

December 13, 2020  
Third Sunday of Advent



**Holy Rosary Church**

405 S. Main St.  
Monroe City, MO 63456

Fr. Greg Oligschlaeger, Pastor  
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Website: <https://holyrosary.diojeffcity.org/>

Office hours: Monday-Friday 8-4

**WEEKEND MASSES:**

**Holy Rosary:** Saturday 5:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:30 a.m.  
**St. Stephen:** Sunday 8:00 a.m.

**WEEKDAY MASSES:**

Mass livestreamed on Facebook at Greg Oligschlaeger  
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday – 7:30 a.m.  
Friday – 8:20 a.m.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Holy Rosary:** Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
**St. Stephen:** Sunday 7:30 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.  
or anytime by appointment

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday</b> 5:30 p.m.	<b>December 12</b> Dede Yager Kenny Fulton
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 a.m.	<b>December 13</b> John Ivan & Ella Tewell Carolyn Whelan
9:30 a.m.	Families of Holy Rosary and St. Stephen
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 14</b> No Scripture Service
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:30 a.m.	<b>December 15</b> Jack Campbell
<b>Wednesday</b> 7:30 a.m.	<b>December 16</b> Mark Saunders
<b>Thursday</b> 7:30 a.m.	<b>December 17</b> Rita Jo Kendrick
<b>Friday</b> 8:20 a.m.	<b>December 18</b> Pauline Quinn
<b>Saturday</b> 5:30 p.m.	<b>December 19</b> Chris Couch Matt & Lorene Hays
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 a.m.	<b>December 20</b> Families of Holy Rosary and St. Stephen
9:30 a.m.	Rita Jo Kendrick and Family

**Your Gifts to God and Parish**

November 15	\$ 4,448.25
November 22	\$ 5,940.50
November 27	\$ 10,421.25
December 6	\$ 13,299.25

**Christmas Eve & Day Mass Schedule**

Thursday, December 24, 3:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary  
Thursday, December 24, 5:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary  
Thursday, December 24, 8:00 p.m. at St. Stephen  
Thursday, December 24, Midnight, at Holy Rosary  
Friday, December 25, 9:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

December 31, 2020 – 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen  
January 1, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. at Holy Rosary



Dear Parishioners,

Today is *Gaudete* Sunday, which means “Rejoice”, a translation of the first word of the Entrance antiphon of today’s Mass that proclaims: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice! The Lord is near.” [Philippians 4:4]. Penitential violet vestments are replaced with rose vestments, a color of joy. We light the third candle of the Advent wreath that is rose in color.

After today, our scripture readings change from the focus of the second coming of Christ to the approaching celebration of Christmas--the Incarnation of the Son of God. After today, the readings and prayers at Mass refer to the greatest of all God’s action in human history--God himself becoming human in the person of Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the hope of salvation.

On Thursday of this week, the Church will begin using the O Antiphons as part of the Evening Prayer. We are familiar with the antiphons in the hymn, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”. Each verse is one of the ancient titles and biblical names for the coming Messiah. Starting on December 17<sup>th</sup> and each of the 7 days until Christmas Eve, we address our prayer: **O Wisdom** (12/17); **O Sacred Lord** (12/18); **O Flower of Jesse’s Stem** (12/19); **O Key of David** (12/20); **O Radiant Dawn** (12/21); **O King of all Nations** (12/22); **O Emmanuel** (12/23).

**We will decorate both churches next Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Your help would be greatly appreciated.** It’s beginning to feel a lot like Christmas. It’s wonderful how our liturgical worship guides us well in truly celebrating Christmas. Paul tells us in today’s second reading: “*Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks...Do not quench the Holy Spirit...Refrain from every kind of evil.*” [1 Thessalonians. 5:16-20]

Don’t fret or be too tense. All that **needs** to get finished to celebrate the birth of the Lord will take place. We may not be able to celebrate with all the people and family we want to be with this year, but we need to celebrate the greatest gift the world has ever known. Come Lord Jesus, Come! Prayers and Blessings.

*F. Greg Oligschlaeger*

**BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS MANGER** - In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223. When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:  
Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**R/.** Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, i.e., Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8).

**Reader:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**R/.** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined:

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

**R/.** Amen. —From Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers

### Liturgical Ministries

#### **December 19 - 5:30 p.m. Mass**

**Rosary:** Therese Long  
**Servers:** Maddix Dowell, Zach Smith  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Gary Yager, Kathy Dean, Dorothy Ritter  
**Lector:** Lori Watson  
**Ushers:** Kevin Bichsel, Joe Gass, John Ritter

#### **December 20 - 9:30 a.m. Mass**

**Rosary:** Paula Karr  
**Servers:** MacKenzie Crowe, Kyndal Benson  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Toni Hunter, Howard Willard, Linda Willard  
**Lector:** Brenda Benson  
**Ushers:** Steve DeLaporte, Mike Hunter, Cliff Seward

### **Readings for December 20, 2020**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16** With help from the prophet Nathan, King David decided to build a house for the Lord to dwell in. "Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

**Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29**  
Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Romans 16:25-27** According to Paul, the gospel reveals the mystery hidden for long ages but now, at God's command, is made manifest in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel – Luke 1:26-38** The angel addressed Mary, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." When Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord," she became a model for all.

