

DECEMBER 16, 2018 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE SUNDAY

Rejoice!

Scripture Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent can be found [HERE](#)

The Gospel for the Third Week of Advent—Gaudete Sunday—continues with John the Baptist. Apparently, John missed the memo about rejoicing. In the midst of his ministry, John exhorts everyone to give their clothing, food and money—beyond what they absolutely need—to the poor. Among the crowds of ordinary people coming to John are tax collectors and soldiers - groups that Jesus will address. Woe to those who do not repent, John says, “the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” In the end, John’s preaching is hopeful—the Messiah is coming!

- Where in your life do you have reason to rejoice because of God’s work?
- How does being baptized (or anticipating baptism soon) make a difference in your life?
- What is causing stress or worry in your life? How can you let these things go for a more joyful life?

•The crowds ask John, “what shall we do?” To whom do you go with this question in regard to your own salvation?

• **The O Antiphons** begin today, ending on December 23. You can find them in our bulletin, at MyParishApp or listen to the Benedictine monks of Atchison, Kansas chant them [here](#). These ancient prayers reflect upon names of the Messiah as Christmas nears.

On Gaudete Sunday, we light the pink candle of the Advent wreath and priests often wear rose vestments. (Please don’t tell Father he looks pretty in pink!) Learn why [here](#).

Sunday evening is our parish Advent Reconciliation Service. Why is confession important for Catholics? Watch a short video about it [here](#).

At Masses this weekend, we will have the *Bambinelli Blessing* for the child Jesus figurines from home nativity sets. The blessing originates in Rome. Learn more about it [here](#)

Looking for a different type of Christmas movie? Check out this one at [formed.org](#)

Use our parish code—327564—for free access!



Questions? **Email mstorms@olpls.org**