

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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**Third Sunday of Advent**  
December 16, 2018  
The King of Israel, the Lord,  
is in your midst,  
you have no further misfortune  
to fear.  
— Zephaniah 3:15b

Our Lady of Fatima  
Pleaded that we pray the Holy Rosary  
before Sunday Mass and  
privately from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily.



**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)  
Rectory Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Mass Schedule  
Sunday: 10:30 AM - Holy Days: 6:00 PM  
Rosary: 10:05 AM - Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator  
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur  
Parish Secretary  
Carol Z. Smith

Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:  
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

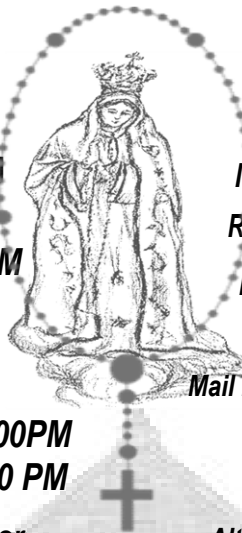
Our Lady of Fatima Church is open  
Monday through Friday: 9AM - 5PM Winter  
9AM - 6PM Summer  
for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be held  
at Our Lady of Fatima.

Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings will be held at  
the Cathedral. 944-4603

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick  
Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of  
healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to  
make arrangements. 944-4603

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH IS A RESULT OF THE  
MERGER BETWEEN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES  
OF SS. PETER & PAUL AND ST. LEO THE GREAT IN 1995.



Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603  
One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop  
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Rev. Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar  
Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603  
Catholics returning Home: 944-4603

Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick  
and Grieving - 944-4603

## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school)  
Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011  
Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112  
Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School:

Web: [www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://www.bishopguilfoyle.org) – 944-4014

Directors of Religious Education:  
Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317  
Jean Koury – 9 thru 12 – 949-2777

Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424

Director of Music Ministry  
Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO  
Music Ministry Office - 944-2044  
E-Mail: [ltayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:ltayer@dioceseaj.org)

Reconciliation @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday  
12:30 PM Saturday

Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11  
Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation  
First Communion  
Confirmation

Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep  
Marriage Prep  
Christian Initiation

Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 6:45 AM

8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
10:00 AM	12:00 Noon	12:00 Noon
12:00 Noon	5:30 PM	Saturday : 8:00 AM
5:00 PM		12:00 Noon

**St. Peter Canisius (Feast: December 21)**

**St. Peter Canisius is rightly considered the second apostle of Germany after St. Boniface.**

**Peter Kanis – his name was later Latinized to “Canisius” – was born in Nijmegen, Holland, then a German province of the archdiocese of Cologne. He originally thought of becoming a lawyer to please his father, a wealthy public official, but after a retreat directed by St. Peter Faber, one of the first companions of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the young Canisius decided to become a Jesuit.**

**Shortly after his ordination to the priesthood, he accompanied the Bishop of Augsburg to the Council of Trent and attended two sessions of the Council as a delegate. He was later summoned to Rome by St. Ignatius who retained him by his side for five months.**

**In response to an appeal by Duke William IV of Bavaria for Catholic professors capable of countering heretical teachings then permeating the schools, after his solemn profession, Peter Canisius was sent to Germany with two other brother Jesuits.**

**From then on Peter Canisius spent his life helping people in Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Moravia and Switzerland to hold firmly to their Catholic Faith in opposition to the errors of the Protestant reformation then spreading throughout those countries. The restoration of the Catholic Faith in Germany is largely due to the work of the Jesuit fathers which Canisius led.**

**He combined powerful preaching, with teaching and ceaseless works of charity.**

**In Austria, he at first preached to almost empty churches, partially due to his Rhineland German which grated on the ears of the Viennese. But his tireless ministrations to the sick and dying during an outbreak of the plague, won the citizens’ hearts, after which his accent was of little importance.**

**The king, the nuncio and even the Pope wished to appoint him to the vacant see of Vienna, but St. Ignatius would only allow him to administer the diocese for a year without Episcopal orders. It was at this time that St. Peter began work on his famous catechism, Summary of Christian Doctrine.**

**Appointed to Prague, he practically won the city back to the Faith. The college he established in the city was so highly regarded for its excellent academics that even Protestants sought to send their sons to it. During this time he was also made Provincial Superior of the Jesuit Order for an area covering Czechoslovakia, South Germany, Austria and Bohemia.**

**Not only did Peter Canisius found several colleges, but prepared the way for many others. He also wrote extensively throughout his life. His books were catechetical, instructional, historical and apologetic, refuting the errors of Protestantism.**

**Canisius was already advanced in age when he was instructed to found a college in Fribourg, Switzerland, capital of the Catholic canton, sandwiched between two powerful Protestant neighbors. Surmounting all obstacles, including numerous financial difficulties, St. Peter founded a university operative to this day. The preservation of the Catholic faith in Fribourg in a critical time of its history can be confidently attributed to him.**

**Increasing bodily illness obliged Peter Canisius to give up preaching. In 1591 he suffered a paralytic seizure which brought him near death, but recovering sufficiently, he continued writing with the help of a secretary until shortly before his passing on December 21, 1597.**

**Peter Canisius was simultaneously canonized and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1925 by Pope Pius XI.**

DECEMBER 16, 2018  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
10:30 AM

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS**

Readings: Zep 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

**Today's Intention-Poor Souls in Purgatory**

Readings: Mi 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

**Sunday, December 23, Ronald Geis, (Family)**

**Cathedral Mass Intentions**

**December 17, Monday: Late Advent Weekday**

Readings: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

6:45 AM Helen Hanlon (Mr. & Mrs. Francis Dambeck)

8:00 AM Joseph A. Knott (Rick & Cammy Pulcino)

12:00 PM Mary Kantoski, Birthday (Family)

**December 18, Tuesday: Late Advent Weekday**

Readings: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

6:45 AM Bob Weaver (Jim and Elaine Weaver)

8:00 AM Anna Flanagan, Ann. (Patty & Bear McCloskey)

12:00 PM Billy and Patty Geis (Geis Family)

**December 19, Wednesday: Late Advent Weekday**

Readings: Jgs 13:2-7; Lk 1:5-25

6:45 AM Allan Conrad (Barb and Jack Shoemaker)

8:00 AM Family and Friends (McNelis All-Stars)

12:00 PM John Bettwy (Joseph and Jean Bettwy)

**December 20, Thursday: Late Advent Weekday**

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

6:45 AM Catherine Hardin (Patti Marshall)

8:00 AM Julianne Seidel (Patrick Gaeto & Maria Tarsi)

12:00 PM Julia M. Febbo (Kim and Michael Febbo II)

**December 21, Friday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor**

Readings: Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

6:45 AM Joseph Mangiacarne (Janet and Bob Nearhood)

8:00 AM Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom & Dad)

12:00 PM Rosemary Kwolek (Greg and Kathy Clemens)

**December 22, Saturday: Late Advent Weekday**

Readings: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

8:00 AM Susan Bauer, Birthday, (Children)

12:00 PM Ray Plummer (Dan and Brigid Sheedy)

**Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Readings: Mi 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

5:00 PM Mildred Brady, Ann. (Joe & Dee Shellenberger)

**Advent of Christmas Concert Today**

The Cathedral Choir, guest singers, and members of the Altoona Symphony will present *Sing the Songs of Bethlehem*, a concert of Advent and Christmas music in the "Lessons and Carols" format, composed and arranged by K. Lee Scott, this afternoon, December 16 at 3:00 PM in the Cathedral. The audience will be invited to participate in singing the familiar carols. There will be a free-will offering.

**December 16, 2018**  
**Scripture Reflection**

Good news! Let us rejoice in anticipation! This theme is evident in today's readings. In the First Reading, we hear that on that final day when God's justice is fully manifest, he will take away Jerusalem's shame and give her cause for great rejoicing. "Daughter Zion" is a personification of the ideal city of Jerusalem where God, the king of Israel, can dwell as its savior and lover.

Today's Gospel describes a scene in which John the Baptist preaches repentance in anticipation of the coming messiah. When John tells the crowds that they must live righteously, they are so enamored with his words that they think he is the long-awaited messiah. He lays that idea to rest, saying, "one mightier than I is coming. . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." John the Baptist's call for transformation and repentance was a call for a world in which human imagination would work in concert with God's. And God's dream bore little resemblance to the world the Romans had created. God demanded that slaves be freed, debtors forgiven and foreigners welcomed.

Entering God's Imagination requires inner conversion and external signs that a transformation has occurred. It may come as a surprise to us that tax collectors and soldiers too sought John's baptism and trusted him to recognize in their obedience to his direction (not taking more than what is legally theirs, not harassing or blackmailing people) as a sign of their conversion.

When Christ comes again, may he find his disciples comforting a victim of human trafficking, giving encouragement to a homeless addict, repairing the damage inflicted on an abused spouse or mentoring an abandoned child. By these signs he will recognize their transformation. These disciples will be the wheat he gathers into his barns.

