

READINGS

December 13, 2015

3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18A

Second Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7

Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

STEWARDSHIP

Matching Gift Report next Sunday.

Thank you for your generosity!

Our Lady of Wisdom relies on Bobcat Catholics like you for more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to their Catholic faith. Contact our Development Director, Zane Stehling, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

Gaudete Sunday: What John the Baptist Teaches us about Humility and Joy

On the third Sunday of Advent, the penitential purple of the season changes to rose and we celebrate "Gaudete" or "Rejoice!" Sunday. Believe it or not, John the Baptist is the patron saint of spiritual joy. Most of us would not appreciate the competition. The Pharisees and Sadducees certainly didn't. They felt threatened by Jesus' popularity. But John actually encouraged his disciples to leave him for Jesus. The Baptist was joyful because he was humble. Humility is not beating up on yourself. The humble man does not sheepishly look down on himself. Actually, he does not look at himself at all. He looks away from himself to the Lord. Most human beings, at one time or another, battle a nagging sense inadequacy. Pride is sin's approach to dealing

with this. Proud people are preoccupied with self, seeing all others as competitors. Even the pagan Greek storytellers knew that *hubris* or pride was the root of tragedy. Pride always comes before the fall. Receiving one's dignity and self-worth as a gift from God relieves us from this stressful burden. Freed from the blinding compulsion to dominate, we can recognize the presence of God and feel a sense of satisfaction when others recognize that God is God and honor him as such. We can even be free to recognize godliness in someone else and rejoice when others notice and honor this person. Repentance is all about humility and humility is all about freedom. And freedom leads to inner peace and joy, joy in the presence of the Bridegroom.

From: Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio

PLEASE CONSIDER POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER REQUESTS FOR DECEMBER:

That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving

AND

That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope ...

ALSO

BISHOP VASQUEZ' PRAYER INTENTION FOR TODAY:

For all the members of the Church, that they may overflow with rejoicing as we encounter the Lord and experience his great love and mercy...

GOSPEL REFLECTION

What should we do? In our busy lives we often want to know the immediate answer. No wasted time. Just tell me what to do! On this Gaudete Sunday we are invited to Sing joyfully! Rejoice! Serve. Do what is right. If we have two, give one away. When you light a candle, the light of the first is not diminished. Christ is our joy! When we share that joy we share Christ. Is Christ the top priority of my life or do other things cloud my vision? What should I do?

All **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES** will resume with the start of the spring semester. January 19, 2016. Have a great winter break!

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

ROSARY every Sunday 9:30am in the Lounge

ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament *Tuesdays* 5:45-9pm and *Mornings* Mon-Fri 8:30-9:30am in the Chapel

NIGHT PRAYER hosted by the men of Lambda Omega Alpha, 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings after Adoration.

FREE LUNCH every Tuesday 11am-1pm in the Lobby

BOBCATS FOR LIFE Wednesdays 6:15pm in the Library

BIBLE STUDIES every day!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.txstatecatholic.org

THANK YOU! Msgr. Louis Pavlicek, Round Rock for being here today to celebrate the Mass.

YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has announced an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy beginning on Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, and concluding on Nov. 20, 2016, the feast of Christ the King. The Diocese of Austin will observe the jubilee throughout the year by highlighting mercy under three aspects: availing ourselves to receive God's mercy, especially through the sacraments; catechesis to help us better understand God's mercy; and obeying the call to share God's mercy with others, especially through the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. Resources on the Vatican website (www.im.va), and the diocesan website www.austindiocese.org/yearofmercy

THANK YOU!

To the young adult group for hosting our annual community Christmas party!

NOTICE SCHEDULE CHANGE

Tuesday December 15th 5:15pm **Mass**
Thursday December 17th 5:15pm **Communion Service**

REMINDER next Sunday December 20th we will have our monthly collection for St. Vincent De Paul. Thank you for your continued support!



BLESSINGS TO ALL OUR GRADUATES!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Be spiritually prepared for the Christmas season! San Marcos, Fri., Dec. 18th
Kyle, Mon., Dec. 21st
Services begin at 7pm.

WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE

Except for Masses, the office and the building will be closed from

Fri., Dec. 18th-Mon., Jan. 4th.

Masses during that time:

Sun. Dec. 20	10:00am
Mon. Dec. 21	12:30pm
Tues. Dec. 22	5:15pm
Wed. Dec. 23	12:30pm
Thurs. Dec. 24	6pm
<i>(Christmas Eve)</i>	
Sun. Dec. 27	10:00am
Fri. Jan. 1	12:30pm
<i>(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)</i>	
Sun. Jan. 3	10:00am
Sun. Jan. 10	10:00am