

READINGS

December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-6A, 10

Second Reading: James 5: 7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

Last Sunday's reading from Matthew introduced John the Baptist's call to repent in order to prepare for the arrival of God's final rule, which he described as "the coming wrath." He indicated awareness that he himself was not the Messiah, but his forerunner. At the time of today's reading, the imprisoned Baptist sends some of his followers to Jesus to inquire if he is the Christ. Matthew implies that John recognizes a difference in the message of the two men concerning the arrival of the end time. Whereas the Baptist emphasized divine anger and judgment, Jesus' ministry up to this time has embodied healing and mercy. The discrepancy leads John to pose a direct question to Jesus: are you God's Messiah or are you not? As is common in Matthew, Jesus refers to the Old Testament Scriptures from the prophet Isaiah that envision future salvation as a time of merciful healing, wholeness, and re-creation of all things. He adds a gentle admonition to John, urging him to take "no

offense" at Jesus' activity. The Messiah's words seem to insist that human expectations cannot and must not govern God's saving action on behalf of sick and wounded humankind. Jesus then turns to the crowds to clarify the Baptist's important role in the unfolding of God's plan of salvation; he is the prophet-like-Elijah described by Malachi, who had proclaimed that a new and final prophet in the pattern of Elijah would appear as God's messenger to signal the arrival of the age of salvation. John, states Jesus, is that very messenger.

from Workbook For Lector



If you would like to designate one of our Christmas poinsettias in remembrance of a loved one please contact Alex before Tues., Dec. 20th at admin@txstatecatholic.org or 512-787-5864.



A gentle reminder to return your Mardi Gras raffle tickets or money.

STEWARDSHIP

Matching Gift Report Next Week

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, Daniel Glaze, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." Jesus challenges those who had gone to the desert to see John the Baptist, the one preparing the way for the Lord. Where do we look for the Lord? Where is Jesus to be found today? He is making God's love present to the blind, the lame, lepers, the deaf, the dead and the poor. How are we preparing the way for the Kingdom? Rejoice, the Lord is near.

PLEASE CONSIDER BISHOP VÁSQUEZ' INTENTION FOR TODAY:

That our hearts would be open to those in need: the hungry, the homeless, the immigrant, the refugee and those without hope, we pray

Interested in leading a 9:30am Sunday morning Rosary? Even if you are inexperienced! Contact Sawndra in the office M-F 512-392-5925

SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY

Aging religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals and agencies. Your gift helps provide prescription medications, nursing care and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

REMINDER next Sun. Dec. 18th is our monthly collection for St. Vincent De Paul . Thank you for your continued support!

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

ROSARY every Sunday 9:30am in the Chapel

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 Tues., 11am-1pm in the Lobby

BIBLE STUDIES every day!
Visit
www.txstatecatholic.org

LATE NIGHT MASS & BREAKFAST

Thank you to those that made our traditional late night Mass and breakfast, kickoff for finals, a success!



The building will be open starting after the Late Night Mass and Breakfast on Thursday, December 8th-Thursday, December 15th for finals studying. Please remember to keep the center clean.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Be spiritually prepared for the Christmas season!
Penance Services

Buda, Wed., Dec. 14th
Kyle, Mon., Dec. 19th
San Marcos, Wed., Dec. 21st

ALL services begin at 7pm.

NFP CLASS SERIES: Dec 12, Jan 9, 2016, Feb 13, 2017 at St. Mary Cathedral in Austin, TX. Each class is on Tues. from 7-9:30 pm in the St. Mary Cathedral school Library 910 San Jacinto, Austin TX Contact Randy and Grace-Marie Kolb phone: (512) 891-5341
Or email: rkolb@austin.rr.com



BLESSINGS TO ALL OUR GRADUATES!

Community Christmas Party

THANK YOU! To Daniel and Ana Glaze for hosting the evening and to Doug Purcell and Ruben Martinez for the main course. This event would not be possible without you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Will not meet December 18th—January 1st for the Christmas break.
First class day after is Sun. Jan. 8th at 8:45am

CHRISTMAS BREAK SCHEDULE

Except for Masses listed below, the office and the building will be closed from Thu., Dec.22nd-Sun., Jan. 8th

Masses during that time:	
Sat. Dec. 24 <i>(Christmas Eve)</i>	6:30pm
Sun. Dec. 25 <i>(Christmas Day)</i>	10:00am
Sun. Jan. 1	10:00am
	5:00pm
	7:30pm
<i>(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)</i>	
Sun. Jan. 8	10:00am
Sun. Jan. 15	10:00am
	5:00pm
	7:30pm