# Rejoice. The Lord is near...

# GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

# December 11, 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Life can leave us feeling dark and desolate. Sandy was just twenty-eight when her husband, Rob, died, leaving her to raise their two young children. She was without paid employment. Rob went to work one morning and never returned home. Sandy, though, had faith and trusted that somehow God would help her through, even though most days brought deafening, piercing loneliness. She persevered, and the darkness gave way to light. Remarking one day to a friend hesitant to commit to a relationship, Sandy shared her wisdom. Even if she knew the outcome would be the same, she would marry Rob again. She assured her friend that she would even do this if eight years could only be eight minutes. We are being led by God and God transforms the darkness into light.

"Be strong, fear not!" Those are easy words to say. Putting them into practice is the challenge. When our paths are dark and life's roads become treacherous, we can easily complain about life's unfinished nature. When will the pain go away? Will the loneliness ever cease? Will I experience happiness again? As the farmer needs to exercise patience with the soil, we need to do the same with our lives. We have to wait for the early and late rains to come, properly tend to our gardens, and ensure that the rich nutrients of God's merciful and tender presence continue to enrich us. God is not done. God has only just begun his work in us.

We cannot allow life to hold us captive. The systems, agendas, protocols, regulations, expectations, and unfinished business can distract us from what it means to be God's child. Life can leave us feeling cheated, negative, and parched. All times and seasons of our spiritual and liturgical lives lead us to three virtues: faith, hope and love. Stop complaining about what is wrong and look to what God can make right! Joy that flows from the Baptist's message: in Jesus, the one mightier than he, are found healing, reconciliation, and freedom. Christ will save us from life's distortions, illusions, and disappointments. Do you believe this?

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# LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

We can often feel parched, desolate, lifeless, and dark. Even though we still engage in the business and demands of life, we find ourselves somewhat detached, disengaged, and removed. We lack joy, wonder, awe, and zest. Rather than being an experience of freedom and excitement, life holds us captive. We are tethered to systems, agendas, protocols, regulations, and expectations that go against the grain of what it means to be God's child. We find ourselves in a desert. Jesus came to release us from all of this negativity and desolation. John the Baptist announced the arrival of the One who embodies healing, reconciliation, freedom, and life. Stop complaining about what you don't have. Prepare for the arrival of the remedy to life's despair. Be strong, fear not! Christ will save us from life's distortions, illusions, and disappointments. Be patient. With proper time and care, all will be well.

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"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world." — C.S. Lewis



"Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!" – 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'

"We consider Christmas as the encounter, the great encounter, the historical encounter, the decisive encounter, between God and mankind. He who has faith knows this truly; let him rejoice." – Pope Paul VI



Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses:

Christmas Eve: 4 pm /6:30/ and 10 pm. Christmas Day 11 am. only

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? -CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED **Strengthening Faith**

# **Question:**

Our prayer group is discussing ways we can change and strengthen our faith. What one thing could we change that would have the greatest impact on our faith?

# Answer:

A famous coach once said that when the team is in trouble and things aren't going well, go back to the basics; when the team is winning and things are going well, go back to the basics! Any renewal program, faith development, or spiritual growth effort has to start with the basic core of what it means to believe. If the foundation is not strong, the house will not stand. So if you work on one thing, begin with the idea that God is love, who loves us and calls us to love one another. If we really take that belief to heart, it changes how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It would change how we pray, how we treat others, and how we understand and live our own life. Our sense of mission and purpose will be more focused on God's plan and our role in it. Love is the core of faith, the goal of life, and the hope of heaven. Whatever we do to strengthen and deepen our faith will begin and end with love.



We hope you'll save the date for **Thursday December 15<sup>th-7pm-</sup>** 

it's our Advent/Christmas Concert—a surely beautiful way to anticipate and celebrate the Joy of the Season! Bring a neighbor/friend-We'll have a Christmas cookie reception to follow--AND to change things up a bit and make everyone feel more a part of it, we invite you to bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share! If you're a holiday baker, I'm sure there's nothing you enjoy more than sharing your favorite cookie recipes with family and friends—and the truth is in these walls we're all family! So, if you'd like, bring your cookies to the concert or a day or two before and we'll share them together!

Sara & Music Ministry

he Gift Shop and Office will be open from 9a.m. to Noon on Christmas Eve. The Office & Gift Shop will be closed on Christmas Day. On December 26 the Office & Shop will be open from 9—1 p.m. Only.



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# EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

# The Season That Gives Back

I don't have anything left to give.

