

ADVENT

HOPE • FAITH • JOY • PEACE

In those days, at that time,
I will make a just shoot spring up for David;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.

Jeremiah 33:15

December 12, 2021 • Third Sunday of Advent

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

From the Deacon's Desk

Dear friends in Christ,

In the days when we had **Mass in Latin**, today was known as **GAUDETE SUNDAY**. The word "**Gaudete**" means "**be joyful.**" So, on this **Gaudete Sunday**, I thought you would enjoy a couple of laughs.

First, a riddle: **Why is Christmas just like a day at the office?** Answer: **You do all the work and the guy in the fancy suit gets all the credit.**

Second – A couple was always fascinated by old churches and whenever they traveled, if they came near an old church, they had to stop and look inside. Once in a small-town church, they saw an oddly-shaped bell and asked the person cleaning the church what the strange bell was used for. They were told "**...that bell is reserved for calamities, like fires, floods, or a visit from the bishop.**"

Lastly, if laughter really were the best medicine, hospitals would have found a way to charge us for it long ago.

Laughter fades away, but there is something that lasts and sustains us all the more: **JOY!**

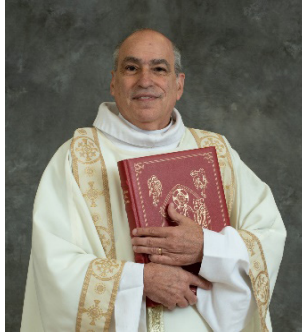
Joy goes deeper than just being funny. Don't make yourselves so anxious this season that you lose the joy that can only be found in knowing **Jesus'** love.

Saint John the Baptist, pray for us,

**Have a joy-filled week,
Deacon Frank**

P.S. – **Deacon Doug Yglesias** is here this **Sunday** as our "**Deacon of the Month.**" **Deacon Doug** is one of our "**new-bees.**" He was ordained by **Bishop Brennan** just a year ago on **November 7, 2020**. He presently serves in diaconal ministry at **Saint Brendan the Navigator in Hilliard.** **Welcome, Deacon Doug!**

Dear **St. John Parishioners**, join me periodically on **St. John the Baptist Parish** livestream. If you missed it, the videos are available on **St. John's Facebook page.**



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday, December 12, 2021, 9:30 a.m.	
Lector 1 & 2:	Landa Brunetto, Krissy Ciacchi
Euch. Min. 1 & 2:	Albert Iosue, Pat Rossetti
Sunday, December 19, 2021, 9:30 a.m.	
Lector 1 & 2:	Nick Sciarretti, Valerie Milano
Euch. Min. 1 & 2:	Judy Pishitelli, Antonio D'Alberto

PARISH INFORMATION

*The Italian Catholic Community at
St. John the Baptist
Corner of E. Lincoln and Hamlet Streets
Church Mailing Address: 168 E. Lincoln Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 294-5319 · Fax: (614) 294-4303
Livestream our 9:30 Sunday Mass on our St. John the Baptist Facebook page by visiting our website www.sjbitaliana.com*

*Office Hours: are from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
Website: info@sjbitaliana.org*

- Deacon Frank Iannarino – Administrator/Rector*
- Msgr. John Cody – Retired/Holy Service on weekends*
- Father Charles Klinger – Retired/Holy Service on weekends*
- Father Charles Cotton – Retired/Holy Service on weekends*
- Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community*
- Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant*
- Ms. Victoria Gammell – Secretary and Bulletin Editor*
- Mrs. Gina Bishop – Director of Liturgy*
- Mr. John Huffman – Organist and Musical consultant*

- Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – 9:30 a.m. each Sunday*
- Sacrament of Penance – 9:00 a.m. (before Sunday Mass or by appointment)*
- Sacrament of Baptism and Baptism preparation (by appointment)*
- Sacrament of Matrimony (you must be registered at Saint John at least 6 months prior to scheduling your wedding by Deacon or Priest)*
- Sacrament of Confirmation and Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults, (please make an appointment with Parish Administrator)*

- Saint John Italian Festival (please visit our website for more information)*
- Sala Hall and Marrapese Hall (scheduled with approval of Parish Administrator)*
- Bulletin Deadline: Announcements must be submitted in writing by Tuesday at noon.*