- How do you use your gifts to serve God's dreams?

*Please pray for all of our parishioners, especially for those who have illnesses great and small and our seniors who are lonely and need comfort and care.*

*Jesus, Son of the Living Father,  
Have Mercy on Me a Sinner.*

## December 16 Lk 3:10-18

*Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give NECESSITIES to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our giving list, we've missed the point of Christmas.*

## 3rd Sunday of Advent (December 16)

*At a time when advertisers are trying to convince us to buy those "must-haves," we hear John the Baptist calling us to share our possessions with others who are less fortunate. May we, as Christian stewards, demonstrate gratitude for the gifts that God has entrusted to us by giving joyfully to others in need.*



### Liturgical Reflection...

*Today the priest may wear a rose vestment at Mass. There is an obvious tone of joy in today's Advent Mass. Christmas quickly approaches and the scripture readings speak of rejoicing in the Lord always, of the presence of the Holy One of Israel, and the Baptist telling us the Holy One will baptize in the Holy Spirit. Christians are nearing the holy commemoration of the Birth of the Savior. Our joy is obvious and, hopefully, contagious.*

2018, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648



12/19	Sean Summers
12/22	Tim O'Connor
12/24	Darlene Panek

### DEC. COLLECTIONS 2018

December 9, 2018	Env used	66 /139
Weekly		1995.30
Christmas Club		40.00
Christmas		0
Cmas Dec./Flowers		265.00
Votives		154.00
Children's		9.00
Shrine		15.00
Music		15.00
Fuel		0
Ret. For Religious		55.00
<u>Immaculate Conc.</u>		<u>211.00</u>
<u>Dep. For Week</u>		<u>2759.30</u>

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25TH 10:30 AM**

**MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD, MONDAY, DECEMBER 31ST (Vigil) 6:00 PM**  
(PLEASE NOTE ABOVE VIGIL IS DEC. 31ST NOT DEC 30TH)

**MARY MOTHER OF GOD, JANUARY 1ST, NO MASS at OUR LADY OF FATIMA**  
(See the Cathedral Mass Schedule)

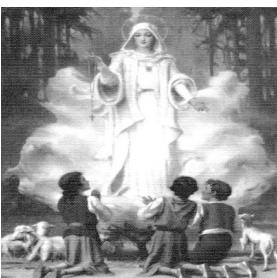
### OUR LADY OF FATIMA TRAVELING STATUE...

*Is waiting to be invited to some ones home who will honor and praise her for a week or two. Please do not hesitate to call Carol at the rectory if you wish to make a reservation. Call 942-0371.*

**"THE WORD AMONG US" DAILY MEDITATIONS FOR ADVENT 2018 ARE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE FREE FOR THE TAKING. A FAMILY MEMBER WHO MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND DAILY MASS WOULD FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE MASS ON TV.**

### Holy Trinity Early Dismissal and Transportation

*There will be early dismissal on Thursday, December 20, 2018. Middle School 10:30 AM and Elementary Schools at 10:45 AM. The AASD and HASD will **ONLY** provide bus transportation TO school on Thursday, December 20, 2018. Therefore, all Holy Trinity students will need to provide their own transportation home.*



**OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY**

**FOR**

**PEACE AND OFFER**

**SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!**

## **Third Sunday of Advent December 16, 2018**

### **REJOICE!**

*Today has traditionally been called “Gaudete Sunday.” The Latin tag is derived from Paul’s appeal in the second reading to “rejoice always in the Lord,” and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God’s work.*

*Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.*

*This, we are assured on all sides, is “the season of joy.” Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.*

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### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

*Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, “Gaudete Sunday,” is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: Gaudete is Latin for “Rejoice!” This year’s Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary’s visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy.*

*Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent, but many parishes employ different hues for each season, trying to keep them distinct. In medieval times, dye was costly, and poor parishes used unornamented plain cloth for vestments. Dyes were expensive and some colors, particularly purple, difficult to achieve. In England, purple dye was made from mollusks, yielding at best a deep indigo or blue and not the desired violet. Thus, the color of Advent in the British Isles has long been a deep blue, reminding many people of Mary’s presence at the heart of the Advent mystery. That theology is largely unplanned: it’s all because of the clams!*

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### **IMPRESSIONABLE**

*A child’s life is like a piece of paper on which every passerby leaves a mark.*

—Ancient Chinese proverb

### **WITNESSES**

*Our actions are the best witnesses of our thoughts.*

—Anonymous