You can't pour from an empty cup.

All I do is give. Who is giving to me?

Raise your hand if these thoughts have ever run through your head. I'm sure they occur to all of us from time to time. We can become so easily depleted by the fast pace of life and whatever vocation God has called us to, whether that's parenthood, a demanding professional career or the caretaking of friends and family (or as so often happens, a hybrid of all three). Many of us also undergo certain seasons — seasons of the year, but also seasons of life — that seem to sap us of energy and leave us totally empty.

In these times, it seems impossible to continue in the spirituality of Everyday Stewardship. Graciousness, mindfulness, prayerfulness, gratitude, accountability — maintaining some semblance of these characteristics in our daily life feels not only overly optimistic, but totally impossible.

The Church gives us certain liturgical seasons that are meant to fill us up, almost like spiritual pit stops. Advent is one such season, and the Scriptural passages we reflect on at Mass during these four weeks are filled with images of nature defied. We see the dry steppe blooming. We see the weak made firm. We see the frightened made strong. We see the lame walk. We see the Virgin give birth.

If you think you don't have anything left to give this Advent, think again. This is the season of miracles when what we thought was depleted brings new life. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS* ©LPi "I left Santa gluten-free cookies and organic soy milk and he put a solar panel in my stocking." — Unknown

"A Joyful Sunday. The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as *Gaudete* Sunday. The word "gaudete" is derived from the Latin words "gaudium," joy, and "gaudeo," to rejoice or be glad. *Gaudete* Sunday occurs eight to thirteen days before Christmas, and the nearness of the feast is reason for great joy.

# The Term

"Gaudete." Gaudete is taken from the Entrance Antiphon: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near" (paraphrase, Phil 4:4-5). Advent is a time of joyful expectation and eager preparation for the Solemnity of Christmas."

www,catholicspirit.com

# LAMPSTAND—Christmas Memories!

**IF ONLY** I could return just one more time to my best childhood Christmases – in Johnstown Pa where my maternal grandparents lived. While I would spend most childhood summers there, it was Yuletide that my grandparents, (Finnish/Irish/Hungarian immigrants) made unforgettable. The house smelled like a wonderful blend of evergreen and citrus. Beautiful pastries and cakes painstaking made after hours of work and devotion, were ready for the Christmas Eve smorgas table; and final touches were made to the dinner for Christmas Day. I got to sleep in my mother's childhood room, which made me feel like a princess. On a obscure shelf in the kitchen, there was a YUBAN coffee tin in which my grandmother hid small surprises for us; she would say "Yuban stood for Yuletide Banquet" and we would just have to wait after our "banquet" to see what was in there. The Christmas tree was simply decorated with the candy cane- shaped bubble lights that many used at that time. Buttered Limpa (Nordic rye bread spread with sugar and cinnamon) would be left out for Joulupukki (the tall, slender Finnish Santa Claus) and carrots for his reindeer on Christmas Eve . We were allowed to have a sip of the fruity holiday Glug that had fermented and been stirred for months in a plankcovered crock in the old basement. Not sure if our cheeks were red, (to the distain of our mother), from trying to sip more than allowed or due to the excitement of the day to come -- seeing our cousins, who lived nearby, to share a beautiful dinner after Christmas Day mass. Whenever I hear someone mention Johnstown, my heart skips a beat -- it was, and always will be, my second home. If only I could see those dear and beautiful faces once more and tell them how loved and special they made me feel and how magical they made my childhood, especially at Christmas. "....I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams..." IF ONLY. -Kathleen



#### Dear Santa,

Annie has not been on your nice list for a long time now. I know that she is my sister but things can be a little difficult with her abundant energy. I'm a bit older now and sometimes she gets on my nerves. I'm sorry about that. What should I do?

<u>Santa's answer</u>: Guess what, Gracie, you are almost human! Sisters argue ,brothers argue, and sometimes they get on one another's nerves but you got to love Annie all the same. Yes, she had been on the naughty list –especially after she has turned three rolls of paper towels into what looked like a blizzard!

