# Third Sunday of Advent
## December 15, 2019

**The Long-Awaited One**

As the Sundays of Advent unfold the scriptures shift focus from the final coming of the Lord to his historical birth. Today's scriptures blend the two. Isaiah's disillusionment with the kings of his own day led him to envision an ideal king who would rule with divine approval and be led by divine wisdom. For centuries the Jewish people anticipated the arrival of that Messiah, who would usher in a blessed age when the whole world would finally dwell in justice and peace.

After centuries of such growing expectation, the preaching of John the Baptist about the imminent arrival of the Messiah could not help but provoke intense interest. The Baptist's message about preparation for "the one who is coming" (Matthew 3:11) makes clear that Jesus is, in fact, the long-awaited one who is ushering in the new age foretold by Isaiah and all the prophets.

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**Pray for the Sick**

Darlene Bargelski, Sr. Virginia Ann Brooks, Facenda Burton, Michael Dineen, Cal Fuhrmann, Jaxon Gardner, Valencia Giannantonio, Ann Hagan, Jane Hurlock, David Kidd, Rita Lynam, Bill Marshall, Francesca Olivere, Alice Goetz O'Neill, Teresa Rodriguez, Earlene Roles, Howard Scott and Cheryl Smith.

**Help Needed to Prepare the Cathedral**

Do you have time to assist in preparing the Church for the Christmas Season? Please come help on Sunday, December 22 after the 11:00 AM Mass.

**Mass Schedule**

Masses on December 26, December 31 and January 1 will be at 9 AM.

**2020 Calendars**

Help yourself to our 2020 calendars in the back of Church.

**Birthday Wishes**

Prayers and warm wishes for the following parishioners who have birthdays this week: **December 14:** John Moore, Darlene Cahill, Mary Barrosse-Antle, Juan Ayala, Jr.; **December 16:** Cathy Tidwell; **December 18:** Joseph DiIenno; **December 19:** Carol Burdick, David Facciolo

**Christmas Flower Memorial**

Do you have a loved one you would like remembered this Christmas? Why not do so with a Christmas Flower Memorial? Please use the envelope provided in your envelope package or one of the envelopes on the table near the entrance of the Cathedral. These memorials will assist us in defraying the cost of our Christmas flowers A list of memorials will be published in the January 5 bulletin.

**Christmas Concert**

The parish of St. Joseph on the Brandywine Music Ministry presents **A Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 15 at 2 PM at the church, 10 Old Church Road, Wilmington, DE. The concert will include The First Nowell by Ralph Vaughn Williams, featuring soloists Madeline Ley, Soprano, and Brian Gilmore, Baritone, choir, chamber ensemble and organ. There will also be traditional Christmas carols with audience participation. All are welcome, and there will be a free will offering.

**Catholic Forum**

Listen to *Catholic Forum* on Relevant Radio 640 AM on Saturday mornings at 11 AM or anytime online at cdow.org/CatholicForum or search *Catholic Forum* on Apple, iHeartRadio and Spotify podcasts. Next Saturday, December 21, tune in for the annual Catholic Forum Christmas Program featuring Bishop Malooly's Christmas message to the people of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore.

**Masses/Services for the Week**

**Saturday, Dec. 14**
4:00 PM MaryJo Mento
**Sunday, Dec. 15 (Third Sunday of Advent)**
8:00 AM Parishioners
11:00 AM Living Intentions of the Kennard Family
**Monday, Dec. 16**
12:10 PM Virginia and Collins Seitz
**Tuesday, Dec. 17**
12:10 PM Natalie O'Connor
**Wednesday, Dec. 18**
12:10 PM Mary Skelly
**Thursday, Dec. 19**
12:10 PM Caz Seitz
**Friday, Dec. 20**
12:10 PM Helen Gorski
**Saturday, Dec. 21**
4:00 PM Betsy and Al Fraczkowski
**Sunday, Dec. 15 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)**
8:00 AM Parishioners
11:00 AM Deceased Priests of the Diocese

**Vocations Awareness**

What kinds of people become priests, sisters or brothers?

Are they uncommonly holy, unusually saint-like? No. They are people who make mistakes, people who aren't afraid to be human while in God's service.

Are they people who can't face the competition and cruelty of the "real" world? No. They are people who believe that through ministry they can *immerse* themselves in the world and make positive changes.

Are they people who don't relate well with other people? No. They are people who love others — people who find real satisfaction chatting with a 93-year-old parishioner, holding the hand of a cancer patient, listening to the troubles of a streetwise teen.

They are people with the courage to touch lives, hearts and souls in a high-tech, unchurched world.

Are you that kind of person?

—*Serra for priestly and religious vocations*

**Word of Life**

"Those who die in God's grace and friendship live forever with Christ. Heaven is not an abstract idea, but a true and lasting relationship with God that is beyond all earthly description and understanding. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead and everlasting life by preparing now, in hope for our passage from this life into eternal life."

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing"

## Book of Sacred Liturgy

***Third Sunday of Advent***

December 15, 2019
Readings/Responsorial Psalm Pg. 176
O Come, O Come Emmanuel #768
The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns #771
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus #776

**A Holiday Novella**

*Jubal's Christmas Gift,* authored by our parishioner, Dennis Skirvin, is now available on Amazon.com. Dennis has graciously earmarked all 2019 profits to go to St. Peter Cathedral School and All Saints Catholic School. This uplifting novella would make a perfect Christmas gift for someone on your list! The cost is only $7.50 per copy. Copies are also available at the Angelus House Art Gallery and Angel Crossing, 550 Colonial Avenue in Wilmington.

**Special Christmas Schedule**

**Cathedral of St. Peter**
**Tuesday, December 24**
Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
*(Bishop Malooly, Celebrant)*
4:00 PM
**Wednesday, December 25**
The Nativity of the Lord
10:00 AM

**St. Patrick**
**Tuesday, December 24**
Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
4:00 PM
7:00 PM (Latin Mass)
**Wednesday, December 25**
The Nativity of the Lord
9:00 AM
10:30 AM (Latin Mass)

**St. Mary**
**Tuesday, December 24**
Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
10:00 PM
*Security Provided*