

*The Season of Advent*

# JOY

LORD, COME AND SAVE US.

*Psalm 146*



DECEMBER 11, 2022 • THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

The third **Sunday of Advent** is called **Gaudete Sunday**. **Gaudete** is the **Latin** word meaning “**rejoice**,” and this **Sunday** is for us to rejoice because **Jesus** came and died so that we may live forever with **Him!**

“**Rejoice**” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today’s **Mass**, taken from the **Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 4:4-5**.

“**Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice!**”

And the **Apostle** goes on to give the basic reason for this profound happiness: **the Lord is at hand**.

This is a joy of **Advent**, and of every day: **Jesus** is near us. He is nearer every day.

Our **Lord** always brings us joy and not affliction. His mysteries are joyful mysteries, the sorrowful mysteries we bring on ourselves.

“**The Lord is at hand**”... we can come close to him whenever we want to:

**Prayer, Holy Scripture, Sacrament of Penance, Eucharist**

In a few days it will be **Christmas**, a great feast for us **Christians** but also for all of the human race, which without knowing it, is looking for **Christ**. **Christmas** is coming and **God** wants us to be joyful, like the shepherds, like the wise men, like **Mary** and **Joseph**.

**So, keep smiling, be positive...God loves you!**

**Gaudete – Rejoice!**

**Fr. Andrew**

The **Mass** is available on **St. John’s Facebook** page or **YouTube** channel, **Saint John the Baptist, Cbus**. Go to our **website: [www.sjbitaliana.com](http://www.sjbitaliana.com)** under **Livestream Mass**.

**Confessions heard before Mass**  
**Sundays at 9:00 a.m.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 11, 2022, 9:30 a.m. Sunday</b>
<b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Nick Sciarretti, Maria Frissora
<b>Euch. Min 1 &amp; 2.:</b>	Andrea Myers, Al Iosue
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 18, 2022, 9:30 a.m. Sunday</b>
<b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Ed Pagnanelli, Davide Cugini
<b>Euch. Min 1 &amp; 2.:</b>	Margaret Panico-Harn, Pat Rossetti

**MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

<b>Sunday</b> <b>12/11</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>JoAnne Stasiulewicz</b> by Judy Pishitelli
<b>Monday</b> <b>12/12</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Rina Tiberi</b> by Tim and Ida Shook
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>12/13</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Anita Verigili</b> by Tricia Speicher
<b>Sunday</b> <b>12/18</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Leo Santilli</b> by Dr. Linda Records
<b>Monday</b> <b>12/19</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Americo Milano</b> by Rose & Larry Liguore
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>12/20</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Joe Pishitelli</b> by Judy & Phillip Pishitelli

**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 or YouTube channel, Saint John the Baptist, Cbus, by visiting our website [www.sjbitaliana.com](http://www.sjbitaliana.com)**

**Office Hours: are from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

**Monday through Friday**

**Email: [info@sjbitaliana.org](mailto:info@sjbitaliana.org)**

**Father Andrew Kozminski, SAC – Administrator/Rector**  
**Father Antonio Kim – Chaplain, Korean Catholic Community**  
**Ms. Aggie Howard – Executive Assistant**  
**Ms. Victoria Gammell – Secretary and Bulletin Editor**  
**Ms. Gina Bishop – Director of Liturgy**  
**Mr. John Huffman – Organist and Musical consultant**

**Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – 9:30 a.m. each Sunday**  
**9:00 a.m. Mondays & Tuesdays**

**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.**

**Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:**


**Marian Lights: Joyce Tisone by Carl Tisone**  
**Blessed Sacrament: Robert W. Contino, Sr.**  
*by Marge Contino*

**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, Guy Williams, John Contino and Tony Caradonna.**

**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 **k.koesters32@gmail.com**. Leaders for **December** are:  
**December 11 Gary Bosco**  
**December 18 Gary Bosco**  
**December 25 Albert Iosue**