You are sisters and if you didn't disagree once in awhile or have differences *I'd be worried about you*! After all, humans do that all the time and I don't think they deserve to be on a naughty list– if they did no one would make the nice list. Try to understand! Love– Santa



WEDNESDAY	December 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest
11:00 AM	& Doctor of the Church +Elfreda Myers (A)
FRIDAY	December 16 - Advent Weekday
11:00 AM	+Edward & Lillian Noga (K)
SATURDAY	December 17 - Advent Weekday
4:00 PM	+Deacon Thomas Grasson (K)

#### SUNDAY December 18

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT8:00 AMParish Community (A)10:00 AM+Louise Bartok & Grace Leinweber (H)

11:45 AM +Wes Crabiel (J)



Our friends and relatives who are ill. May God grant them Healing and strength. These are

remembered by Perpetual Help Prayer Team Anthony, Felicia Anderson, Mary Annibale, Barb Aust, Patricia Ball, Larry Bender, Carol Biggs, Karen Biggs, Trevor Biggs, Erna Birschl, Pixie Blake, Carrie Jean Bonacci, Barbara Bonza, Eric Brown, Patricia Burfield, Katie Cido, Elaine Coreno, Frank Cseh, Lee Daniels, Marilyn Dlugos, Judy Brown Dyer, Len & Gloria Demko, Ella Dumke, Robert Dumke, Sr., Mary Dumke, Gene Egnot, Dan Elber, Sharon Fisher, Amber Fitzgerald, Mary Lou Gamellia, Marlene Geho, Francis Geib, Lois Gerome, Celia Giganti, Kristen Grasson, James Gresko, Shannon, Natalie & Elijah Grimes, Don Haluska, Amy, Barb, Marilyn, Sandy, Bill, Tina Healy, Kim Helle, Paige Hendryx, Rita Jamison, Kathryn Klasek, John Kole, Elaine Kopchak, Elaine Kopniske, Patricia Korbel, Kathy Mahoney, Terri Madak, Ron Meister, Ruth Ann & Frank Mucha, Mike McDonough, Aiden Middendorf, David Murrin, Maria Nicaise, Alice Olenchuk, Natalie P., Marcia Peltz, Sally Panek, Timothy Peterson, Phyllis Piccolomini, Donald & Beverly Phillippe, Francis Pierce, Charles Prohaska, Jesse Prybis, Ron & Pat Prybis, Elaine Rady, Darlene Riggs, Anna Sattlemaier, , Angela Schurger, Pat Schwark, Veronica Scott, Christopher Seman, David Shepley, Mary & Lloyd Sherdon, Willie Sitzenstock, Dolores Stanchina, Lisa Szymanski, Joe Tonderski, Paula Ulas, Bill & Patty Varga, Connie Vitis, Diana Weber, Carol Weiss, Marion Capra-Wesner, Anthony & Matthew Williams, Donna & James Woodyard, Debbie Woodyard, Peter Zaccari, Ruth Ziccardi.

The next Sanctuary Candle will be lit in memory of

**Marie Kress** 



#### WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of December 11, 2022

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11 Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and Tuesday: 23/Mt 21:28-32 Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 7:18b-23 Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/ Thursday: Lk 7:24-30 Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Jn 5:33-36 Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17 Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom Next Sunday: 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

#### Observances for the week of December 11, 2022

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent; St. Damasus I, PopeMonday:Our Lady of GuadalupeTuesday:St. Lucy, Virgin and MartyrWednesday:St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of theChurchThursday:Friday:Saturday:Saturday:4th Sunday of Advent ©LPi

#### SAINT OF THE WEEK Saint Damasus | December 11

Saint Damasus served as bishop of Rome for 18 years as Pope Damasus I (366-384). He had to endure significant controversy early in his pontifical reign when a factional group of bishops insisted that their chosen claimant, Ursinus, was the true pope. Both sides resorted to violence before the issue was decided in favor of Damasus. He went on to make the unification of the Church a central focus of his papacy and fervently fought to counter any division caused by the many heretical teachings of his time.

While he was pope, Christianity was declared the official religion of the Roman Empire and Rome's authority in the Church was decided by a synod that Damasus called in 382. This synod established Rome as the direct descendant of the Church founded by the apostle Saint Peter, the apostolic see, and put an end to confusion stemming from Constantinople, which some were already calling 'The New Rome'.

To further unify the Church, Damasus introduced Latin as the principle liturgical language and commissioned his secretary, Saint Jerome, to compile and revise the various translations of the Bible into one official translation to be used by the entire Church: The Latin Vulgate. This successfully preserved the original Scriptures by making them more accessible to the average Christian.

A writer and poet himself, Saint Damasus lives on in history through his many epigrams and verse inscriptions that can be found on the Roman catacombs that he restored during his papacy. Saint Jerome described his friend, Pope Damasus, as being "an incomparable person, learned in the Scriptures, a virgin doctor of the virgin Church, who loved chastity and heard its praises with pleasure."