Father, we lift up those today that are fighting disease and ailments, whether in mind or body. When they want to give up, give them fresh strength and courage. Comfort them in times of pain, give them peace in times of fear and bless them with your healing touch. Come Lord Jesus!

Please pray for:

Regina Hays	Tim Quinn	P.A. Turnbull
Charlette Schneider	John Kendrick	Bonnie Werner
Michael Kellerman	Deacon Mike Long	Trent Zeiger
Hazel Smith	Sue Gilbert	Natalee Amos
Rosemary Evans	Deanna Buckman	Nick Hays
Jackie Ryan	Logan Maher	Mark Leake
Daniel Patrick Mudd	Troy Ritter	Kenneth Ryan
Bonnie Ess	Barbara Kendrick	Connie Kendrick
Nick Mudd	William P. Smith	Teresa Ritter Toland
Pete Schuman		

### On the Calendar...

**December 14** – Rosary at St. Stephen at 12:00 noon

**December 16** – Confession 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**December 17** – Confession 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**December 22** – Confession 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Confession 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**December 23** – Confession 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve** – Confession 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (by appointment only call: 573-310-1491)

**PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL** – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. until further notice. Adoration contacts - Phyllis Campbell, 573-795-2290 or Howard & Linda Willard, 573-735-4552.

### Prayer Intentions for the month of December

**Intention of Pope Francis:** We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

**Intention of Bishop McKnight:** For the sons and daughters of the Church: that we may be the light of God's love for the world by our sacrificial gift for those in need, especially the children of our world.

### **Catholic Stewardship Appeal**

Parish goal -- \$ 24,500.00

Amount pledged: \$ 20,181.00

Diocese goal - \$ 2,450,000.00

Amount pledged - \$ 1,856,171.43

### School News

- End of the First Semester - The first half of this school year will end on **Friday, December 18**. All students will be dismissed at 3:00 for the Christmas holidays. Classes will resume on Monday, January 4, 2021.
- We have had a very successful school year considering all of the challenges brought to us through COVID. We continue to encourage everyone to follow the precautionary protocols to slow the spread of this virus.
- The last basketball games of the season will be played this week in the Monroe City Tournament - the girls are having a very successful season.
- Mass will be at 8:20 on Friday, December 18, and will be led by the third-grade students.

### **Following God's Lead along with Donna**

Happy Third week of Advent!

**PSR/Youth Group Announcement** – Due to the increasing numbers of positive Covid-19 diagnoses in our community, all PSR (K-12) and Youth Group activities for December 2020 have been canceled. At this time, PSR and Youth Group activities will resume in January 2021.

**Job Opportunity: Now hiring! Totus Tuus Missionaries for 2021** – Are you a Catholic young adult interested in bringing the Gospel to kids and teens across our diocese? Please consider applying to be a Totus Tuus missionary. Download the materials below and return your application to the Office of Youth Ministry and Religious Ed. Hiring is on a rolling basis, so the earlier the better! The application packet includes a job description, application, and instructions for a letter of recommendation. *Totus Tuus Missionaries serve from May 27 – Aug 1. This is a full-time, paid position.* Visit <https://diojeffcity.org/totus-tuus/> to find out more.

**FORMED.org - Mary of Nazareth** – As part of your Advent preparation FORMED offers this film on the life of Mary, Mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. The movie underscores her special role in God's plan for our redemption, her unique relationship with Christ, and the tremendous suffering that she endured in union with his Passion and Death, as well as her serene joy at his Resurrection. (FORMED suggests parents preview before watching with children)

You can also watch FORMED's daily Advent reflections – *The Road to Bethlehem*.

To inquire about faith formation/religious education contact Donna Long anytime at [donnalong.hrss@gmail.com](mailto:donnalong.hrss@gmail.com) or call me at the rectory, 735-4718, my office hours are 8:00 am to Noon, Monday through Friday.

*Joy*

Please remember during this Christmas season our parishioners who are in the nursing home at Monroe City Manor Care Center, 1010 Highway 24 and 36 East, Monroe City, MO 63456:

Totty Burditt	Kathy Wilper	Jeanette Price
Shirley Lorenson	Julie Leake	Eddie Watson
Juanita Pfanner	Verna Fortner	Kenny Ryan
Frankie Maddox	Regina Hays	