



December 15, 2024

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
— *Zephaniah 3:15b*

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. 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.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Your God will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

Psalm — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12:6).

Second Reading — Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! (Philippians 4:4-7).

Gospel — Whoever who has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. Whoever who has food should do likewise (Luke 3:10-18).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
 Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
 Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
 Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
 Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
 Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
 Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

MASSES FOR THE WEEK † MISAS DE LA SEMANA

Dec. 14-20

Saturday/4:30pm/Maria Spannuth+,
John Melhaff+

6:30pm/Miguel Medina+

Sunday/8:00am/John Melhaff+,
Alicia Andes+

10:00am/ Mary Gomes+, Tony Mello+,

11:30am/Enedena Salazar Martinez+,
Charlie & Francisco Mosquedat+,

Antonio Rincont+

Monday/9:00am/All Souls+

Tuesday/9:00am/All Souls+

Wednesday/9:00am/All Souls+

Thursday 9:00am/All Souls+

Friday/9:00am/All Souls+



Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

4:30 p.m. English Mass

6:30 p.m. Misa en Español

12 Midnight English Mass

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

9:00 a.m. English Mass

10:30a.m. Misa en Español

Retirement Fund for Religious

Part of our collection today will benefit the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your generous commitment today will help ensure appropriate care for our 37,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Their institutes face critical economic challenges as the costs of health care escalate. Your gift makes a difference.

Attention Parishioners: Weekly contribution envelopes for 2024 are available for pick up in the vestibule.



Children's Nativity Play

Children of the parish are invited to participate in an impromptu Nativity mini play on Tuesday, Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve at the 4:30pm Mass at St. Christopher's Church. You can be an angel, a shepherd, a sheep or a star! All children attending Mass will be invited to participate. Props will be provided. No rehearsals are needed. Children will be asked what part they would like when they come into the church for mass. A very simple production. There will be light refreshment served after the Mass. Come and enjoy the story of this most special time of the church season! If you would like to participate or help, please contact Grandmas Guild member, Rhonda at 209-471-2631.



POINSETTIAS: The Church is accepting poinsettias the week of to beautify our sanctuary during the Christmas Season. Flowers may be dropped off in the parish office.



A jolly thank you to everyone who helped make our Feast of St. Nick weekend a wonderful example of the Advent season. Over 70 children of our parish enjoyed the story of St. Nick read aloud by our St. Nick impersonators, Dan Aguiar, Ben White and Joe Schaffhausen. They were so excited to see if their shoe had a special treat inside after mass! We hope everyone enjoyed the

event and will remember the kindness and generosity of St. Nick during the rest of the Advent Season. Special thanks to our storytellers and Grandmas Guild elves who coordinated this event, Suzanne Souigny, Melissa Krebill, Rhonda Smith, Betty Lou Woodhall, Kathy Nelson, Edie Schaffhausen. A **big thank you** to everyone who gave candy and tangerine donations. A special thank you to the Daughters of Isabella who donated sugar cookies to add to the treats the children received! If you are interested in helping with our Grandmas Guild please contact Rhonda Smith, 209-471-2631. Our next event will be the Christmas Eve Mini Play at the 4:30pm Mass.

SAVE THE DATE:

Knights of Columbus – Council 9836
Pancake Breakfast (Formerly Tootsie Roll ID Drive) Sat., Jan 11, 2025 - 8:00-11:00AM
Catholic Community Center (CCC.)
526 3rd St, Galt. Proceeds for Galt Chiefs Sports Team Athletic Equipment.

Tercer Domingo de Adviento **15 de diciembre de 2024**

El Señor será el rey de Israel en medio de ti y ya no temerás ningún mal. — *Sofonías 3:15b*

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — ¡Canta! ¡Da gritos de júbilo! ¡Gózate y regocíjate! El Señor tu Dios está entre ustedes y es un poderoso salvador (Sofonías 3:14-18a).

Salmo — El Señor es mi Dios y salvador (Isaías 12).

Segunda lectura — ¡Alégrense! El Señor está cerca. Presenten sus peticiones a Dios (Filipenses 4:4-7).

Evangelio — Juan dice a sus oyentes que compartan sus posesiones con los necesitados (Lucas 3:10-18).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Sal 72 (71):1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Martes: Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Miércoles: Jue 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25

Jueves: Is 7:10-14; Sal 24 (23):1-6; Lc 1:26-38

Viernes: Cant 2:8-14 o Sof 3:14-18a; Sal 33 (32):2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lc 1:39-45

Sábado: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lc 1:46-56

Domingo: Mi 5:1-4a; Sal 80 (81) :2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lc 1:39-45

¡REGOCÍJATE!

El día de hoy se le ha llamado tradicionalmente “Domingo *Gaudete*” o de la “Alegría”. El nombre latino se deriva de la petición de Pedro en la segunda lectura de “alégrense siempre en el Señor”, y del texto de la Misa en latín en el que está basada esta lectura. La ironía y paradoja de esta alegría cristiana se manifiesta en el hecho que Pablo escribió esas palabras en la prisión. Pero desde allí podía ver el progreso de la obra de Dios. ¿Nos parece obvio a nosotros? Sentimos que este no es un tiempo para la alegría cuando hay tanto sufrimiento e inmoralidad. Es interesante, entonces, que la primera lectura sea del profeta Sofonías, que está casi exclusivamente preocupado con sombrías visiones del Día del Juicio. Hoy la Iglesia selecciona la única parte optimista de Sofonías, donde el profeta es tocado por el espíritu del gozo. Esta es, se nos asegura en todas partes, “la temporada de la alegría”. Recuperemos ese espíritu de alegría en nuestra vida y que se refleje en los que no tienen ese gozo.



Nota: Los sobres de donación para el 2024 están en el vestíbulo. Busque por favor su número asignado y llévalo con usted.