Mass celebrant for December 19th is Msgr. Cody, assisted by Deacon Frank

Confessions Heard before Mass Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sun. 12/12	9:30 a.m.	Donna Veri by Landa & Rick Brunetto
Sun. 12/12	9:30 a.m.	Peter and Anna Walter by James Russell & Maureen Corrigan
Sun. 12/12	9:30 a.m.	JoAnn Anderson by Ralph Anderson
Sun. 12/19	9:30 a.m.	Joe Pishitelli by Judy and Phillip Pishitelli
Sun. 12/19	9:30 a.m.	Frank Guarasci by Celia Paniccia

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: *Joyce Tisone*
by Carl Tisone

Blessed Sacrament: *Lucy DeLellis*
by Irene Solazzo

Requiescant in pace! In the charity of your prayers, please remember the family and friends of:



- **Raffaella Leggieri**, long-time devoted member of **St. John the Baptist** and sister to **Marge Contino**, who passed away this past week, and for **Mike Ricci**, who died on **November 21st**. May they rest in peace with the risen **Lord**.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

****If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For Vienna D'Alberto, who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village. Also, keep in your prayers Laura Williams, James Graf, Linda McCreary, and Guy Williams.**

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: We begin the **Rosary** around **9:00-9:05 a.m.**, and it takes about **15-20** minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact **Kevin Koesters** at **937-902-7446** or via email at **k.koesters32@gmail.com**. Leaders for **November** and **December** are:

- December 12, 2021 Marge Contino
- December 19, 2021 Carl Tisone
- December 26, 2021 Gary Bosco

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sun. 12/12	<u>Altar Guild Meeting – Marrapese Hall</u> 10:45 a.m. <u>KCC Religious Education</u> 11:30 a.m. <u>KCC Sunday Mass – Fr. Kim</u> 12:00 Noon – Meeting in Sala Hall after Mass
Mon. 12/13	<u>Rotary Club Luncheon – Marrapese Hall</u> 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Fri. 12/17	<u>KCC – Mass – Fr. Kim</u> 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 12/18	<u>Italian Language Class – Cultural Room</u> 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
	<u>Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.</u>

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN

December 5, 2021

Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 31

Reg. Env:	\$	1,250.00
Loose:	\$	285.00
Holy Day:	\$	30.00
Total:	\$	1,565.00
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment:	\$	(93.90)
	\$	1,471.10
Diocesan Charities:	\$	10.00
St. Anthony Bread:	\$	60.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$	95.00
50/50 Drawing:	\$	20.00
Religious Retirement Fund:	\$	10.00
<u>Votives:</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>33.00</u>
Total:	\$	228.00

?? \$? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? \$? \$?

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/21-6/30/22)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 1,565.00	(\$ 1,320.00)	-46%
FYTD:	\$66,355.00	\$54,533.65	(\$11,821.35)	-18%

SJB Collection Counters for

Monday, December 13, 2021

Darlene Rauch and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters for

Monday, December 20, 2021

Marjua Paule and Aggie Howard

50/50 Drawing: Congratulations to **Carl Tisone**, winner of the **50/50 Drawing** for **November**. Thanks for your support!

Learn Italian!! Join us on **Saturday** mornings at **10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.** The class started in **October**. This is an **eight-week** program that will introduce you to the beautiful language and culture of **Italy**. You do not need any prior knowledge of the language. The cost will be **\$100.00** per person for the entire **eight weeks** and all materials will be provided. The class will be held at **Saint John** in the **Italian Cultural Room**. All you need is a desire to learn and a love for all things **Italian!** For more information and to sign up for the class, contact **Maria Milano** at **milano727@sbcglobal.net** or **614-205-1156**.

