

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 15, 2019 – **3rd Sunday of Advent**

9:30 AM Holy Mass

Monday, December 16, 2019 – **Advent Weekday**

Tuesday, December 17, 2019 – **Advent Weekday**

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 – **Advent Weekday**

Thursday, December 19, 2019 – **Advent Weekday**

Friday, December 20, 2019 – **Advent Weekday**

Saturday, December 21, 2019 – **Advent Weekday**

Sunday, December 22, 2019 – **4th Sunday of Advent**

9:30 AM Holy Mass

10:30 AM Church decorating for Christmas

FAITH SHARING

Today's readings invite us to rejoice at the rebirth of Jesus in our lives as we are preparing for our annual Christmas celebration. This day is called Gaudete Sunday, because today's Mass used to begin with the opening antiphon: "*Gaudete in Domino semper,*" i.e., "Rejoice in the Lord always." So, to express our joy in the coming of Jesus as our Savior into our hearts and lives, we light the rose candle in the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments.



The prophet Isaiah encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon to rejoice because their God is going to liberate them from slavery and lead them safely to their homeland

James the Apostle encourages the early Christians to rejoice and wait with patience for the imminent second coming of Jesus.

Jesus encourages John the Baptist in prison to rejoice by casting away his wrong expectations about the Messiah and simply accepting Jesus' healing and preaching ministry as the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS – OPLATEK

The Oplatek is available for sale. If you are interested in obtaining them for your Christmas Dinner celebration, please see Izabela. This is a beautiful tradition to maintain at your Christmas table.



CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

This year we will be decorating our church for Christmas on **Sunday, December 22**, right after Mass. Most of the decorations will be prepared, we need your help in hanging them on the walls, pews and setting the manger.



ADVENT WREATH CANDLE IN YOUR SPECIAL INTENTION OR IN MEMORY OF...

If you like to make an offering for the candle in this year Advent Wreath and light this candle in memory of someone who passed away or in some other special intention, please let me know. The cost of one candle is \$4.00

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Please plan to be with us Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of Our Savior. If you are uncomfortable driving after dark or need any other assistance, please let us know and we will arrange a ride for you to and from church.

HOLY MASSES AT CHRISTMAS

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve
10:00 PM – Shepherds' Mass "Pasterka"

Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day
9:30 AM – Holy Mass

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATION

Christmas Flowers Envelopes for donations for flowers to adorn the Christmas altars are on the table in the back of our church. This is a beautiful way show your love in honor of family, friends or loved ones.

MY MISTAKE IN 2019 CHRISTMAS LETTER

During stuffing this year Christmas letter to our parishioners we totally forgot to include the envelope for your Christmas donation which goes to St. Valentine's Parish. I sincerely regret for it. The printed envelopes are located on the table in the back of the church. Please take one and respond to your parish needs. Christmas donation is very important to us.

SUNDAY COLLECTION ENVELOPES AVAILABLE

The 2020 Sunday collection envelopes are available already. Please take yours and if you can deliver the envelopes to your relatives or friends please do so.

CHRISTMAS DINNER LAST SUNDAY

Big thanks to those of you who helped me and my wife to prepare and to serve our Annual Christmas Dinner. There is a lot of cooking, roasting and baking, but only our two pairs of hands and a little pair of Johnny's hands. And these hands are not enough to do all the work in the kitchen, in the church and in the hall. We have to rethink of our events and to find some other solutions.

AN ADVENT EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

- Have I permitted the teachings of Christ to guide my daily life?
- Have I studied the Word of God and listened attentively to the Scripture Readings?
- Have I permitted my mind, my attitude, my thinking to be renewed by Christ?
- Have I followed the Ten Commandments faithfully?
- Do I love God above all else?
- Have I put false gods before my true Lord and God?
- Is my life rooted in Christ?
- Do my daily actions reflect my relationship with Christ?
- Do I put my hope and trust in God's promises and His will for my life?
- Do I rely too heavily on my own strength?
- Am I enslaved to sins or habits from which I need freed?
- Do I live as a worthy member of the Kingdom of God?
- Do I believe firmly that Jesus is the key that opens for me the gates of heaven?
- Do I live as a child of the light?
- Do my outward actions and words reflect my true self?
- Am I a person of peace and goodwill?
- Do others see Christ reflected in my words and actions?
- Do I proudly live out my faith in all that I say and do?
- Do I invite others to know Christ and to come to the Church?
- Am I faithful to my commitments to the Church and my parish family?
- Am I generous with my time, material goods, and love?
- Do I take care of my Church?
- Do I financially help my parish?
- Do I reach across the gap of my discomfort to give practical help to those in need?
- Have I taken something that is not mine or stolen someone's good reputation through gossip?
- Am I aware and grateful for God's presence and action in my life?
- Do I raise up my thoughts to the Lord throughout my daily work?
- Do I reverence Christ truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament?
- Do I find Christ present in the needs of the poor and the marginalized?

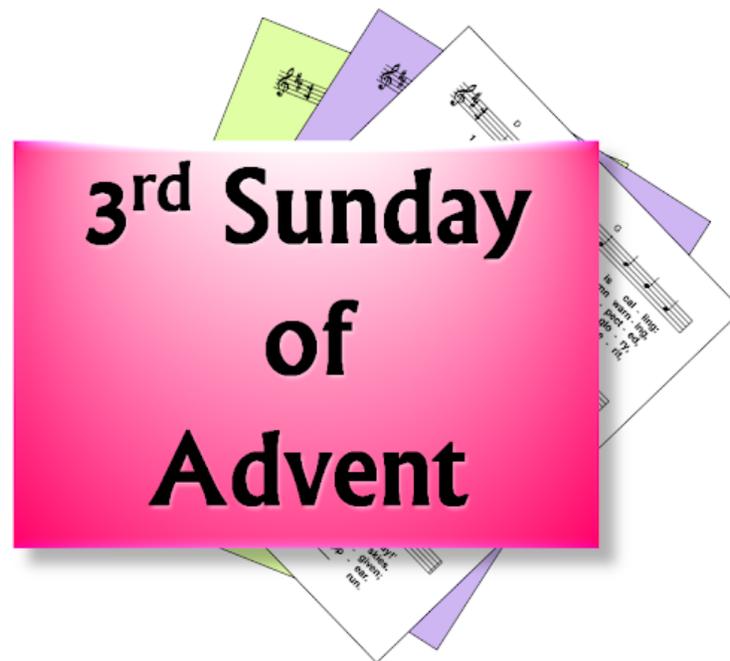
ST. VALENTINE'S PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

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Sunday Mass: 9:30 AM (English)



3rd Sunday of Advent

3 Niedziela Adwentu

December 15, 2019