

Third Sunday of Advent - December 16, 2012
 The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
 you have no further misfortune to fear.
 -- Zephaniah 3:15b

SCRIPTURE THEME:

REJOICE!

Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work.



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Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

This, we are assured on all sides, is "the season of joy." Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

The usual request for funds to help in placing flowers on the altar for Christmas will be taken up at all the Masses this weekend. As with most things flowers are expensive. A contribution by everyone - large or small - will enable us to fittingly decorate the sanctuary for the celebration of Christmas - Christ's Birth. Thank you.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

This group meets on the **first and third Tuesday** of each month at 6:30 PM in the Allen Memorial Home located at 735 S. Washington Avenue. If you, or someone you know needs assistance, please call 545-1230.

Mass Intentions

Week Beginning Sunday, December 16, 2012

Sunday December 16	8:00 AM 10:30 AM.	Chester Clancy Parishioners
Monday December 17	12:10 PM..	Anna & Harold Paige & Family
Tuesday December 18	12:10 P.M.	Deceased Members of the McGill Family
Wednesday December 19	12:10 PM	James Finnessey
Thursday December 20	12:10 P.M.	Robert Nance
Friday December 21	12:10 P.M.	Thomas E. Stanton
Saturday December 22	8:00 A.M. 4:30 P.M.	Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Sexton (L) Harvey Cash (L)

TITHES AND DONATIONS:

We are grateful for your tithes and donations of \$3,873.94 for the week ending December 2, 2012. Thank you.



Christmas and New Year Schedule

2012-2013

Christmas Eve December 24:

Sacrament of Reconciliation

3:30 PM– 4:15 PM

Vigil Mass 4:30 PM

Midnight Mass—Doors open at

11:00 PM

Music Program begins at 11:15 PM

Mass at 12:00 Midnight

Mass on Christmas Day

December 25 - 10:30 AM

Vigil Mass on Monday, Dec. 31, 2012

5:30 PM

**Mass on Tuesday, January 1, 2013,
 the Feast of Mary the Mother of God,
 is at 9:00 AM**