



December 7, 2022

From Fr. John

This Sunday (the 11th) is the Third Sunday of Advent. It is also known as Gaudete (gow-DET-eh) Sunday. Gaudete is Latin for “rejoice.” In the days when Roman Catholic worship was done in Latin, no matter where the church was located, the introduction to worship was chanted. And on this Third Sunday of Advent, it began, “*Gaudete in Domino semper...*,” which translates to “Rejoice in the Lord always.” That phrase is the beginning of a reading from Philippians 4:4-6:

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

In these last days leading up to Christmas, the pressures of the season can begin to pile up on us. Did you remember to get a present for that person you forgot last year? Are all of the Christmas cards sent out – or at least ready to send out? Do you have all of the Christmas parties on the calendar? Have you even finished decorating the house yet? And none of those take into account what must be done at the office, or wherever your work is accomplished.

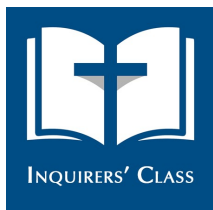
Advent/Christmas can definitely pressure us into forgetting about “the reason for the season.” That’s why Gaudete Sunday is so important for us. It is a reminder to:

- Rejoice;
- Be gentle – with everyone, including yourself;
- Try to live in the moment and not worry about things that you probably can’t change anyway;
- Pray and ask God’s help, in all things, and at all times.

Don’t let the season get you down. Rejoice in the Lord. We have been given this time. Be glad in it.

Peace and blessings of the season.

Fr. John+



INQUIRERS' CLASS

Have you been at St. James (or in The Episcopal Church) and would like to make a personal commitment to the Church? Or would you just like to learn more about the Church of which you are a part? Come to the parish hall on Sunday, December 11th at

2:00pm for our Enquirers' Class.

At the end of our classes, those who would like may

- Be confirmed into The Episcopal Church by the laying on of the Bishop's hands;
- Be received into The Episcopal Church by the Bishop, if they have already been confirmed in another liturgical tradition (e.g. the Roman Catholic Church);
- Reaffirm their Baptismal Vows, if they have already been confirmed into this Church; or
- Do none of the above.

Faith & Fellowship Tonight

Dinner: 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall

[Shepherd pie, salad, dessert]

[\$5 for adults; FREE ages 18 & under]

JEYC/EYC: 6:30 p.m. in Youth Building

Adult Class: 6:30 p.m. in Parlor Viewing &
Discussion of The Chosen.



FAITH FELLOWSHIP



The Slip-Knots

Saturday - December 10

10:00 AM - Noon in Youth Building

Cooler weather is coming - just not certain when! The Episcopalian Slip-knots continue to take up their knitting needles and crochet hooks to create scarves, hats, and other warm fuzzies to donate to the Homeless Coalition around the corner, to disburse to our neighbors in need in the wintertime. Come enjoy the fellowship and coffee! Contact Sara Fuhrer at 985-237- 9848 for more information.

Sunday Adult Christian Formation

Join us Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the Parlor as we continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew, using a video that is the word-for-word Gospel, but with actors bringing the action to life. There is discussion of what we see and hear each week. No preparation needed.



CHRISTMAS CHEER



Fill the Stockings! – On Wednesday evening, December 14, following the fellowship dinner, we will be baking cookies and filling Christmas bags for 17 veterans and 50 participants in our Community Breakfast (this one actually falls on Christmas Day!). Plan to join in the festivities.

Items needed: mixed nuts, halo oranges, envelopes of hot chocolate mix, popcorn, and women's socks. Place these in blue bin or drop off at office.

CHRISTMAS IN CENLA

Friday, December 16, 2022
7:00pm

Texas' newest instrumental ensemble, New Texas Sinfonia, makes its Louisiana debut performing a varied concert of music for the holiday season. Featuring harp and strings, the concert will include selections from Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker*, "Winter" from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, Corelli's "Christmas Concerto" and Marcel Grandjany's beautiful "Aria in Classic Style" for harp and string orchestra.



