



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ❖ DECEMBER 16, 2018



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Zephaniah urges the people of Jerusalem to rejoice because the Lord is in their midst. He conveys the message that God will love and protect those who have remained faithful to him.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Paul encourages the Philippians to be ready for Christ. He tells them not to worry about their concerns, but to instead ask God's help and allow his peace to fill their hearts and minds.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist answers people who ask him what they should do, leading some to believe he was the Messiah. John clearly states that he will be followed by one so powerful that "I am not fit to loosen his sandal strap."



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Monday

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

Thursday

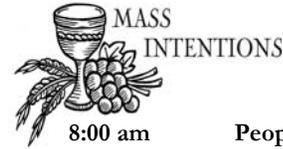
Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Friday

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45

Saturday

1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56



Sunday, December 16	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:30 am	In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Julio Brandão Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Felisberto Magalhaes
Monday, December 17	8:00 am	Intention of Michael Whitely Req. by Bonnie Keul
Tuesday, December 18	8:00 am	In Memory of Rosalie Breckinridge Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Jon Sugrue
Wednesday, December 19	8:00 am	Special Intention Req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Long
Thursday, December 20	8:00 am	In Memory of Mavis Ludwig Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Cyril May
Friday, December 21	8:00 am	Intention of Audrey Palmer Req. By Mrs. Richard D'Arcy
Saturday, December 22	8:00 am	Special Intention
	5:30 pm	Intention of Julie Abernathy Req. by Elsa Blades



Gabriel Rachel Project

The following is a note from "Judith", our Gabriel mother this year:

"With Gabriel Project, I am very satisfied for your great support, thanks to you on October 26th I had my appointment, I was seen by Dr. Bruchalski. He checked the heartbeat of my baby; he measured my stomach to see if my baby is ok. Everything is OK with the baby.

On November 30, I have my next appointment, which will be an ultrasound to see how is the baby and to find out what gender will be and the glucose test to check the sugar in my blood.

I am very grateful for all your help that you are giving me. Thanks to you. Everything is going well with my pregnancy."



Youth Choir – rehearsal today
& Sunday, Dec 23rd at 1:00 pm

*** Parish Schedule ***

This Week's Parish Schedule

Sunday, December 16

Third Sunday in Advent

Knights of Columbus Rosary before all Masses

Thursday, December 20

Choir practice, 7 pm

Next Week's Parish Schedule

(Please see the schedule for Christmas Mass times and Confession schedule for the week)

Sunday, December 23

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Monday 12/24 through Tuesday 1/1/2019

Parish Office Closed



3RD
SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT



4TH
SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT

*** Religious Education News ***

Regular classes today, Sunday, December 16th

No Classes, December 23rd & 30th

Classes resume Sunday, January 6th



UNWRAPPED items should be dropped in the designated box in the vestibule by noon on Sunday, December 23rd.

IMPORTANT: New items only.

Please do NOT gift wrap your donations.

Simply attach the ornament from the tree to your donation and place it in the box in the vestibule.

Deaconmike@stclareclifton.org

703-266-1310



From Our Financial Side

Since it is December and the end of the year is near, depending on your financial and tax situation, it might be worthwhile to review your contributions to the parish and make adjustments accordingly before the end of December.

In January, we will be sending out statements for 2018 contributions. If you have questions about the statements, please contact the office at (703) 266-1310.

We would like to thank you for your dedication and support to St. Clare.

Attention Parishioners

If you have moved, changed your email address or phone number, please contact the parish office so we can keep our records current. Email your updates to:

office@stclareclifton.org. Thank you!



St. Clare's Christmas & New Year Mass and Confession Schedule

Mass Schedule:

Christmas

Monday, December 24

8:00 am (Regular Daily Mass)

** **5:00 pm** ** & 10:00 pm (Christmas Eve Masses)

Tuesday, December 25, 8:00 & 10:30 am

New Year's - Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 31

8:00 am (Regular Daily Mass)

5:30 pm (Vigil Mass)

Tuesday, January 1, 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Confession Schedule:

Thursday, December 20, 7-9 pm

Friday, December 21, 7-9 pm

Saturday, December 22, 7-9 pm

Monday, December 24, 2-4 pm



POOR CLARE NUNS

SPECIAL COLLECTION - TODAY

ITEMS/FOOD COLLECTION - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20th

The Poor Clare Nuns, a cloistered order located in Alexandria, greatly relies on our generosity for their simple needs. The Nuns have a short list of items that they need. Please consider shopping for Poor Clare Nuns. The donation box is in the vestibule. The deadline to drop off items is Thursday, December 20th so the donated items can be delivered to them in time for Christmas.

Twin size flannel sheets (plain or pastel colors)

Dried apricots, plums, other dried fruits

Shelled almonds

Apple Sauce (Sweetened/Unsweetened)

Fruit Cocktail (LIGHT SYRUP or NO SUGAR)

Canned Fruits (LIGHT SYRUP or NO SUGAR)

12 oz Evaporated Milk (reg & fat free)

Condensed soup: cream of celery, mushroom or tomato

Water Packed Tuna

Canned tomatoes: diced, crushed, whole & paste

Corn meal

Pickles- any kind

Corn starch

Salt

12 oz paper cups for hot drinks only

Stamps (forever)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord Himself is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petitions full of gratitude. Then God’s own peace which is beyond understanding will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”...“The crowds asked John ‘What are we to do?’...the people were full of anticipation...”

At the midway point of Advent, we too can ask the question the crowds put to John the Baptist. We might preface it with another question: ‘What have we done thus far?’ What is the Lord asking of me during the next ten days? St. Paul is quite clear telling his audience to focus on the Lord, offering prayer, petitions and expressions of gratitude.

Do not fall into the trap of routine or busyness, without a moment each day of prayer that God’s peace may reign in your heart. Our novena of preparation can consist simply by turning to the Word of God, reflecting on the mystery of Jesus’ coming, and how we want Him to find us when we celebrate His birth. Then God’s own peace will be really with us.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS

