

# Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

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

**Rectory Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**Parish Office:** 814-942-0371  
or call the Cathedral Office at 944-4603.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator

**Parish Secretary**  
Paula Hall

**Director of Music Ministry**  
Cathy McFee

**Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM**

**Holy Days: 5:30 PM**

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

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open Sunday through Saturday: 7:30 AM - 5PM 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. 814-944-4603

**Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603**

**One Cathedral Square**

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**

**Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator**

**Paula Clemens, Secretary**

**PH: 814-944-4603**

**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)**

**Holy Trinity Eldorado (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-942-7835**

**Holy Trinity Fairview (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-381-7011**

**Director of Religious Education:**

**Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317**

**Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424**

**Director of Music Ministry**

**Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO**

**Music Ministry Office - 944-2044**

**E-Mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@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: 12:00 PM**

**8:00 AM**

**8:00 AM**

**Saturday: 12:00 PM**

**10:00 AM**

**12:00 Noon**

**5:00 PM**

THE FATIMA TOWERS

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS**

**11:30 A.M.**

**Today, December 17, 2023, Third Sunday of Advent**

Special Intentions of Helen Glashauser (Patricia Byrne)

**Next Sunday, December 24, 2023, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Cathy Starr (Tom Byrne)

**Cathedral Mass Intentions**

**December 17, Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM +Mary Kantoski, Birth. (Family)

10:00 AM +Patrick Duffy (Michael Malligan)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**December 18, Monday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00 PM +Ernest Callisto (Daughters, Karen & Renee)

**December 19, Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00 PM +Friends and Family (McNelis All Stars & Friends)

**December 20, Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00 PM +Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom & Dad)

**December 21, Thursday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00 PM +Don & Dorothy Hanekamp (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

**December 22, Friday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00 PM +Mildred Brady (Joe & Dee Shellenberger)

**December 23, Saturday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00 PM +Frank A. Goss, Anniv. (Wife & Family)

**Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

5:00 PM +Kathleen Bollinger, Birth. (Husband, Ken & Family)

**December 24, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM +Michael Ratzesberger (Family)

10:00 AM +Skip, Richard Cowan, Karen Cowan Dougherty (Family)

**Vigil: Christmas Eve**

5:00 PM +Pro Popolo/For the People

**December 25, Monday, The Nativity of the Lord**

Midnight-12 AM For Peace in the World

8:00 AM Parishioners and Benefactors

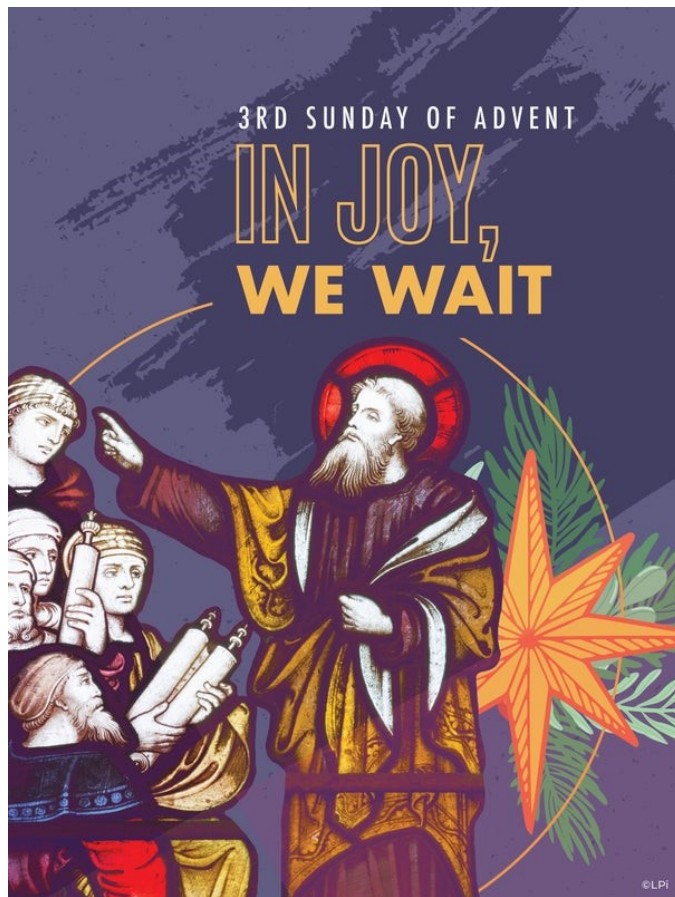
10:00 AM Parishioners and Benefactors

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Parish.



**TABERNACLE  
CANDLE**

During the month of December, the sanctuary candle is being lit in memory of John Kasun, Sr. from The Kasun Boys.



**Readings for the week of December 17, 2023**

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**Thank You Very Much**

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated.

The contributions for Sunday, December 10, were \$1,482. Thank you.





**Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes & Discovery of Barcelona**

Msgr. Carson will be leading a pilgrimage from September 15-24, 2024.

Pilgrimage information is available in the brochures available in the vestibule, at the Cathedral's Facebook page, and at <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1213040>.



This year's #iGiveCatholic Giving Day campaign raised \$3,675. We will address one or more of the following projects: replacing a sacristy door, installing a safety door to the church boiler room, repoint the rectory flue, and replace the bathroom floor and add a handicap bar. Last year, donations were used to help pay for the paving of our parking lot.



Tuesday, 12/19, 6:00 PM. Holy Rosary, Alt.

Wednesday, 12/20, 6:00 PM, Cathedral, Alt.

Thursday, 12/21, 5:30 PM, Sacred Heart, Alt.



We sometimes give and receive many gifts at Christmas. This is the time, however, to think above all of the gracious gift God gives to us of God's own self in Jesus. It is important for us to worship God at Christmas.

There will be a Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday, December 24, at 5:00 P.M.

There will also be Masses at the Cathedral at Midnight, 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. on Christmas Day. (There is no 5:00 P.M. Mass on Christmas Day.)

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church will be on Monday, December 25, at 11:30 A.M.



Packets of Oplatki, Christmas Wafers, are available at Our Lady of Fatima Church. The suggested donation is \$2.00.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPi

## PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman     **Testimony**

When my grandmother heard the news that my cousin had fallen from a second-story window, she immediately went and washed her hair.

Grandma had been sitting alone in her house, listening to the morning radio when the announcer shared a news bulletin stating that the previous night, a little boy with the same name as her grandson, living in the same community and of the same age, had fallen onto the pavement from a window on the second floor of his house. He had been rushed to the hospital but miraculously survived his injuries.

She thought she was hallucinating and wanted to look pretty when the "men in white coats" came to take her away. Thus, the hair-washing.

As it happens, the whole story was true — it was her grandson, but this was before the age of mobile phones and had happened so late at night that his parents had been unable to notify any family members before the whole thing showed up on the news.

It wasn't until my grandmother received a phone call from another relative corroborating the story that she realized it hadn't been a figment of her imagination. What a waste of styled hair, no hospital committal for her that day.

There are certain truths that we cannot accept unless they are supported by the testimony of others. We find them to be unbelievable without the reassurance of another person whispering, "It's okay. I see it, too."

This is the value of testimony, and the purpose of John the Baptist and every saint who ever died with the name of Jesus Christ on their lips. And this is the sacred duty of all the baptized, to give testimony with our words and our actions. How will you testify today? "He was not the light, but came to testify to the light." — John 1:8     ©LPi