Morning Mass at 9:00 am

Wednesday, December 27th, 2023

Morning Mass at 8:30 am

New Year's Eve-Sunday, December 31st, 2023

5:00pm 7:00pm

New Year's Day-Monday, January 1st, 2024

10:00am 12:00 noon

Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024

Morning Mass at 8:30 am

Christmas Eve and Midnight Masses – Livestreamed

New Year's Eve Mass – Livestreamed



BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL & PARISH OFFICE

CHRISTMAS HOURS

Please note the Parish Office will be opened on December 24 and 31st until 12 noon.

Closed on December 25th, 26th and January 1st.

***There will be no 8:00 am mass on December 24th & 31st ***

Blessed Sacrament Chapel will be closed from December 24th to December 26th and December 31st to January 1st inclusive.

From December 27th through to January 5th the church, office will be closed at 4pm. There are no evening hours for Church, Chapel and Office.

Regular hours will resume on January 6th, 2024.



PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Appointments will be booked before and after mass this weekend December 16 & 17. New dates are available for booking - January 7, 8 and 9. Let's make the best St. Martin of Tours Parish Photo Directory ever!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th, 2023



Masses For The Week

8:30 am Monday, December 18

For the repose of the souls of Polly & John Fava;
Requested by Polly & George Grasso

Special Intentions and Healing for Joseph Leite;
Requested by the Rebello Family

For the repose of the soul of Abraham Tiamzon;
Requested by Linda

8:30 am Tuesday, December 19

For the repose of the soul of Rosie Valenzuela;
Requested by Jezzee & Derrick

For the repose of the soul of Carmelo Cini;
Requested by Stephen & Odette

For the repose of the soul of Carolina Vicente;
Requested by the Family

8:30 am Wednesday, December 20

For the repose of the soul of Jose Fernando Serrao;
Requested by Maria Serrao

For the repose of the soul of Susan Clemente Marcial;
Requested by Vida & Ernesto Nerona

8:30 am Thursday, December 21

For the repose of the soul of Siluva Pitchai;
Requested by Thomas & Family

For the repose of the soul of Alejo & Ambrosia Costales and Amable Costales;
Requested by the Family

For the repose of the soul of Anna Jushkevich;
Requested by Stephen & Odette

8:30 am Friday, December 22

For the repose of the soul of Isagani Hortillo;
Requested by Cecilia Hortillo and Family

For the repose of the souls of Emilia & Benita Ayson;
Requested by the Family

Special Intentions and Healing for John Marco;
Requested by the Family

9:00 am Saturday, December 23

For the repose of the soul of Natalie Percuklijevic;
Requested by the Family

For the repose of the soul of Maria Ba Giao Yen;
Requested by the Lai Family

Special Intentions and Birthday Blessings for Riley San Pedro;
Requested by the Hortillo Family

5:00 pm

For the repose of the soul of Celia Anzures-Riddle;
Requested by Leticia Halili

For the repose of the soul of Ramon Bollozos;
Requested by the Family

For the repose of the soul of Kenneth Hill;
Requested by Liam & Annie Hurley

10:00 am Sunday, December 24
For the Intentions of the Parishioners.

12:00 pm - Multiple Intentions

- + S.A. Moses
- + Selliah Daniel
- + Ennio Maniccia
- + Cole and Ava D'Souza

Special Intentions and Healing for Marihanesam Bala

5:00 pm

For the repose of the souls of Joseph Patrick & Sebastian Pillai;
Requested by the Family

7:00 pm

For the repose of the soul of Bento Pereira;
Requested by the Cordeiro Family

9:00 pm

For the repose of the souls of Immaculada and Antonio Machado;
Requested by the Family

12:00am

For the repose of the soul of Carlos Melo;
Requested by the Family

PARISH ACTIVITIES

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 18

7:00 pm Knights of Columbus General/Xmas Meeting-C. Hall
LINE DANCING CANCELLED

Tuesday, December 19

7:00 pm Rise Young Adult Choir Practice – Assisi Room
7:00 pm Advent Confessions - Church
7:30 pm RCIA – Carmel Hall

Wednesday, December 20

10:00 am Funeral - Church

Thursday, December 21

7:30 pm Choir Practice - Church

Friday, December 22

6:00 pm Children's Choir Practice – Church
6:00 pm God's Family Choir Practice – Assisi Room
LINE DANCING CANCELLED

2024 Tax Receipts

To be eligible for tax receipts for donations made in the 2023 year the deadline is Sunday, December 31, 2023.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th, 2023

*Thank you to everyone who generously donated to
Last week's offering. Weekly Total: \$6326.50*