

DID YOU KNOW?

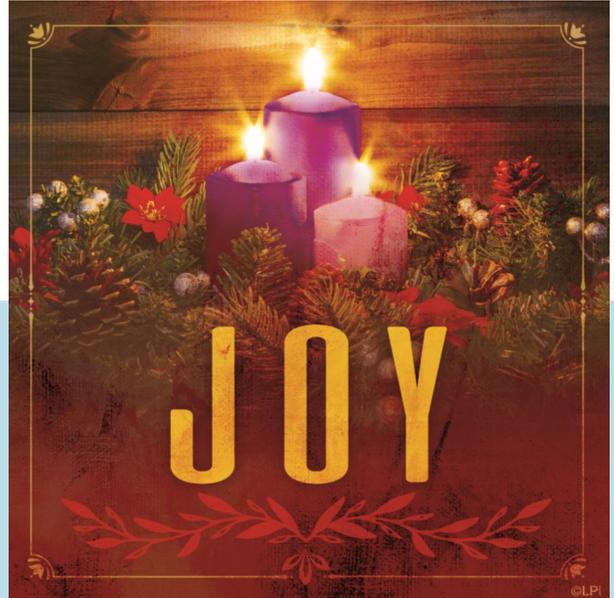
REJOICE—GAUDETE!

The Third Sunday of Advent is always known as “Gaudete Sunday.” “Gaudete” (pronounced, gau-day-tay) is Latin for “rejoice,” and the name for the day is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.”

Indeed, the Lord is near—in the celebration of the birth of Jesus next week, but also every day in the gathering of the assembly for Mass, the proclamation of the Word, and the celebration of the Eucharist. Indeed, the Lord is more near to us than we are to ourselves, living with us, in us, and through us by virtue of our baptism.

On Gaudete Sunday, the rose-colored candle (representing joy) is lit on the Advent Wreath, and the priest has the option of wearing rose or violet vestments. Rejoice! The Lord is with you; and with your spirit.

Advent resources: saintbrigidparish.org/advent.



ADVENT—ONE DAY AT A TIME

Join our whole faith community in prayer and reflection this Advent Season. Whether you are praying alone or with family or friends, use the following prayer and Scripture reflections as you light your Advent candles.

PRAYER FOR WEEK—3RD WEEK OF ADVENT

God of surprises, let us be your Christ-bearer, your servant, your deacon in this world grown too distracting and complicated. Make us ready for the gifts you give, the grace you impart, the opportunities you make available to help us grow in holiness. Grant that our eyes might be open to see, our ears to listen, our hearts to love, and our mouth to laugh with delight and joy when our awareness of your presence informs any moment of the day. Come, Lord Jesus, Come. Amen. - Thomas Merton

REFLECTIONS ON THE DAILY MASS READINGS*

Sunday: Matthew 11:2-11

What was it that made me truly believe in the saving power of Jesus?

Monday: Matthew 21:23-27

Which words of Jesus speak to me the most? Why?

Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13

When am I called to be more humble so that I might fully receive Jesus?

Wednesday: Luke 7:18-23

How am I called to proclaim the good news in word or action?

Thursday: Isaiah 54:1-10

Name an experience of someone's birth. What was that like for you?

Friday: John 5:33-36

What is Jesus' testimony to me? What gives me faith in Him?

Saturday: Genesis 49:2, 8-10

How is Jesus the "king" or "lord" of my life?

***Mass readings for every day can be found online at USCCB.org**