



SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH

3rd Liturgical Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B
December 17, 2023

SEASON OF ADVENT: Gaudete Sunday
December 3, 2023 to December 24, 2023

*What is an
Advent
Season
For... For
you?*



*Be awake,
guard your
heart
through
Prayer.*

Whitehorse Catholic Diocese * 12 December 2023 * Whitehorse, Y.T.C.A.

Address:
06 Steele Street, 4th Avenue,
Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C8
Phone: (867)-667-2437

PARISH MINISTRY

1. DAILY HOLY MASS CELEBRATIONS

Rev. Fr. Slawomir Szwagrzyk
Rector / Parish Priest
www.sacredheartcathedral.ca
office@sacredheartcathedral.ca

A. Sunday Masses

5:00 PM
Saturday

9:00
AM

10:30
AM

12:00
NN

7:00
PM

B. Daily Masses

12:10 NN
Monday to Friday

C. Special Masses

9:00 AM First
Saturday of the Month

Weddings and Funerals
(by Appointments)

D. Mass Intentions

Date	Day	Time	Intentions	Date	Day	Time	Intentions
<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Mon</u>	5:00 PM	+Kenneth Emsley	<u>Dec 19</u>	<u>Tue</u>	12:10 NN	+Violeta & Herminigilio Osita
2 nd Advent Novena				5 th Advent Novena		7:00 PM	
<u>Dec 17</u>	<u>Sun</u>	9:00 AM	All Parishioners	<u>Dec 20</u>	<u>Wed</u>	12:10 PM	Eduardo & Maximina Rosero
		10:30 AM	+Graham Wilson	6 th Advent Novena		7:00 PM	
		12:10 NN	Lori Duncan – Health	<u>Dec 21</u>	<u>Thu</u>	12:10 NN	+Gus & Vivian Pasowisty
7:00 PM	+Christopher De Vera	7 th Advent Novena		7:00 PM			
<u>Dec 18</u>	<u>Mon</u>	12:10 NN	+Gwen, Mary Larkin & Family	<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>Fri</u>	12:10 N	+Leoncio & Bernardina Barbarona
		7:00 PM		8 th Advent Novena		7:00 PM	
4 th Advent Novena		7:00 PM		<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Sat</u>	12:10 NN	+Rosamma Chacko
				9 th Advent Novena		5:00 PM	

Advent Confessions: December 21-22 at 5:00PM - 7:00PM, December 23 at 9:00AM - 12:00 NN and 3:00PM - 5:00 PM

E. Requests for Special Intentions during Holy Mass Celebrations

You may request to offer the following Mass Intentions:

1. **Thanksgiving Mass** (for most special intentions)
2. **Special Milestones** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.),

3. **Healing Mass** (fast recovery from sickness, reconciliation of relationships /ties) 4. **Requiem Mass** (Funeral services, Death anniversary/remembering the souls)

2. SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS AND RITES

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism Preparations: 1st and 2nd Friday of the Month
Baptism Ceremony: Saturday at 6:00 PM
 and Sunday at 1:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00 – 4:45 PM or call for an appointment
Sunday: Before the Mass
Monday to Friday: 11:30 AM – 12:00 NN

Sacrament of Confirmation and Holy Communion

Catechesis Classes: October 2023 - May 2024
Sacramental Rites: Spring and Summer 2024

Sacrament of Marriage

Marriage Preparations: Spring Time Only
Wedding Ceremony: Couples' Preference

Sacrament of the Sick:

This is administered once a Year during the World Day of the Sick (*February 11*) during Holy Mass.
 On other days, this sacrament is administered by special request. Indicate clearly the Name, Place, Time and the Contact Person.
 The priest will administer this sacrament ASAP.

3. ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Prayer for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Blessed be God.
 Blessed be his holy name.
 Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.
 Blessed be the name of Jesus.
 Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.
 Blessed be his most Precious Blood.
 Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament
 of the Altar.
 Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
 Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
 Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
 Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
 Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
 Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
 Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.