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Help aging Religious. Senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer, service and works of mercy. Most ministered for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to today's **Retirement Fund for Religious** collection helps to furnish medications, nursing care and other necessities.

There are envelopes at the church entrances for your convenience.

Please give generously.

## **RCIA FOR CATHOLICS**

Whether you have been Catholic your whole life there is still plenty to learn!! Come join us this week Christmas and the Incarnation of God

You can meet us in the church on Wednesday at 7pm. All invited!

#### The next Cleveland Retrouvaille Weekend is

scheduled for January 13 - 15, 2023 The Retrouvaille program is a Lifeline for Troubled Marriages Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring – your relationship cold, distant – thinking about a separation or divorce? Are you already separated/ divorced but both of you want to try again? Then the Retrouvaille program may help you rediscover each other again. RETROUVAILLE, which means rediscovery, is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, but it is open to couples of all faiths. This program consists of a weekend experience for couples and six follow up sessions. A registration fee of \$450.00 is required to confirm your reservation. For more information concerning the program, or to register, please call Shelly or Rob at 216.509.0301 or 440.836.4810, go online to www.helpourmarriage.org.

## Gluten free Eucharist

For those wishing to receive, please see a Sacristan before mass.



Oplatki are shared on Christmas Eve with the head of the table saying a prayer, **thanking God for the family's blessings and asking forgiveness of anyone he or she has injured**. A piece of the oplatek (singluar form of oplatki) is broken off and shared, then the oplatek is passed to the next person and the ritual repeats itself.

Oplatki are available in the Atrium.

#### **Parish Activities**

Daytime Believers - Wednesday, December 14 -10am Brothers - Saturday, December 17 - 8am



# **Baptism Class**

The next Baptism Class will be held Sunday, January 15th <u>after the</u> <u>11:45am mass at St. Colette.</u>

Diocesan policy requires attendance at a Baptism class for parents who are planning to present their first child for the Sacrament of Baptism.

To register, call the Parish Office at (330) 273-5500.

# **DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN USE THE GIFT OF PRAYER?**

Ladies from St. Colette's have made beautiful prayer shawls/blankets for anyone needing some extra prayer. The shawl/blanket is created prayerfully with much love and is a way to wrap yourself the love and mercy of our God.

If you know of someone who could use a little extra prayer please come to the parish office and we will let you select a prayer shawl.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort **2 Corinthians 1:3** 



Mr. Lawrence Edwards

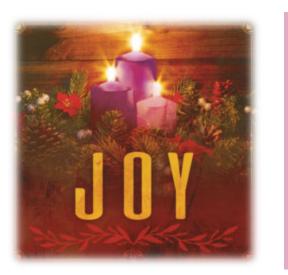
# Happy to have you with us

#### Remembering with Love....

Our loving prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to the families of Gloria Roderick (sister of Marilyn Swarm) and James LeHoty (father of David) who were called to their Eternal reward. Please pray for them and all the faithful departed.



#### Mankind is a great, immense family. This is proved by what we feel in our hearts at Christmas." St. John XXIII





Please pray for those serving in the Military

Joseph Adams MJR Sylvester Azap SrA Aimee R. Budzinski USAF GySgt. John Burrell E5/2nd Class Jacob Camper USN S/A-Dept/State Bradley Carlson Foreign Service Officer Cynthia Carlson-Cook S/SGT Stephen Coughlan SPC Kristen Coughlan MJR Jason Cross CPL Michael C. Dadaian USMC Michael Forlini HA Margaret Gasbarri USN CPL Peter Grasso SPC David Greenfelder Jr. LCpl Michael Grzybowski USMC Major Rick Hanrahan USAF SGT Jeremy Hlavaty 1LT Zachary Hollister USMC M/SGT Melissa Hunt CPL Zack Hunter USMC AMN 1st Class Joe Isabella Capt. Julianne Jamison USAF AA Bridget Kerr USN PVT Nathan Kerr Army Lt. Kris Klaiber SGT Kevin Lessman S/SGT Sam Lupica Col. Andrew W. Mack Lt. Colonel Jeremy Matyas USAF





Please email updates to kplumb@stcoletteparish.com

#### **PSCF NEWS**

No Classes Monday, Dec. 26 & Tuesday, Dec. 27

No Classes Monday, Jan. 2 & Tuesday, Jan. 3 Classes resume on Monday, Jan. 9 &

Tuesday Jan. 10, 2023

#### **Pre-School**

No Class Sunday, December 25 and Sunday, January 1, 2023. Classes resume on Sunday, January 8, 2023.