**Holy Sacrament of Baptism:** Congratulations to **Heath and Maria Donohue**, parents of **Ava Louise Donohue** whose daughter was baptized yesterday, **December 10, 2022**. **May the Holy Spirit be with you all!**



**BANNS of MARRIAGE**  
**Michael Dennis and Markee Osborne**  
**December 31, 2022**

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

12/11 Sunday	<b>KCC Sunday Mass – Fr. Kim</b> 12:00 p.m. Meeting in Sala Hall after Mass <b>KCC – Religious Education – Library &amp; Classroom</b> 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. <b>SJB Altar Guild Meeting – Marrapese</b> 10:45 a.m. <b>SJB Choir Practice – Gina Bishop – Library</b> 12:00 Noon
12/12 Monday	<b>SJB – Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski</b> 9:00 a.m. SJB church <b>Rotary Club Luncheon – Marrapese Hall</b> 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
12/13 Tuesday	<b>SJB – Mass – Fr. Andrew Kozminski</b> 9:00 a.m. SJB Church
12/15 Thursday	<b>SH Young Professionals Meeting – Fr. Kozminski</b> <b>– Italian Cultural Room</b> 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
12/16 Friday	<b>KCC Mass – Fr. Kim</b> 6:00 p.m. – SJB Church
	<b>Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.</b>

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN**  
 December 4, 2022  
 Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 43

Reg. Env:	\$ 1,450.00
Loose:	\$ 268.00
EFT: November	\$ 2,338.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,056.33</b>
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	\$ (243.38)
	<b>\$ 3,812.95</b>

Votives	\$ 31.00
St. Anthony Bread	\$ 16.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 120.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 167.00</b>

**?? ?? How IS St. JOHN'S DOING? ?? ??**

**Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/22-6/30/23)**

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Wk.:	\$2,885.00	\$4,056.33	\$1,171.33	41%
FYTD:	\$66,355.00	\$55,906.61	-\$10,448.39	-16%

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, December 12, 2022**  
 Darlene Rauch and Aggie Howard

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, December 19, 2022**  
 Marjua Paule and Aggie Howard

**PAVERS:** The front Pavilion of St. John's 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's at 614-294-5319.

**Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild Ohio State bowl game pool sold out in just 2 days so a big thank-you to all who signed up. Pool numbers will be drawn after Mass no later than the **second Sunday in December**. Photocopies will be made that afternoon and score sheets will be available for everyone beginning the following **Sunday**. The annual **Super Bowl** pool will go on sale the last **Sunday of December**/first **Sunday** of January. Cost will be \$50.00 per square, with winning payouts of \$1,000.00 per quarter. Good luck to all who participate and a sincere thanks for supporting the Altar Guild's ongoing efforts to fund items for our beloved church.

**Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule**

Christmas Vigil	Church	Mass Time
December 24	Sacred Heart	6:00 p.m.
	St. John	4:00 p.m.
Christmas Day	Church	Mass Time
December 25	Sacred Heart	11:00 a.m.
	St. John	9:30 a.m.
New Year's Eve	Church	Mass Time
December 31	Sacred Heart	4:00 p.m.
	St. John	No Mass
New Year's Day	Church	Mass Time
January 1	Sacred Heart	11:00 a.m.
	St. John	9:30 a.m.

**Christmas Volunteers Needed:** Help us decorate **St. John the Baptist** for **Christmas! Saturday, December 17 at 10:00 a.m.** Many hands make for light work, and we can really use your help! See **Gina Bishop** or **Ed Pagnanelli** with any questions. Also, we will have a **Christmas Choir** for the **4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass**. We rehearse at **noon in the library** on the following **Sundays: December 11, and 18**. No choral experience is necessary...just a love of singing! Contact **Gina Bishop** with any questions.

**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's** during this special time of year. Thank you.

**The La Befana Celebration** will be **January 8, 2023**, after **9:30 a.m. Mass** in Marrapese Hall. Please bring children, grandchildren and enjoy this beautiful Italian tradition. **Sponsored by the Le Donne.**

**Where Are My Offertory Envelopes?** The company that manufactures envelopes for our parish informed us of a manufacturing issue that is forcing production to run at a significantly slower pace. This delay is affecting the delivery of envelopes across the country. If you have not received your shipment of envelopes for **November** and **December**, please submit your weekly offering in an envelope that has your name and address displayed on the front of the envelope. Thank you for your cooperation.