(Courtesy by V-card.com)

I adore you Jesus, true God, and true man, present in the Holy Eucharist, kneeling before you and united in spirit with all the faithful on earth and all the saints in heaven. In gratitude for so great a blessing, I love you with all my heart, for you are worthy of all praise and adoration. Lord Jesus Christ, may I never offend you with my lack of love. May your Eucharistic presence refresh me in body and soul. Mary, Mother of the Eucharistic Lord, pray for me and obtain for me a greater love for Jesus. Amen. *(Lay Cistercians of South Florida)*

Regular Schedule: Thursday: 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Sacred Heart Cathedral

We are with you in Praying for your intentions, petitions & all forms of supplications. Drop them in the Prayer Intention Box. Prayer Leaders and Alternates are still needed.

Please share and encourage your families, friends, and colleagues to visit the Blessed Sacrament even for just a couple of minutes.

-Please contact Katanne Belisle for more details.

PARISH UPDATES

Please Be Informed, Interested and Willing To Get Involved, Share/Donate, Support, Participate, Cooperate

1. ADOPT AN INMATE ENVELOPE DONATION PROJECT

We humbly appeal to your kindness and generosity to take a piece in our Adopt an Inmate Envelope Donation Project and whatever amount you can give will be used to purchase some items to be given as a **“Bundle of Joy”** to them. Envelopes are available at the front lobby of the Church



2. Schedule of Advent Confessions

December 21-22 at 5:00PM - 7:00PM, December 23 at 9:00AM -12:00 NN and 3:00PM - 5:00 PM

3. Schedule of Advent Novena Masses, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL
Simbang Gabi 2023
(Christmas Novena)
Bringing God's Light to the World!

December 15-23 at 7:00 PM
Except!
 December 16 & 23 at 5:00 PM
 December 24 at 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Christmas Eve Mass: 5:00 PM, 7:00 PM (French), 9:00 PM & 11:00 PM
Christmas Day Mass: 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 12 Noon (French)

Advent Confessions
 December 21 (Thursday) & 22 (Friday) at 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
 December 23 (Saturday) 7:00 AM to 12:00 Noon & 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

4. SPECIAL PROGRAM AND CALLING FOR ADULTS AND FAMILIES

Called to Love: Education in the Faith, and Vocation within the Family
Catechesis for Adults and Parents

Every 2nd Friday, 7pm to 8:30pm
 In the CYO hall at Sacred Heart Cathedral – 406 Steele St., Whitehorse
Starting Friday, October 13th, 2023 until May 10th, 2024

Do you have questions or even concerns about your faith or how to transmit it in today's world?
This catechesis is for you.

Sharing our Faith, witnessing of God's love and transmitting faith to our children and youth is a mission we are all called to, most especially parents as first educators.

Registration: In-person/online. Please email: admin@shcathedral.org for more info.

This journey will be a support and a light for all parents, grandparents, godparents, youth leaders, teachers, neighbors and friends who wish to share their experience, receive a word of truth, and a much-needed respite in their Christian mission.

5. MASS SPONSORS AND OFFERERS

We look forward for **a merrier and more grateful expressions of our preparations for Christmas** through a community-wide participation and involvement of all parishioners amidst the coldness of the environment as it is also the real essence during the Nativity Time of our Lord, Jesus Christ. **In this view, we highly welcome Parish Organizations, Groups, Agencies, Families, and Individuals who would like to Sponsor a Novena Mass or Christmas Eve Mass, and to offer somethings or in kinds during the Mass. Our Christmas Eve Masses are at 5:00 PM, 7:00 PM (French), 9:00 PM and 11:00 PM on 24th December 2023. While on December 25, 2023, our Masses are at 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, and 12:00 NN (French) respectively. Please notify us your chosen Day and Time if you are interested and willing to share your time and resources on these great moments of jubilation** with our God Almighty through His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, and the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph.

6. INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND GROUPS WHO SIGNIFIED THEIR SPONSORSHIPS

December 15: Friday at 7:00 PM –
Maribeth Riano Family & group

December 21: Thursday at 7:00 PM –
Rheimond Domingo Family and company

December 23, 2023: Saturday at 5:00 PM

December 17: Sunday at 7:00 PM
Kusina Lokal (c/o Alma Echeveria)

December 22, 2023: Friday at 7:00 PM
Antopina, Minguito, Ybañez, Kim, and De Los Santos Families

Footprints Day Home and Footprints Daycare Center

Other individuals, families, and groups who want to offer on these Days are most welcome to join and participate.

Some sponsors will be providing “Light Refreshments” after the Novena Mass at the front lobby, along the main door of the Church. We will be thankfully delighted when more others will share too.

7. MUSIC MINISTRY – Special Music Schedules

ADVENT NOVENA MASS

Dec 15: Genalyn Puno & Filipino Choir
 Dec 16: Genalyn Puno & Filipino Choir
 Dec 17: Genalyn Puno & Filipino Choir
 Dec 18: Dominic Pelayo and group
 Dec 19: Dominic Pelayo and group
 Dec 20: Dominic Pelayo and group
 Dec 21: Dominic Pelayo and group
 Dec 22: Genalyn & Filipino Choir
 Dec 23: Genalyn & Filipino Choir

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Dec 24:
 5:00 PM Genalyn / Filipino & Youth Choir
 9:00 PM Ryan Sikkes / Jillian / Lucille
 11:00 PM Sean Dayagbil & Schola Cantorum North (Women's Choir)

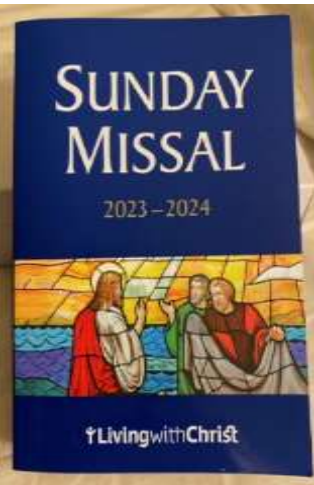
CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S EVE

Dec 25:
 9:00 AM } No Music, Open for
 and } whoever wants to
 10:30 AM } do music
 Dec 31:
 9:00 AM Ryan / Jillian / Lucille
 10:30 AM No music, open for
 whoever wants to do music

8. SUNDAY MISSAL 2023-2024

The Living with Christ Sunday Missal 2023-2024 with prayers and hymns are now available at the front lobby of the Church at \$7.00 each.

May you will be filled by the gifts of the Holy Spirit as you continue reading and meditating on it and wilfully live the essence of Christian



9. The NATIVITY SCENE: 800 Year Old Tradition



THE NATIVITY SCENE An 800 Year Old Tradition 1223 to 2023

In celebration of the 800th anniversary of the Nativity scene, we invite all parishioners in the Diocese of Whitehorse to

SEND US A PHOTO OF YOUR NATIVITY SCENE to be posted in our Nativity scene photo gallery on the diocesan website.

Photos may be emailed to bishopoffice@rcdw.ca

To learn about the beautiful history of the Nativity scene from the time of St. Francis of Assisi, please visit our Nativity scene webpage at www.rcdw.ca

"The enchanting image of the Christmas crèche, so dear to the Christian people, never ceases to arouse amazement and wonder. The depiction of Jesus' birth is itself a simple and joyful proclamation of the mystery of the incarnation of the Son of God. The Nativity scene is like a living gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture." – Pope Francis, Admirabile Signum 2019

Please see posters in the Bulletin Board and Church Doors

10. CATECHISM CLASSES OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Important Details:

CLASSES WILL HAVE A CHRISTMAS BREAK AFTER DECEMBER 21, 2023 AND WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 08, 2024. Parents are enjoined to give time for reviewing the lessons with children especially in making their journals. It will be more appreciated if they can find time to open the links or visit the website for the videos used in their classes.