St. John Altar Guild UPDATE: OSU football: The **Altar Guild** is now selling squares for the annual **Ohio State Bowl** game. Cost is **\$10.00 a square**, with payout of **\$200.00** to the winning numbers at the end of quarter **1, 2, 3**, and end of game. **80%** of the money raised is paid back out to the pool participants with the remaining **20%** going to the **Altar Guild**. Every cent raised that goes to the **Guild** is used to fund the needs of **St. John**, not things such as dinners, etc. In the past, money raised has purchased vestments the priests & deacons wear, altar cloths and banners, plus helped to cover the cost of the new tabernacle, etc. This pool **always** sells out fast so do not miss the opportunity to have some additional fun watching the **Buckeyes** compete in a bowl game this season, while supporting a worthwhile cause for our beloved church. If interested see **Gary Bosco** in **Sala Hall** after any **Sunday Mass**. Thanks for supporting the needs of the church and good luck!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to help decorate our sanctuary for Christmas. We will be doing this on Saturday, December 18th at 10:00 a.m. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE 2021

Catholic Churches	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
Sacred Heart	4:00 p.m. Vigil	No Mass, including 4:00 p.m. on Christmas Day
St. John	5:30 p.m. Vigil	No Mass
Korean Catholic Community	8:00 p.m.	10:30 a.m.
St. Francis of Assisi	5:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m.
St. Patrick	4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight Mass	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 Noon
St. Joseph Cathedral	4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight Mass	10:30 a.m.

PAVERS: The front **Pavilion** of **St. John Church** is covered with **Pavers**. These **Pavers** are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information, please call the office of **St. John** at **614-294-5319**.

Christmas Flowers: **Christmas** poinsettias are available again this year. Flowers may be requested in memory of a loved one and will be placed on the altar throughout the **Christmas Season**. An envelope for **Christmas** poinsettias is included in the **December** offertory envelopes. You may also put your donation and memorial request in a regular envelope and place it in the collection basket. There is a suggested donation of **\$10.00 per poinsettia**. The **Christmas** flowers add such beauty to **St. John** during this special time of year. Thank you.

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The first **24** days of **December** fall during the liturgical season known as **Advent** and are represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remaining days of **December** mark the beginning of the **Christmas** season. The liturgical color changes to white or gold — a symbol of joy, purity, and innocence. The month of **December** is also dedicated to the **Immaculate Conception**.

“Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, ‘the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,’ is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI

Holy Father’s Intention for December 2021: *Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Christmas Catholic Charities Collection: This annual collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations including **J.O.I.N.** (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), **St. Stephen’s Community House**, **Catholic Social Services**, **St. Francis Center**, **St. Lawrence Haven**, **St. Vincent Family Center**, and the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the **Catholic Charities** collection this year.

Retirement Fund for Religious: Elderly **Catholic** sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others — educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** provides medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously to today’s second collection.

Third Sunday of Advent: Today, we celebrate the third **Sunday of Advent**, also known as **Gaudete Sunday**. The term **Gaudete** refers to the first word of the **Entrance Antiphon**, **“Rejoice.”** Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that **Christmas** is near, and we also light the rose candle on our **Advent Wreath**.



The Beauty of the Advent Wreath: The **Advent Wreath** is a long-standing **Christmas** tradition, adding beauty and light to the season. The wreath is a circle, without beginning or end, symbolizes our participation in **God’s** plan of salvation, and our hope to share eternal life in the **Kingdom of Heaven**. The traditional wreath is made from fresh, natural materials, because **Christ** came to give us new life through **His** Passion, Death, and **Resurrection**. There are **three** purple or white candles, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice. The **pink** or rose-colored candle highlights the **Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**, when we rejoice because our preparation is now halfway finished. The light itself represents **Christ**. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our **Lord**.



December Saints: St. Nicholas was born in **Lycia** in **Asia Minor** (modern-day **Turkey**) and died in **352 A.D.** as the **Bishop of Myra**. All stories that surround **Nicholas** illustrate that he practiced both the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. He was generous, strove to help the poor and disadvantaged, and worked tirelessly to defend the faith. His legends of generosity and a slip of the tongue from other languages has made **St. Nicholas** or **Sinterklaas** into today’s **Santa Claus**.

“The secret of Christian living is love. Only love fills the empty spaces caused by evil.”

~ Pope Francis



He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
Luke 3:10-18

John answered them all, saying, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.”

Prayer:

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at His coming and call us to His side in the Kingdom of Heaven, where He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

*Joy-filled Giver of Life,
Let the anticipation of Your birth
fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and
anticipation be a sign to the world
that You are always near.
Amen*



LISTEN THIS ADVENT!