**Q: How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?**  
**A: Nothing – it was on the house!**  
*Proverbs 15:15: "For the despondent, every day brings trouble; for the happy heart, life is a continual feast."*

## AROUND US

**Liturgical Year:** The first 24 days of **December** fall during the liturgical season known as of **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** marks 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 dedicated to the **Immaculate Conception**.

**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.



**If you (or someone you know) is struggling from a past abortion experience, please call 614-309-0157. All calls are confidential. Post Abortion Healing.**

**NOMINATIONS now open for the 2023 Catholic Man of the Year:**

The **Catholic Men's Luncheon Club** is accepting nominations for the **Diocese of Columbus 2023 Catholic Man of the Year**. The annual award will be presented by **Bishop Earl Fernandes** on **Friday, February 3, 2023**, at the **Men's Luncheon** held at **St. Patrick Church** in downtown **Columbus**. The **Catholic Man of the Year** is awarded to one layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." The recipient will have the opportunity to share his personal testimony during the ceremony. Nominations will be accepted through **December 31, 2022**. For details, nomination instructions and the required online nomination form, go to <https://www.catholicmensministry.com/catholic-man-of-the-year>. Submit your nomination and let us know why your parishioner, husband, father, son, uncle, brother, or friend is the **Catholic Man of the Year!**

**Retirement Fund for Religious:** Our second collection is for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in ministries such as **Catholic schools**, parishes, and hospitals, often for little or no pay. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirements needs. Your donation helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously.

**Third Sunday of Advent: Joy:** Today is known as **Gaudete Sunday**. The term **Gaudete** refers to the first word of the **Entrance Antiphon**, "**Rejoice**." The celebrants have an option to wear rose-colored vestments to emphasize our joy that **Christmas** is near, and we also light the rose-colored 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**, 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**.

**Museum of Catholic Art and History: Nativity Displays** are at the **Diocesan Museum**. Join us for our annual **Nativity** display at the diocesan **Museum of Catholic Art and History**. Come be inspired and see our nearly **500 Nativity** sets representing cultures from all over the world. The display will be open until **January 9**. The **Museum's** hours are **Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** and **Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m.** Adult admission is **\$10.00** and students/seniors are **\$5.00**. The **Museum** is located in the **Catholic Foundation** building at **257 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215**. Call **614-618-4030** for more information.

**Today's Gospel:** The **Gospel** is taken from **Matthew 11:2-11**. The **Church** brings **John the Baptist**, the man who prepared the people for **Christ's** public mission, before our minds today, as an example that we should follow, even if only from afar. **John** prepared himself for the test of welcoming and introducing **Christ** to others, by a life of self-mortification and penance. He told the people that the first essential for getting **Christ**, and profiting by His coming, was that they should turn away from sin and give up any evil ways. He himself practiced what he preached and his preaching, therefore, bore fruit among many of his hearers. **John** is calling on us too today, to prepare ourselves for **Christ's** coming this **Christmas**, by turning away from sin.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ULR

**"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down."**

@Pontifex

**REJOICE**  
in the Lord  
**ALWAYS**  
and again I say  
**REJOICE**

**Sunday, Dec 11, 2022****'Tis the season to be generous**

Seasonal gift-giving was originally an expression of generosity toward the needy. These days, gift-giving has become many other things, including a source of anxiety or obligation, mindless consumerism, one-upmanship, and often, an annual occasion of snowballing debt. The gifts Jesus brings are different—they are restorative, occasions of good news. Consider offering gifts that fill hearts, not closets. Heifer International, World Wildlife Fund, and PlanUSA are among the many organizations that accept donations in directed ways to honor your loved ones.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11 (7). *"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk . . . and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."*

**Monday, Dec 12, 2022****We're good enough for God**

The appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego in December 1531 is reminiscent of the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary. Juan and the young Mary were both understandably overwhelmed by what was asked of them. In the Gospel of Luke, Mary is "greatly troubled at what was said." According to later accounts, Juan told Our Lady to pick someone of higher standing as messenger, since he was a "man of no importance." But by accepting the challenge, a Jewish peasant girl became the Mother of God, and an indigenous Mexican persevered in getting a church built in Our Lady's honor. Today, the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is the most-visited Catholic shrine in the world. Think you're not good enough for God's plan? Trust that God equips us all for what we're called to do.

## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47 (690A). *"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."*

**Tuesday, Dec 13, 2022****Follow the light**

Lucy, whose name means "light," is a great saint for these darkening days of Advent. Her name and example personify the "light" mentioned throughout the Bible, not only Isaiah's promises of a future messiah—"people who walk in darkness will see a great light"—but Jesus, who called himself the "Light of the World", while also calling us the same. Scandinavian celebrations of Lucy, with a crown of candles on her head, remind us that she fed persecuted Christians hiding in the catacombs, affixing candles to her head in order to use both hands to serve. How will you be a light to the world today?

## MEMORIAL OF LUCY, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32 (188). *"Take refuge in the name of the Lord."*

**Wednesday, Dec 14, 2022****In the darkness, a great light**

One of multiple doctors of the church celebrated this month, Saint John of the Cross was a renowned priest and friar in Spain, descended from a line of "conversos" (Iberian Jewish converts to Catholicism). A contemporary of another Carmelite saint, Teresa of Ávila, John was, like her, a mystic whose writings have lived far

beyond his own lifetime as classics of European literature. His seminal work, the poem "Dark Night of the Soul," is the basis of a widely held tenant of spirituality involving spiritual distress as a part of searching and growth. (We all have our "dark nights of the soul.") His "Ascent of Mount Carmel" is likewise widely revered. In this season of holy joy as we celebrate the approach of the Messiah, may we likewise honor the legacy of the humble Catholic friar of Jewish descent whose profound and mystical faith has inspired millions the world over.

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

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Luke 7:18b-23 (189). *"And Jesus said to them in reply, 'Go and tell John what you have seen and heard.'"*

**Thursday, Dec 15, 2022****The greatest gifts are priceless**

The tradition of Christmas gift-giving can be uncomfortable for those wanting to take seriously Catholic teaching about the environment and consumerism. Fortunately, more and more people are open to alternatives: gifts of time or special skills, gifts made from household items, gifts to charitable causes in loved ones' names. How can you celebrate creatively, in keeping with the spirit of Christmas?

## ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30 (190). *"I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John."*

**Friday, Dec 16, 2022****Truly right and just**

The prophet Isaiah tells the Israelites to "observe what is right, do what is just." No easy task, often leading us to ask for some guidance. Fortunately, Jesus showed us the way. As we await the celebration of Christ's coming, take a moment to ponder some of the examples of right and just living Jesus gave us, such as caring for outcasts, being a healing presence, praying, evangelizing, and forgiving. Simply put, follow Christ's advice to love God and your neighbor as yourself and to count your blessings, and let Christ take care of the rest.

## ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 56:1-3a, 6-8; John 5:33-36 (191). *"These works that I perform testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me."*

**Saturday, Dec 17, 2022****Dip into God's wisdom**

Today we begin the recitation of the O Antiphons. The church sings these seven lines during evening prayers (vespers) on the last seven days of Advent, and also uses them as the Alleluia Verse during the daily Mass. Each antiphon is a title for Christ taken from the Book of Isaiah. They go back to an unknown source some 1,500 years ago in medieval Europe, and all begin with "O," thus known as the "O Antiphons." Take an opportunity today to connect to this ancient tradition by enjoying sung versions and explanations of the antiphons on the internet, starting with today's antiphon, O Wisdom.

## ADVENT WEEKDAY (O WISDOM)

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17 (193). *"The mountains shall yield peace for the people, and the hills justice."*

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



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