

READINGS

December 14, 2014

Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-2A, 10-11

Second Reading: 1Thessolonians 5: 16-24

Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Collection.....\$2,704

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.

ONE WHO IS COMING

The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't. He is not Elijah returned from the heavens, although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire and preaches repentance and judgment. Not Elijah in the flesh, John is nonetheless sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfill his mission. Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word. Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since the womb. John prepares the way for the Lord. His baptism is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance. John shows us the One upon whom the Spirit remains, the One who fulfills the promise we hear in today's First Reading. Jesus' bath of rebirth and the Spirit opens a fountain that purifies Israel and gives to all a

new heart and a new Spirit. John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. As we sing in today's Responsorial, the Mighty One has come to lift each of us up, to fill our hunger with bread from heaven. And as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle, we should rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing that God will make us perfectly holy in spirit, soul, and body - that we may be blameless when our Lord comes.

*From Dr. Scott Hahn
Sunday Bible Reflections*

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel the people press John the Baptist for an answer. "Who are you? ... Are you the Prophet?" John answers that he is not but that the Messiah was there and people did not recognize him. What outward signs or actions show others clearly that you follow Jesus, the Messiah?

PLEASE CONSIDER POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will ...

AND

That parents may be true evangelizers, passing on to their children the precious gift of faith ...

ALSO

BISHOP VÁSQUEZ' PRAYER INTENTION FOR TODAY:

That this time of preparation for Christmas be a time of solidarity for all Christians ...

HEART OF JESUS: MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT For Catholic men (ages 17-40) in various stages of Discernment. The weekend of Dec. 19th-21st. Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center (5602 State HWY 317 in Belton. Contact vocations@austindiocese.org or (512) 949-2430.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Will resume

January 20, 2015

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

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

BOBCATS FOR LIFE 2nd & 4th Thursdays 6pm in the Library

PRAYER MEETING 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7:30pm upstairs

BIBLE STUDIES every day!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.txstatecatholic.org



PRAY THE ROSARY before the 10am Sunday Mass in the Lounge / Cry Room. We begin at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome. Please join us even if you're a little late!

CRY ROOM The Pastoral Council has designated the Lounge as the "Cry Room" during the 10am Sun. Mass. Please keep it available for families with small children.



GAUDETE SUNDAY today marks the mid-way point in Advent. The change to rose color provides

us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation, especially through prayer and fasting for Christmas.

THANK YOU to all those who came and contributed to the pot luck and white elephant. Especially Susan Schramm and Chris Winek for hosting the annual Community Christmas Party this past Friday.



CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S CHOIR children in our community are invited to participate in our Christmas Eve children's choir. Please arrive at 5pm on Wednesday December 24th for a final rehearsal.



CONGRATULATIONS to those who were received into the Church yesterday at San Jose in Austin from Our Lady of Wisdom. We continue to pray for the growth of our Church around the world.

THANK YOU Fr. Gregory Ross from San Antonio, for celebrating Mass for us today!

SPECIAL COLLECTION Next Sun., Dec.21st is our Monthly Collection for St. Vincent De Paul. Thank you for your continued generosity!

REMINDER: the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered next Sun. 9am-9:45am



WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE

Except for Sunday Masses, the office and the building will be closed from Fri., Dec. 19th until Mon., Jan. 5th.

Masses scheduled during that time:

Sun. Dec. 21 10:00am

Tues. Dec. 24 6pm

Sun. Dec. 28 10:00am

Thurs. Jan. 1 10:00am

Sun. Jan. 4 10:00am

All Daily Masses, resume Thursday, January 8th

Sun. Jan. 11 10:00am **ONLY**

Sun. Jan. 18 10:00am, 5:00pm and 7:30pm

ALL WEEKLY MEETINGS WILL RESUME THE WEEK OF JANUARY 19TH, 2015