

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT OR GAUDETE SUNDAY

December 17, 2017

Volume 1, Issue #18



Saint Teresa  
of Calcutta  
Catholic Community

*Celebrants:*  
*Father Victor Ray*  
*and*  
*Father Martin dePorres*

*On behalf of  
Father Victor and  
to all who are with  
us today, Thank  
You for being here.  
Love is present  
among us this day,  
Thank You!*



## *Wisdom From Father*



The third Sunday of Advent is called “Gaudete Sunday.” It comes from the first word of the “Entrance antiphon” or “Introit” of the Mass. “Gaudete” is Latin for “rejoice,” and the text of the antiphon is from Philippians 4:4, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice!” It appears in a shorter form in today’s second reading: “Rejoice always.” More on this later.

Television shows have gone through many fads and phases. There was the age of quiz shows, the age of westerns, of variety shows, of situation comedies, of detectives, and so on. Today we are in the age of “reality shows.”

They are of two types. There are those where we simply observe people: litigants in small claims court (Judge Judy style), women buying a wedding dress, survivalists, home buyers, you name it. Others are competitions, in which each week someone wins and someone is eliminated.

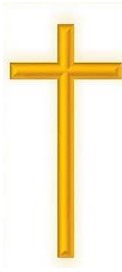
Some of the competitions involve fashion designers. At the beginning of each episode they are given a challenge; they have to make a garment either using specific materials, or inspired by a work of art, a city, an animal, a famous person. In today’s first reading there is a text that would provide just such a challenge. Here it is:

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.

We don’t make ourselves holy. We can’t, on our own, preserve ourselves blameless. But God, who is faithful, will accomplish it. He will—he really will—clothe us with a robe of salvation. He really will wrap us in a mantle of justice. He really will make us rejoice heartily in him, and, as St. Paul says, “rejoice always!”

*Fr. Victor Ray*

*LET'S SAY*  
*A*  
*PRAYER FOR:*



- ✚ Tyler Luckadoo, Friend of Becky. Prayer for Recovery and Healing.
- ✚ Lyn Kovar. Prayer for Healing Aura
- ✚ Ivy Villafana. Prayers for continued Healing and Better Health.
- ✚ Bill Hartwig. Prayers for continued Healing and Better Health.
- ✚ D.A. and Dee dealing with health issues. Prayers for Healing and Better Health.
- ✚ Birgit Wilhelm dealing with health issues. Prayers for Healing and Better Health.
- ✚ For all of our Parishioners that follow us through Electronic Media. Prayers for your specific request that you have sent us.
- ✚ For all those that need a Prayer, Raise your Right Hand Toward Heaven and know that the Parish of Saint Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Community is beside you in your Prayer.

Any Prayer Request needed, Please, notify William Schwartz

## The Daily Prayer of Saint Teresa

Dear Jesus, help me to spread your fragrance everywhere I go. Flood my soul with your spirit and love. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of You. Shine through me and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me but only Jesus. Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as you shine, so to shine as to be a light to others. **Amen.**

## CHURCH SCHEDULE

- December 17th, 10:30 AM - Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday
- Monday, Dec. 18th thru Saturday, Dec. 23rd - Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) By Appointment. Please call the church to schedule an appointment with Fr. Victor, phone # 727-245-0102 or email at [media.stoccc@gmail.com](mailto:media.stoccc@gmail.com)
- December 24th (Christmas EVE) - **NO 10:30 AM MASS..... 6 PM - Methodist Service in Allendale/Main Sanctuary**  
ALL ARE WELCOME.... 10:30 PM- Music & Midnight Mass STOCCC Chapel
- December 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:30AM - Feast of the Holy Family
- January 7th, 10:30AM - Epiphany

*We hope to see you All this Holiday Season!*  
*May this be a Joyous Time For All!*



# Celebrations



## This Weeks Chuckle

Todd Chase Birthday 12/17

Florence Jean-Pierre Birthday 12/24

Chris Warner Birthday 12/24

Anne and Brian Kinney Anniversary

12/26

Frank Matzelle Birthday 1/5

For all those Celebrations that I have missed, Forgive Me and I sincerely hope they were all Wonderful and Wishing You Many More!



## OTHER HAPPENINGS

- Thank You! We have raised an additional \$140 for the AIDS Walk/Run!
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, Welcome Reception with our Host Allendale United Methodist Church right after Mass Today.
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, Homeless Memorial Service at Trinity Lutheran, St. Petersburg. Father Victor is participating in the service. This is also the day of the Celebrate Outreach Homeless Memorial Meal at 1:00 pm.
- December 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am, Cooking for Celebrate Outreach Christmas Day Buffet.

