



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2017



ISAIAH 61:1-2A, 10-11; 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24;

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

“Who are you...What do you have to say for yourself?” – John 1:22

Schedule of Christmas and Holiday Services

The Christmas Vigil
Sunday, December 24
7:30 pm



Mass for Christmas Day
Monday, December 25
10:00 am

Mass for New Year's Day
The Solemnity of Mary
Monday, January 1
10:00 am



New Year's Eve Mass
Sunday, December 31
7:00 pm

From the Pastor's Desk

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist reveals the purpose of his mission: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." Indeed, John was sent by God to "testify to the light, so that all might believe through him." Jesus Christ is the Light of the World: "The light of the human race," that "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (Jn 1:4-5) However, "people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil." (Jn 3:19) "For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed." (Jn 3:20) How do I know that I am in darkness? "Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the darkness. Whoever hates his brother is in darkness; he walks in darkness and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes." Christmas is near. Come to the Light! We can put as many lights as we want on our windows, porches, trees, and fences, but we will still be in darkness. Come to Jesus with confidence. Do not be afraid! Confess your sins! Prepare the way for the Lord. Behold, I announce to you the Good News: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." (Is 9:1) Let us humbly pray to the Lord that we may approach the Light of the world and be enlightened and strengthened to do good.

Love you, Fr. Pawel.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – In observance of *Christmas*, the parish office will close at 1:00 pm on Friday, December 22, and will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26.

CYO NEW YEAR'S EVE FELLOWSHIP – The OLQP CYO Adult Council invites everyone to celebrate the New Year with good food and your OLQP family at the *Annual New Year's Eve Fellowship* immediately following the New Year's Eve Mass at 7:00 pm on Sunday, December 31. Everyone is welcomed to this complimentary family celebration.

SODALITY'S WINTER ACCESSORIES DRIVE – During the month of December, the OLQP Sodality will begin its annual hat, scarves, gloves and mitten drive for the needy. The drive will continue through Sunday, January 7. Again, our drive will support the Youth Ministry's volunteer efforts with the homeless. In addition to the winter accessories, we are also accepting socks, thermal undergarments, and leg warmers. A collection bin is available for your donations in the rear of the church after each Mass. For more information, please contact Margaret Ricks at (202) 582-1277.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY MAKE-UP DATES – If you missed out on being photographed for the new pictorial directory, two make-up dates have been scheduled for Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27. Sign-up for these dates will be held after all Masses beginning next weekend, and will continue through Sunday, January 21. Online access is now available at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y6ghgmg6/>. Parishioners may also verify their information for the directory or opt out of having their information published during the sign-up weekends. For more information, please contact Margaret Ricks at (202) 582-1277.

LOVE MINISTRY TEA – The Ladies of Victory and Evangelization (LOVE) Ministry cordially invites you to an *Afternoon Tea with Jesus* on Saturday, January 13, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, in the Casa Cremona. The donation is \$5.00. For details, please contact Joyce D. Williams at (202) 574-1219.



Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

Stephen Aldrich - Fannie Anderson - Ann Bennett - Thomas Briscoe - James Brown - Gary Brunswick - Vincent Carter
Willie Chapman - Mary Clarke-Roland Clarke-Geraldine Collins - Forestine Cooke - Doris Daniels - Angela Daughtery
Belonique David - Brenda Day-Delores Douglas- Grace Dumus -Viola Eddy- Annie Farrell - George Fenwick - Diane Hale-Mason
Jean Hale-Steven Hale-Wilfred Hale - Dea. Carlos Hernandez - David Hicks - Alreta Hill - Gaynell Howard - Florine Johnson
Penniah Johnson-Aloysius Jones -Joe Lyles - Grace Taylor-McNair - John McNair - Paul Medley-Dea. Alfred Miller- Michael Pegues
Annie Ponds-Christopher Powell- Oscar Quarles-June Russ-Tracie Saunders-Doris Seldon-Edna Simmons-Lottie Tidline
Constance Thompson-Dea. Al Turner-Juanita Warren - Rebecca Washington-Maria Williams - Ronald Williams -Julie Wilson
Theresa Young

(To add names or for questions regarding the "Pray for Our Sick" list, please contact Dea. Miller at (301) 336-4074)