

Rejoice!

The third Sunday of Advent is named 'Gaudete' – 'Rejoice!' and that message is loud and clear in the first reading: 'Shout for joy! Rejoice, exult with all your heart!' The reason for rejoicing is the promise that the Lord is in our midst, renewing us by his love, and rejoicing over us, dancing with shouts of joy for us.

St Paul joins in with the same theme, wanting us always to be happy in the Lord, and not to worry about anything but to ask God for what we need, not just with prayer but with thanksgiving.

I had a great insight last weekend into what it's like to have people rejoicing with you and for you. It was wonderful to experience so much affirmation and I am full of thanksgiving to God and to all of you for your kindness and support, but most of all for the way you rejoice over me and what God manages to do through me, despite my limitations.

Whatever else may be said about any of us, the truth is that each of us is created and loved by God, who rejoices over us as a parent rejoices over a new born child and as a shepherd rejoices over a sheep that was lost and now is found. Even our faults can't prevent God from rejoicing over us: there is more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over all the virtuous people who have no need of repentance.

This amazing, undeserved love, calls forth from us a response, not just of joy, but of the desire to return that love, to demonstrate our gratitude by the way we live. When people experienced the forgiving love of God through the baptism of John, they immediately asked him, 'What should we do?' and his answer was simple and straightforward: share food and clothing with those in need; deal fairly with each other; no intimidation or extortion; be content.

In the face of austerity and uncertainty, some people are tempted to turn against those they see as different and threatening. The Christian response to adversity is to go on thanking God for what we have and to rejoice over every person that God has created. John pointed beyond himself to the One who was to come and beyond this world to everlasting life. Advent invites us to lift our gaze to the far horizon and to see ourselves and every other person as God sees them, someone to rejoice over.



ST TERESA'S, NORRIS GREEN

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| Monday 17th December | 9.00am 3.00pm | Eucharistic Service Requiem: Michael Kerr |
| Tuesday 18th December | 8.30am 9.00am 12.00pm | Rosary Eucharistic Service & Exposition Requiem: Raymond Scully RCIA will resume in the New Year Novena will resume in the New Year |
| Wed 19th December | 8.30am 9.00am 12.00am | Rosary Eucharistic Service Funeral Service: Edward Kane |
| Thursday 20th December | 8.30am 9.00am | Rosary Eucharistic Service |
| Friday 21st December <i>St Peter Canisius</i> | 8.30am 10.00am | Rosary Eucharistic Service |
| Saturday 22nd December | 9.00am 12.00pm 5.00pm 6.00pm | Eucharistic Service & Exposition Baptisms (by appointment only) Confessions Mass |
| Sunday 23rd December | 10.00am 12.00pm 6.00pm | Mass Baptisms (by appointment only) Mass |

Sunday 16th December 2018
Gaudete Sunday - 3rd Sunday of Advent



Your prayers are asked for those who have died recently, especially
Susan McCarney, Richard McGlory, Lorraine Wilson, Anne Grimley, Eddie Kane, Betty Burke, Audrey Packenham, Joseph Furey, Terry Paxton, Gordon Butler, Ann Gallagher, Emma Lally, John McCarten, May Conley, Terry Barton

Jnr,

Peggy McCrave, Baby Dunne,

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Fr Anthony Ford, Leo Riley, Ann Burns, Bryan A Fitzsimmons, Tess Fallon,

John Flaherty,

Please pray too for all those who are lonely or housebound, for those who are sick, at home or in hospital, and all those visited by our Eucharistic Ministers.

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all those who helped make Fr Chris' celebrations run so smoothly last weekend. All your hard work was very much appreciated. xx

Gaudete Sunday

Today is the day we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. The third Sunday of Advent is regarded as a less solemn Sunday, on which we shout for joy at the imminent coming of the Saviour. The Introit for the Mass for this Sunday begins 'Rejoice in the Lord always'. In Latin, this is 'Gaudete in Domino semper', from which this Sunday is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday.



WELCOME We are delighted to welcome Nellie Grace Stodden, Callum Robert Edward Vale, Skya Pundziute who were all Baptised into our faith community last weekend.

SOCK APPEAL

The Friends of St Eugene group are having the sock appeal again this year for the homeless. When you are doing your Christmas shopping maybe you could buy an extra pair or packet of adult socks for the appeal? There is a box at the back of church for you to put your sock donations in.



FLOWERS. There are envelopes in church for your donations towards the cost of flowers to decorate our beautiful church at Christmas.



WINNING NUMBERS for draw on 12th December 2018

6; 7; 10; 24

NO WINNER of the Jackpot of £782

(*subject to re scrutiny*)

Estimated Jackpot for the next draw on

12th December 2018 is £

Two consolation prizes of £25 each:

142937; 142440



Many thanks to all who support our Parish Lottery and to the Team who run it for us. Your support is really appreciated!

Lonely This Christmas

There are few things in life more miserable than feeling alone at Christmas. This is a time of year when many feel isolated and miserable. There are plenty of reasons why people feel lonely at Christmas; the loss of a loved one through death or divorce, or living far from relatives are amongst the main reasons. This Christmas don't be so consumed by all the gifts and tinsel, or your own joy of the season, that you forget to embrace the lonely. Take time to send a card, make a phone call, pay a visit or invite someone you know to be alone over for a Christmas drink.

"Yes! I tell you that whenever you did these things for one of the least important

Nugent Care - Our Charity Shop on Allerton Road needs donations!

You can drop goods off at the shop on Allerton Road, or they can collect from you. Drivers collect on Thursdays, please call Jeanette at the shop to arrange a collection.

Foodbank Many thanks to those who continue to contribute to our Foodbank Appeal. All of the food collected is desperately needed and is passed on to the distribution centre. Food can be dropped off at the priests house or put in the box at the

35th ANNUAL CAFOD FUN RUN or WALK!

Run or Walk with family & friends!

Thursday 27th December 2018.

Where? Wavertree Athletics Centre, L15 4LE (Mystery Playground)

12.00pm Registration

Entry £5 kids, £10 adults. £20 family. Starts at 1pm

Further info at Liverpool@cafod.org.uk or 0151 228 4028 or simply turn up for 12pm and register on the day!