*All of us at Saint Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Community want to take a moment to extend a very warm welcome to everyone who is visiting us for the first time this morning. Whether you are just having a look, or are searching for a place to worship, we are delighted to have you here. Enjoy the rest of your worship time with us, and*

*May God Bless You!*





# Christmas Decorations

“WHAT ARE WE DOING”?

“IT’S OUR CHURCH LETS DECORATE IT FOR US”!

- ✓ IT’S YOUR TREE, BRING IN AN ORNAMENT AND DECORATE IT.
- ✓ INSTEAD OF A DONATION FOR FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR, WE ARE ASKING YOU TO BRING IN A POINSETTA PLANT TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES. YOU DECIDE WHAT BEST REPRESENTS YOUR LOVE ONES. BRING THE PLANT IN ANYTIME BEFORE CHRISTMAS EVE. (best deals are Home Depot, Lowes or Walmart)

## Pleading Reminder:

We truly appreciate the enthusiasm of the non-requested physical gifts that we receive for Saint Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Community. Please remember that our present location is **temporary** and therefore storage and the ability to “HGTV” the space is extremely limited.

Preference is, if you have the urge to purchase something, stifle that urge and put the cost of that item into an offertory envelope. The quicker we have our **OWN** building the faster we can truly decorate and store items.

I truly hope that I have not offended anybody! We are in a transition period to a permanent home. My hope is we get there as fast as we can!



Spread love everywhere you go. Let  
no one ever come to you without  
leaving happier.

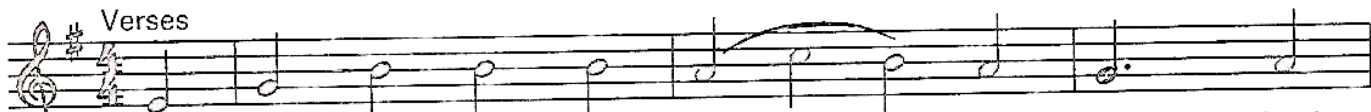
— Mother Teresa —

# GATHERING

## O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

### Verses



1. O come, O come, Em - man u - el, And  
2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who

3. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se's stem, From  
4. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And

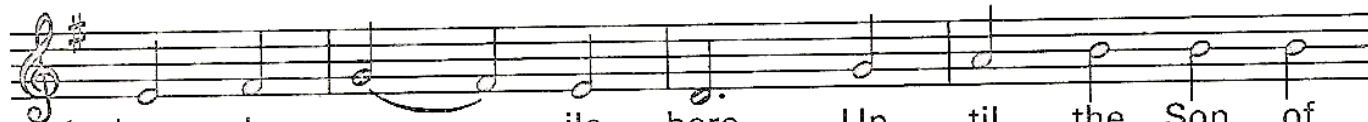
5. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In



1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in  
2. or - d'rest all things might - i - ly; To us the

3. ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them That trust thy  
4. o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home; Make safe the

5. one the hearts of all hu - man - kind; Bid thou our

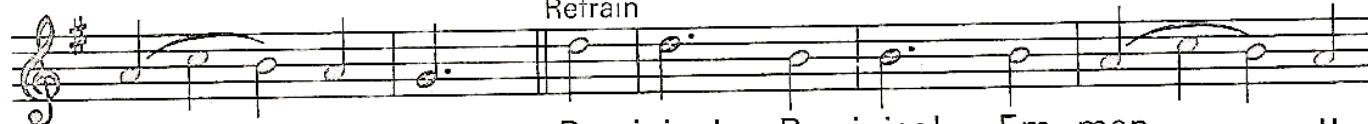


1. lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of  
2. path of knowl - edge show, And teach us in her

3. might - y pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry  
4. way that leads on high, And close the path to

5. sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our

### Refrain

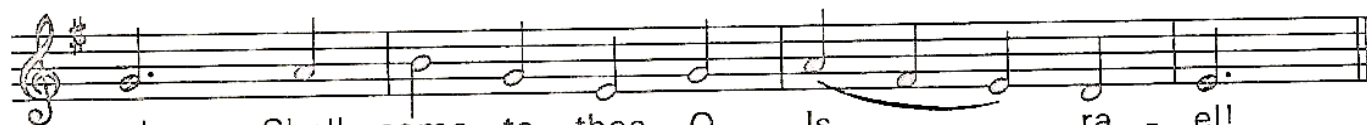


1. God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -  
2. ways to go.

3. o'er the grave.