For further information please see Father Slawek or email Caroline Knickle at catechesis@sacredheartcathedral.ca

When one loves, one does not calculate. – St. Therese of the Child Jesus

11. 'Joy to the World'

'Joy to the World' An ecumenical service of readings and carols. Come sing with us at the Archbishop Terry Buckle Memorial Christmas Service. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 2023 1.30 – 2.30 PM at Copper Ridge Place You are invited to celebrate Christmas with the residents of Copper Ridge Place. Family and friends of residents are welcome to join us for a joyful time of singing and listening to Scripture. NB: If you are attending as family or friend, please check with staff beforehand on whether there are any restrictions on number allowed per resident. In the event that Continuing Care restricts entrance because of Covid – 19, the event will be cancelled. – *Patricia Banks*

12. RECTOR'S REPORT ON CHURCH PROJECT

On December 7, 2023, the last inspection of the insulation of the foundations of the Cathedral took place, thus completing this phase of the renovation of our Cathedral.

September 2022 - April 2023

* In the fall of 2022, we began to insulate the foundations of our cathedral. At that time, the foundations were exposed, and additional insulation was added. As a result of our work, we added R37 insulation to the existing insulation. In other words, our foundations now have about R50 insulation. This work was completed in January 2023. We paid about \$130K + architect 10K for this work.

May to November 2023

* In May, we completed the exterior duct work \$4K

* In May, we ordered the material to finish the foundations of the cathedral.

* In May, we found a contractor to insulate the walls of the Cathedral (*the plan was for him to start in August 2023 and finish in November*).

* In June, a new pavement was laid (*north and west side of the cathedral*), costing about \$20K

* During the summer, the architect and engineer continued to design the insulation of the cathedral walls. (Phase 2) \$25K

* In 2011, a permit was issued for an oil tank. The work was completed, but no one did a final inspection. Therefore, we now had to make the necessary changes and in August 2023 the permit finally passed the final inspection. \$5K

* In September, the contractor delayed entering the site and finally did not start work.

* In September, the material to finish the foundations was delivered from Japan Ceraclad Triple-Coated Rainscreen Siding System, FH7252A Granite Ft Brown. (*We bought more material to finish the main entrance with the same material. But this will be done along with the insulation of the walls of the Cathedral.*)

* In October, we found another contractor who agreed to insulate the walls of the Cathedral by the end of December (*completion by mid-March*). This would allow us to take advantage of a 40% discount from Good Energy Solution.

Unfortunately, the price was over our budget and the fundraising for the renovation was not progressing very fast. As a result, we could not begin this phase of the renovation of our cathedral.

* In early November, the contractor will install the Ceraclad \$ 38K (for materials and installation)

* Reconstruction of the stairs on the west side of the Cathedral \$6K

From Fall 2022 to April 2023, we spent about 140K on the renovation. (\$75K CDF, \$56K Good Energy Solution)

From May 2023 to date, we have spent about \$94K. During this time, we have collected about 36K for the renovation of the cathedral. Now I'm waiting for a 40% discount from Good Solution. I'm about \$20-30K short. In order to pay, I'll have to take the missing amount from the Long Term Deposit. – *Fr. Slawomir Szwarzgryk, Parish Rector*

On spirituality:

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR DECEMBER 2023

For persons with disabilities - We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

"Keep praying for PEACE in the Holy Land and the Middle East and Countries in Great Natural

Calamities, Famine, International Territorial Boundaries Disputes, Land Disputes, Family Feuds, and Spiritual Warfare."



