



# Third Sunday of Advent- December 11, 2022 – Year A

## Confession Schedule...

confessions continue to take place on Saturday at 4pm or by appointment. In addition, to prepare for Christmas, confession time is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:30pm  
Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am – 10:30am

## Christmas Eve Masses... Dec 24, 2022

5pm - Children's Mass

8pm

Midnight

## Christmas Day Mass... Dec 25, 2022

10am

## *Advent Week 3 - Gaudete Week – Rejoice!*

Our week begins with “Gaudete Sunday.” *Gaudete* means “rejoice” in Latin. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, “The Lord is near.” This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose colored, and the rose-coloured vestments often used at the Eucharist.

The second part of Advent begins on December 17th each year. For the last eight days before Christmas, the first readings are still from the prophecies, but now the gospels are from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. We read the stories of faithful women and men who prepared the way for our salvation. We hear the story of how Jesus' life began. These stories are filled with hints of what his life will mean for us. Faith and generosity overcome impossibility. Poverty and persecution reveal glory.

We prepare this week by feeling the joy. We move through this week feeling a part of the waiting world that rejoices because our longing has prepared us to believe the reign of God is close at hand. And so, we consciously ask: *“Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow.”*

Our celebration of the coming of our Savior in history, is opening us up to experience his coming to us this year and preparing us to await his coming in Glory. *“Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people. We await your coming. Come, O Lord.”*

\*Taken from *Praying Advent*, on Creighton University's Online Ministries web site: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html> Used with permission.

## News from St. Vincent de Paul

We have set up an **Angel Giving Tree** in the Narthex. Please visit the tree, take an Angel, and purchase what is on the wish list for the needy in our community.

The gifts can be placed under the tree with the tag attached by

**December 19th.**



## Christmas Flower Offering

We invite you to help support our decorating initiative by offering a contribution in the Flower Donation Envelope found in the Narthex.

If you're making this donation in memory of a loved one, please write their name on the back of the envelope, or please write the Family name in which the donation is made. Thank you!





# Fourth Sunday of Advent– December 18, 2022 – Year A



**8:00am Tuesday, December 13, 2022**

† Peter Velenosi

**8:00am Wednesday, December 14, 2022**

† Anne Marie & William Kyle

**8:00am Thursday, December 15, 2022**

† Paul Escoffrey

**8:00am Friday, December 16, 2022**

† Fr. John Pace

**5:00pm Saturday, December 17, 2022**

† Sarita Ayala

John Znidar & others

**9:00am Sunday, December 18, 2022**

† George & Carol James

† Angela Giornofelice

**8:00am Tuesday, December 20, 2022**

Bill Macauley & others

**8:00am Wednesday, December 21, 2022**

† Silva Morgan Perini

**7:00pm Thursday, December 22, 2022**

† Fr. John Pace

**8:00am Friday, December 23, 2022**

† Mary & Francis Pillai

**5:00pm Saturday, December 24, 2022**

† Antonio & Giuseppina Morgan

† Alberto Babich

**8:00pm Saturday, December 24, 2022**

† Robert Ford Jr.

**12:00am Sunday, December 25, 2022**

† Emiliano & Gloria Jopia

**10:00am Sunday, December 25, 2022**

† Orti Nello Fabello

† Emer Tony & Erith

† Morris Walsh



## SUPPORTING ST. THOMAS, THE APOSTLE PARISH

Thank you very much for your generosity towards St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. **The envelopes are out for year 2023.** If you have not picked up, please do. If you are new to the parish and wish to have a box of envelopes kindly contact the parish. We also invite you to **consider pre-authorized withdrawal.** It is an easy and convenient for you and for the parish. You can also sign up for online giving through our website. If you wish to make any donations that you want to be included in 2022 income tax receipt, please do so before the 29th of December.

**Thank you and God bless your generosity.**

**MASS INTENTIONS** are available for 2023. Masses can be offered for various reasons such as in loving memory of someone who has passed, for the personal intentions of people, for healing, for special occasions and for many others. Intentions remain \$10 and Mass Intention cards are \$2.00.

### Upcoming Parish Events

- Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, Knight of Columbus Meeting
- **Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, no morning Mass.** **Mass will be celebrated at 7pm.** This is a special for *those who are grieving and have lost someone this year – please consider joining us.*

### Parish Office Closures

The Parish office will have sporadic hours during the Holidays to accommodate staff also supporting their own families. **Should you have an urgent request, please email us and leave a message.**

Closed: December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> & Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023.

### **JOIN US ~ Starting in January ~ 2023 Movement Fellowship with Alana Leger Wellness**

Introductory Special, \$75/ person for 6 classes  
Please sign up and pay the Parish Office by **January 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Biweekly Thursday Classes from 2 -3pm  
Jan 12 & 26, February 9 & 23 and March 9 & 23

*Minimum 10 people to run the class. RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!*  
email the Parish [stthomaswaterdown@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stthomaswaterdown@hamiltondiocese.com)