ST. GABRIEL
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Sunday, Dec 12, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Queen of Mercy, watch over us

Often, we seek guidance, wondering like those around John the Baptist: *What should we do?* The answer's a simple one: show mercy. Our adversaries, family members, and we ourselves may be in need of such compassion. When La Virgen Morena (the Brown Virgin) appeared to Juan Diego in Mexico and left her image on his cactus-fiber cloak, her promise of mercy to all who appealed to her was sealed on the Americas. Our Lady of Guadalupe, now patroness of Mexico and empress of the Americas, extends her reign across two continents and around the globe. Respond with mercy today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18 (9). *"The crowds asked John the Baptist, 'What should we do?'"*

Monday, Dec 13, 2021

MEMORIAL OF LUCY, MARTYR

I can see clearly now

In these darkening days of December, the Scandinavian festival of light held on Saint Lucy's feast day is a cheerful sight to brighten spirits. In these countries—and wherever Scandinavians are found—girls dress as Lucy in long white gowns with wreaths of candles on their heads, carrying sweets in procession as songs are sung. Similar practices can be found in Italy and Croatia. Whether you belong to those ethnicities or not, why not incorporate the festival into your family holiday traditions? Saint Lucy is the patron and protector of eyesight—ask her to help you focus yours, to see more clearly the coming of the radiant king.

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27 (187). *"By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority?"*

Tuesday, Dec 14, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Carried by love

Saint John of the Cross was named a doctor of the church for his profound, poetic writings on Christian mysticism. As a spiritual phenomenon, mysticism is difficult to explain. Central ideas, though, connect love and suffering. Today, pause to remember the tragic school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary and contemplate this meditation by John and remember to love: "I saw the river over which every soul must pass to reach the kingdom of heaven, and the name of that river was suffering. And I saw a boat which carries souls across the river, and the name of that boat was love."

TODAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32 (188). *"Then will I remove from your midst the proud braggarts, and you shall no longer exalt yourself."*

Wednesday, Dec 15, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Jesus, our justice and our peace

The coming of Jesus into the world was ultimately the coming of true justice and peace. In today's psalm, these two virtues are said to have "kissed" when the Messiah arrived on Earth. What an incredible image! Every promise of God finds its yes in the One who frees us from sin and death. In the gospel reading, Jesus proves by his miraculous love that he is the long-hoped-for Messiah. Today, remember that as we anticipate Christmas, the

fulfillment of all our hopes and dreams is the justice and peace of Jesus. Perhaps not what we expected, but what we need!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Luke 7:18b-23 (189). *"Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven."*

Thursday, Dec 16, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Differently blessed

Today's first reading refers to an idea repeated many times in the Bible: that children are a blessing from God. Catholic teaching on situations where bearing children is not possible is not the inverse, however. The church has never taught that infertility or any other limitation is a punishment or "curse" from God. To the contrary, Catholic tradition emphasizes that persons in every situation or condition deserve our full attention, respect, and caring concern. How can you practice empathy toward those whose family life has taken a less common direction?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30 (190). *"Among those born of women, no one is greater than John; yet the least in the Kingdom of God is greater than he."*

Friday, Dec 17, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O WISDOM)

Make the wise choice

Today the church begins to sing the O Antiphons to accompany the Advent evening prayer of Mary's Magnificat. These short, sung phrases remind us of our need for salvation and our desire to embody the divine characteristics of our Savior. Today we pray for knowledge. This is not the knowledge that wins arguments around the dinner table, but the knowledge that shines a light on who we are, where we came from, and what we are called to do. It is the knowledge that comes with discernment and brings us peace. May wisdom be our teacher.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17 (193). *"O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!"*

Saturday, Dec 18, 2021

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O SACRED LORD)

Walk each other home

The theme for this year's International Migrants Day is "Reimagining Human Mobility." U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres calls upon citizens of the world to "seize the opportunity of the recovery from the pandemic to implement safe, orderly, and regular migration and enable migrants to build more inclusive and resilient societies." Today's O Antiphon recalls the migration of Israel from Egypt to Palestine and asks God to guide the movement of peoples. Because we all can trace our ancestry back to migrating people at one time or another, it is appropriate today to pray for people on the move seeking new homes and new lives in new lands.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25 (194). *"And they shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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