GUIDE TO SCRIPTURAL READINGS AND MEDITATIONS FOR

3rd WEEK OF ADVENT 2023

December 17, Sunday:

Theme: 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

ANTIPHON: *Philippians 4:4-5 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.*

READING 1: *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 (8B) I rejoice heartily in the Lord!*

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God. I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the LORD GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 Response. Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 R Isaiah 61.10b*

RESPONSE: *My soul rejoices in my God.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed:

RESPONSE: *My soul rejoices in my God.*

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

RESPONSE: *My soul rejoices in my God.*

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

RESPONSE: *My soul rejoices in my God.*

READING 2 *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.*

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION & ALLELUIA *Isaiah 61:1*

Alleluia, Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor .
Alleluia.

GOSPEL: *John 1:6-8, 19-28 "I am not the Christ."*

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Prayer:

My loving Lord, You are there, waiting for me in the darkness and dryness of my sin. You are waiting for me to lead me and guide me through the many challenges I face in life. Please give me the courage and wisdom I need to trust in You enough to follow You wherever You lead. Jesus, I trust in You. (My Catholic Life)

December 18, Monday:

Theme: RELIGIOUS POLITICIANS

ANTIPHON: *Christ our King is coming.*

READING 1: Jeremiah 23. 5-8

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 72. 1-2, 12-13. 18-19 **Response.** 7

RESPONSE: *Justice and peace shall flourish forever.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Come, Leader of ancient Israel, giver of the law to Moses on Sinai: rescue us with Your mighty power! Alleluia*

GOSPEL: Matthew 1, 18-24. "By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority?"

Prayer: *My Lord of all truth, give me the grace I need to stand firm on all that You have revealed to me. Give me courage to remain firm in the convictions of faith that have been given to me by You. May I proclaim this faith to all whom I encounter so that I can be an instrument of Your love and mercy to the world. Jesus, I trust in You. (My Catholic Life)*

December 19, Tuesday

Theme: IT'S TIME TO CHANGE

ANTIPHON: *Cf. Hebrew 10. He who is to come will come and will not delay, and now there will be no fear within our land, for he is our Saviour.*

READING 1: Judges 13. 2-7, 24-25a

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 71. 3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 R 8

RESPONSE: *Fill me with Your praise and I will sing Your glory!.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Come, Flower of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all His people: save us without delay! Alleluia.*

GOSPEL: Luke 1. 5-25

Prayer: *Precious Lord, give me the grace I need to respond to every prompting of grace in my life. Help me to say "Yes" to You and to follow through with my actions. As I see more clearly the ways I have refused Your grace, give me courage and strength to change so as to more fully conform to Your perfect plan for my life. Jesus, I trust in You. (My Catholic Life)*

December 20, Wednesday:

Theme: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CHRIST

ANTIPHON: *Cf. Isaiah 11: 40; Luke 3 A branch shall sprout from the root of Jesse, and the glory of the Lord will fill the whole earth, and all flesh will see the salvation of God.*

READING 1: Isaiah 7. 10-14; 8.10d

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 24. 1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 R 7c+ 10c

RESPONSE: *Let the Lord enter, He is King of glory.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Come, Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal kingdom: free the prisoners of darkness! Alleluia.*

GOSPEL: Luke 1: 26-38

Prayer: *Lord, I thank You for the countless ways in which You have changed my life, healing me of my spiritual illnesses, opening my eyes and ears to Your truth, and raising my soul from death to life. Use me, dear Lord, as a witness to Your transforming power. Help me to give testimony to You and Your perfect love so that others will come to know You through the way You have touched my life. Jesus, I trust in You. (My Catholic Life)*

December 21, Thursday:

Theme: SHARING IN GOD'S DIVINITY

Ferial: St. Peter Canisius

ANTIPHON: *Cf. Isaiah 7;8. The Lord ad Ruler will be coming soon, and His name will be called Emmanuel, because he will be God-with-us.*

READING 1: Zepaniah 3. 14-18a

Or Song of Songs 2: 8-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 33. 2-3, 11-12, 20-21 R 1a+3a