A hank You, Lord, for these days of Advent. They are a gift from You to us. May we experience with greater devotion your abiding Presence as we await the Celebration of Your birth. Merciful Jesus, Infant most holy, grace us anew with Your Divine Presence.

> SPONSOR OF THE WEEK Ber's 330.764.1011 - www.bershvac.com



# **St. Colette Parish Directory**

Pastor ~ Fr. William R. Krizner Weekend Assistants- Abbot Gary Hoover, O.S.B. Fr. Caesar Amandua– Chaplain Southwest General Hospital

Parish Address330 West 130th St. Brunswick, OH 44212Parish Office330.273.5500PSCF Office330.273.1355Fax330.225.7909

Website: <u>www.stcolettecatholicchurch.com</u>

**Office Hrs.** Mon-Thurs. 9am-5pm, Fri 9am-3pm, Sat Noon-5pm Sun. 8:30am-1pm

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm Sunday: 8:00-10:00- and 11:45 Wednesday & Friday: 11:00am Holy Day Vigil: 7:00pm Holy Day: NOON and 7:00pm

#### SACRAMENTS

**Baptism** - following 11:45 Mass on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. Arrangements must be made in advance through the Parish Office. Baptism Class required for first child.

**Matrimony** –Congratulations! Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance with the priest.

**Sacrament of the Sick** - contact the Office for home visitations and Eucharist.

Reconciliation - Saturday 3:00-3:30pm

#### WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT THANK YOU!!!

Sunday, November 27, 2022	\$12,366.00
Capital Improvement Fund	
Children's	
Project Endeavor	\$665.00
We sincerely & always appreciate your kindness &	

To help start and build an endowment fund, please remember St. Colette in your will. We also have a Memorial Scholarship /Education Fund.

#### PARISH STAFF

Pastoral Associate—Lisa Radey / Deacon Scott Cerrito Accountant-Jeanette Webster CPA/CFP / Ed Pfahl, Assistant Secretary/Bulletin Editor - Kathy Plumb Sacristan - Renate Elber / Osvaldo Rivera / Martha Stanislawczyk Judy Maiorana Building/Grounds – John Twardzik / Kevin Laughlin / Ben Emerson / Trever Maur Lily & Grace Gift Shop - Kathy Pellegrin

#### FAITH FORMATION

PSCF Directors - Larry & Chris Pizon - Contact Parish Office Baptism Class -Contact Parish Office—Sara Kronholz Pre-Cana Coordinators-Contact Parish Office High School PSCF/ Retreats-Fr. Krizner RCIA-Lisa Radey– Contact Parish Office

#### SPIRITUAL/ SOCIAL

Daughters of St. Colette - Lillian Morisky 216-534-1948 Holy Name Society - Don Feuerstein-440-572-1044 Care Ministry -Cathy Thies 440-572-1736 CELEBRATION - Mrs. JoAnn Papa - Contact Office Catholic Works of Mercy-combined service with St. Ambrose 330-460-7300

#### **MINISTRY OF SONG & PRAISE**

Cindy Indovina / Sara Kronholz /Claudia Miller/ Ralph Holstein Chris Charlillo /Todd Schrader / Erin August / Greg Paparizos / Mark Doyle

Eucharist Ministry Marty Morisky Ushers - Glen Stout	330-220-1001 440-773-9183
Lectors - Christina Dinklocker	330-273-4434
Servers - Renate Elber	330-273-1567

#### LILY ANN GRACE ~ THE PARISH GIFT SHOP

Shop Hours: Mon - Thurs 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-3pm, Saturday 12 - 5pm and Sunday 8:30am - 1pm Kathy Pellegrin-330-273-5500

	Ministers f	or the Weekend of Dec	ember 17 & 18, 2022	
	4:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:45 AM
LECTORS	B Gottl	L Axe	C Germana	C Pandora
SERVERS	C Sanders / C Frimel M Jancar	V & H Armstrong	A Tymann / M Goloja E Dolan	A Kamenar / L Saunders E Romer
USHERS	G & T Stout / M James B Cwiklinski / J Greenhalgh	D Barefield / J Rossborough G Richard	D Baldwin / S Smith D Cricks / P Rossman	J Spooner / G Madak J Kamenar / P Ferraro
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	S Emerson / B Emerson P Lewandowsky B & D Williams	M Dowling / D Eckert F & A Krizman	M Antonius / J Bacik K Baga / T Deegan J Jaskowiak / J Papa	R Arasim / M Cuglewski E Rogers / M Shabbick S Sheets