4. mis - er - y.

5. Prince of Peace.



el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## Reading 1

[ISIAH 61:1-2A, 10-11](#)

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 brokenhearted, 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

## Responsorial Psalm

[LUKE 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54](#)

**R. 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:

**R. 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.

**R. 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.

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

## Reading 2

[1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24](#)

Brothers and sisters: 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

## Alleluia

ISIAH 61:1 (CITED IN LK 4:18)

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Gospel

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

# OFFERTORY

## It Came upon the Midnight Clear

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glor - ous song of old, From  
2. Still through the clov - en skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled, And

3. For lo! the days are hast - ening on, by pro - phet long fore - told, When

an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold; "Peace on the earth, good  
still their heaven - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wear - y world; A - bove its sad and

with the ev - er circ - ling years comes round the age of gold; When peace shall o - ver

will to men, from Heaven's all gra - cious king." The world in sol - emn  
low - ly plains, they bend on hov - ering wing, And ev - er over its

all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling, And the whole world send

still - ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.  
Ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.

back the song which now the an - gels sing.



# COMMUNION

## TO BE YOUR BREAD

David Haas



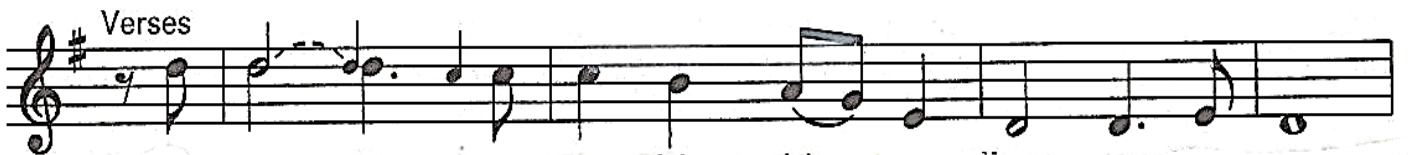
To be your bread now, be your wine now, Lord, come and change us



to be a sign of your love. Blest and bro-ken, poured and flow-ing,



gift that you gave us, to be your bod-y once a - gain.



1 Lord, — we stum-ble through the dark-ness of night.

2 Give us the bread and wine that bring us to life.

to Refrain



2. Lead us, now, — O Lord, we fol-low; bring us home to you.

3. Feed us, — and we'll nev-er hun-ger, nev-er thirst a - gain.

POST COMMUNION SONG (IF NEEDED TO STRETCH)

Nothing but the Blood

1. What can wash a - way my sin? Noth-ing but the blood of  
2. This is all my hope and peace: noth-ing but the blood of  
Je - sus. What can make me whole a - gain?  
Je - sus. This is all my righ - teous - ness:  
*Refrain*  
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus. O pre - cious  
noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
is the flow that makes me white as snow; no oth - er  
fount I know; noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Verse 3  
Glory, glory this I sing  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
All my praise for this I bring  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

# SENDING

## PEOPLE, LOOK EAST

BESANÇON



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near Of the  
2. Fur - rows, be glad, though earth is bare. One more



1. crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are  
2. seed is plant - ed there; Give up your strength the seed to



1. a - ble. Trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
2. nour - ish, That in time the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look



1. East, and sing to - day: Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
2. East, and sing to - day: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.

4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way

*Please join us for Fellowship  
and Coffee. Have a Blessed Week!*

**NOTEWORTHY:**

- Please No Smoking on Allendale Campus.
- Hospitality Ministry does well with food and snacks but help is needed in the Drinks Departments. If you catch a good price on Soda or other Beverages, we sure could use some.
- Anyone interested in helping out the Media Ministry with Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter, please contact Bill Schwartz.
- Anything we can help you with, or if we need to be doing something, Please, speak up!!

***Saint Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Community***

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**Facebook:** [FACEBOOK.COM/STOCCCLOVE](https://www.facebook.com/STOCCCLOVE)      **Instagram:** [STOCCCLOVE](https://www.instagram.com/STOCCCLOVE)

**Twitter:** [STOCCC2](https://twitter.com/STOCCC2)

**Bulletin Submissions due by Thursday at Midnight.**

**Email to: [media.stoccc@gmail.com](mailto:media.stoccc@gmail.com) or by calling Bill Schwartz at PH: 727-350-3778**