RESPONSE: *Cry out with joy to the Lord! OR Cry out with joy to the Lord, you holy ones, sing a new song to Him.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Isaiah 45. Alleluia, alleluia. Come, Emmanuel, God's presence among us, our King, our Judge: save us, Lord our God! Alleluia.*

GOSPEL: Luke 1: 39-45

Prayer: *My divine Savior, I thank You for the awe-inspiring gift of grace You have given me, inviting me to actually share in Your divinity. May I become more and more aware of this gift and become eternally grateful for all You have done for me. Jesus, I trust in You. (My Catholic Life)*

December 22, Friday: Theme: **THE LOVE OF THE FATHER**

ANTIPHON: Psalm 23: *O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let Him enter, the King of glory!*

READING 1: 1Samuel 1. 24-28

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE: 1st Samuel 2. 1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd R1a

RESPONSE: *My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia. *Come, King of all nations, source of Your Church's unity and faith: save all people, Your own creation!. Alleluia.*

GOSPEL: Luke 1. 46-56. *"Behold, the virgin shall be with the child and bear a son, and they shall name Him "Emmanuel" which means "God is with us".*

Prayer: *Most holy Father in Heaven, I do desire to come to know You and Your perfect and intimate love for me. Please open my mind and heart to You more fully this Advent season so that I can turn from all fading and passing lights of this world and come to the one and profound Light of Your loving Heart. Jesus, I trust in You. (My Catholic Life)*

December 23, Saturday: Theme: **BELIEVE! GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISE**
Ferial: **St. John of Kanty**

ANTIPHON: CF. Isaiah 9: Psalm 71. *A child shall be born for us, and He will be called God, the Almighty; every tribe of the earth shall be blest in Him.*

READING 1: Malachi 3. 1-4; 4. 5-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 25. 4bc-5ab, 8-9, 10 +14 R Luke 21.28

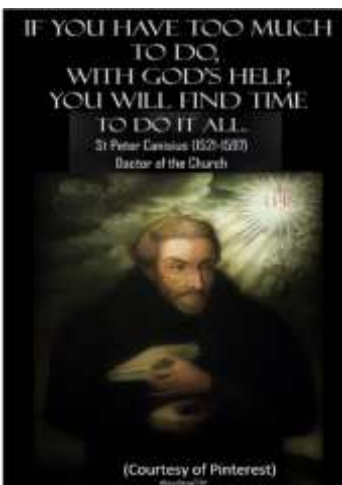
RESPONSE: *Lift up your heads and see, your redemption is near at hand.*

GOSPEL: Luke 1. 57-66 *"Do not be afraid, Zecariah..."*

Prayer: *O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them that trust Your mighty power to save and give them victory over the grave. (EWTN Global Catholic Network)*

Celebrating the Commemorations of the Saints For the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time –Year B

The feast of the saints is important because it is a way of honouring God and growing in our love for Him¹². It also reminds us of the ways the Lord has been and continues to be at work in the world², and of the triumph of the Gospel³. By celebrating the feast days of saints, we commemorate their lives, their virtues, and their intercession for us. (EWTN



Some glimpse on the "The Advent Candles"

December 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent, the lighting of the 3rd Candle JOY as represented by color Pink. This is the mid point of the journey of waiting, longing, hoping and believing that the Messiah is coming so soon to us. Our hearts are filled with joy and eagerly wanting to embrace the Lord, our Saviour. Yet, we are also prompted to clear up our conscience by reflecting on the quality of our thoughts, words and deeds. We are obliged to make amends of our shortcomings, limitations, and all forms of misdoings, as much as practicable and desirable. Thus, repentance, reconciliation, and self-renewal are vital elements of rejoicing in the Lord always as He keeps His promise of redemption of all mankind. - Vicenlerose



Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transforming greed into gratitude. –St. John Chrysostom

