

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY December 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 am Rob Zwick and Family (d)
11:00 am Rose Pohlman (d)
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

MONDAY, December 14, 2020

St. John of the Cross, priest

- 8:30 am Mary Villardo (d)

TUESDAY, December 15, 2020

- 8:30 am Jerry Schwager (d)

WEDNESDAY, December 16, 2020

- 8:30 am Stephanie Turner (d)

THURSDAY, December 17, 2020

- 8:30 am Oliver Matthew Cagle & Family (d)

3:00-5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

FRIDAY, December 18, 2020

- 8:30 am Bob & June Flammer (d)

SATURDAY, December 19, 2020

- 8:30 am Kenneth Schroer (d)

- 4:30 pm Don Westendorf & Family

SUNDAY, December 20, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 am Mary Cott Gajraj (d)
11:00 am Lisa Prator Limerick (d)
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

LaRosa's Family Pizzeria

4008 Glenway

513-347-1111

SERVERS

December 19/20

No Servers scheduled.

LECTORS

December 19/20

No Lectors scheduled.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

December 19/20

No Eucharistic Ministers scheduled.

OFFERING

December 6, 2020

\$10,320.52

Thank You for your Generosity!

Gift for the Baby Jesus St. Lawrence will once again be collecting new and used baby items through Jan. 10th. The items will be donated to Pregnancy Center West who will in turn help those in need of the baby items. They are in need of 5 & 6 diapers, Pull ups (any size), warm clothes and coats (size newborn to 5T), socks/hats/gloves, wipes, shampoo/body wash/lotion, pacifiers/baby toys, towels and wash clothes, etc. Please put donations in the manger at church, or send to room 3A. Thank you for helping God's precious ones!

Rest in Peace: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Loretta "Bo" Bacon who recently died.

PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY

when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.



The Laurentian

St. Lawrence Bulletin Advertisements:

Jim Mazza represents the Diocesan (our Bulletin Publisher). He will be renewing present advertisements and seeking new ones. If interested, please call the parish office. Or you may contact Jim directly at 748-3007 or jmazza@diocesan.com. We feel this is an excellent service and that the sponsors get good coverage with their ads. Thanks to you and Diocesan, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish.

St. Lawrence in Loving Memory:

Starting January 2021, a section of the back of the bulletin will be available to list a deceased loved one's name. The cost is \$55.00 per name and all names will remain in the bulletin for one year. This helps defray the cost of printing our bulletin for the entire year. If interested, please clip and fill out the slip below and put it in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office, 3680 Warsaw Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45205.

Loved One's Name

Your
Name

Billing Address

Phone Number

Email Address

(Enclose check payable to Diocesan)



Eucharistic Adoration is on Thursdays, from 3:00pm – 5:00pm. During Eucharistic Adoration, I hear confessions. Remember, an excellent help in your preparation for Christmas is to make a good confession and spend some time in Eucharistic Adoration.

2021 Church Calendars are in the back of church this weekend. Please take them home.

Elder First Quarter Honor Roll:

Samuel B. Allgeier First Honors Grade 12

Nicholas O. Durbin First Honors Grade 10

Peyton T. Smith First Honors Grade 11

Cody M. Corbett 2nd Honors Grade 9

Cameron A. McWilliams 2nd Honors Grade 11



The voice is John, the Word is Christ

John is the voice, but the Lord *is the Word who was in the beginning*. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives for ever.

Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart.

However, let us observe what happens when we first seek to build up our hearts. When I think about what I am going to say, the word or message is already in my heart. When I want to speak to you, I look for a way to share with your heart what is already in mine.

In my search for a way to let this message reach you, so that the word already in my heart may find a place also in yours, I use my voice to speak to you. The sound of my voice brings the meaning of the word to you and then passes away. The word which the sound has brought to you is now in your heart, and yet it is still also in mine.

What the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: *The word ought to grow, and I should diminish?* The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: *My joy is complete*. Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts.

Do you need proof that the voice passes away but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in him. This is the message the voice cried out.

Because it is hard to distinguish word from voice, even John himself was thought to be the Christ. The voice was thought to be the word. But the voice acknowledged what it was, anxious not to give offense to the word. *I am not the Christ*, he said, *nor Elijah, nor the prophet*. And the question came: *Who are you then?* He replied: *I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord*.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. *Prepare the way of the Lord*, he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead him into your hearts, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him."

To *prepare the way* means to pray well; it means thinking humbly of oneself. We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory.

If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself.

He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

by St. Augustine, bishop



The Laurentian

Virgin Mary, all nature is blessed in you.

Blessed lady, sky and stars, earth and rivers, day and night—everything that is subject to the power or use of man—rejoice that through you they are in some sense restored to their lost beauty and are endowed with inexpressible new grace. All creatures were dead, as it were, useless for men or for the praise of God, who made them. The world, contrary to its true destiny, was corrupted and tainted by the acts of men who served idols. Now all creation has been restored to life and rejoices that it is controlled and given splendor by men who believe in God.

The universe rejoices with new and indefinable loveliness. Not only does it feel the unseen presence of God himself, its Creator, it sees him openly, working and making it holy. These great blessings spring from the blessed fruit of Mary's womb.

Through the fullness of the grace that was given you, dead things rejoice in their freedom, and those in heaven are glad to be made new. Through the Son who was the glorious fruit of your virgin womb, just souls who died before his life-giving death rejoice as they are freed from captivity, and the angels are glad at the restoration of their shattered domain.

Lady, full and overflowing with grace, all creation received new life from your abundance. Virgin, blessed above all creatures, through your blessing all creation is blessed, not only creation from its Creator, but the Creator himself has been blessed by creation.

To Mary God gave his only-begotten Son, whom he loved as himself. Through Mary God made himself a Son, not different but the same, by nature Son of God and Son of Mary. The whole universe was created by God, and God was born of Mary. God created all things, and Mary gave birth to God. The God who made all things gave himself form through Mary, and thus he made his own creation. He who could create all things from nothing would not remake his ruined creation without Mary.

God, then, is the Father of the created world and Mary the mother of the re-created world. God is the Father through whom all things were made, and Mary gave birth to him as the Savior of the world. Without God's Son, nothing could exist; without Mary's Son, nothing could be redeemed.

Truly the Lord is with you, to whom the Lord granted that all nature should owe as much to you as to himself.

by St. Anselm, bishop

To obtain a Happy Death.

O Mary! What will my death be? Considering my sins, and reflecting on that awful moment, when I must breathe my last and be judged, I tremble and am confounded. Most holy Mother, in the blood of Jesus and in thy prayers are placed my hopes. O consolation of the afflicted, do not abandon me then; fail not to console me in that great affliction. If thou assist me not, I shall be lost.

Ah, blessed Lady! Before my death be at hand, obtain for me a great sorrow for my sins, a real amendment of life and fidelity to God, during the remainder of my days. And when I shall arrive at the end of my life, O Mary, my hope, assist me in that distressing moment and so comfort me that I may not fall into despair at the sight of my sins, which the devil will place before me. Grant that I may invoke thee then more frequently, and that I may expire with thy name on my tongue and the name of the most holy and divine Son.

O blessed Lady, pardon my assurance; but before I die, do thou in person come to console me with thy presence. I am a sinner, it is true, and do not deserve such a favor; but I am devoted to thee, I love thee, and have great confidence in thee. O Mary, I look for thee; let me not remain disconsolate. At least, if I be not then worthy of so great a favor, assist me from heaven, that I may depart from this life loving God and thee. To come to love thee eternally in heaven.

*From Preparation for Death
by St. Alphonsus De Liguori*