Admission is always free and there will be a festive reception in the Parish Hall. Bring a friend and enjoy some Christmas music and some Christmas cheer.

Lessons & CAROLS

The annual celebration of Lessons and Carols in Advent will be Sunday, December 18, at 6:00 p.m. We shall hear the stories of salvation history with great music to highlight those lessons as we prepare ourselves to receive the Messiah. This is a perfect opportunity to invite your friends to come and join us!



END of the YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS and PLEDGES

If you wish to fulfill your 2022 pledge or make any other contributions to receive a tax benefit for the year end 2022, please note that contributions must be dated for December, and received by Friday, December 30. If you wish to hand deliver them to the church office, they must be in before noon on Friday, December 30. Any online pledges/contributions must be made before midnight, Saturday, December 31.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR PLEDGE CARD FOR 2023!

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

You are invited each Christmas to make a contribution to the glory of God and in memory or honor of loved ones. The memorial you make offers a way to not only honor those whom we love, but also decorate our church for this festive season. Please send your list of names to be remembered with your check to the church office no later than Tuesday, December 20. Envelopes are also available in the church pew racks.



Worship



December 11th

Third Sunday of Advent

In-person Worship at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Childcare is available for the 10:30 AM service.

[Click on this link to join the 10:30 AM service.](#)

[Click here for the service bulletin.](#)

December 11th
Evening Prayer
Online @ 5:00 PM

[Click on this link to join Evening Prayer.](#)

Meeting ID: 863 4898 4077
Passcode: 1620

[Click here for the order of service & readings.](#)



Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

Jim Bristol, Gary Maxwell, Bill Owens, Mother Meredith Ward, Betty Gaiennie, Jack Dewitt, Sr., Beth Hebert, Rita & Bill Clancey, Jimmy Hurt, Carol Rowe, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, Donnie Hayes, John Brewer, Fred Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Bill and Beverly Jarvis, Robbie G., Jonathan Rhea, Peggy Humbles, Laura Murchison, Darriel & Charles, Minnie Mikell, Massi Jordan, Richard Norem, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Bernard Parker, Rachel and Ben, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Shannon Norman, Bill Jarvis, Wilma Filipi, Stephen, Natosha and Family, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Charlotte Sterling, Matthew Fontanille, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Stacy and Richard, Chase Barnfield, Taylor Thompson, Johnnie Hart, Jane Y. Harris, Kip Hogue, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Mesta Bain, Dean M. Tyree, Jackie Jeanne, Dietrich DeBoer, Beverly Butler, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Bill Leibke, Wayne Moorehead, Pat Carter, Kevin Hooter, Jane Tyson, Gerard, and Mehre Hajjghassem.

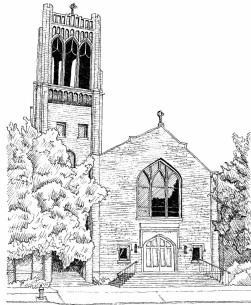
For those in the military:

Josh Duff, Samuel Hayes, Franklin Watson, Kyle Jordan, Gill Tatman-Tyree, Donal McCarthy, Michael Geiger, Erskine Cook, Jr., Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

For those celebrating birthdays in December (day):

Sue Ellen Jackson (1), Graham Matthews (1), Elizabeth Deshotel (5), Holly Dixon (7), James White (7), T. W. Thompson (8), Lindsey Lemoine (9), Ava Walker (9), Morgan

Dixon (17), Carl Carstens (20), Will Hester (20), George Matthews (20), Sylvia Middleton (21), Jim Hair (22), Tonya Shepherd (22), Thomas Denley (26), Thomas Downs (26), Bertie Smith (26), Georgina Adams (27), Carla Beth Carlisle (27), John Bufkin (28), Marie Durham (28), Luke McLemore (28), Fred Adams (29).



Visit our
Website

St. James Episcopal Church | 1620 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301 | 318.445.9845



St. James Episcopal Church | 1620 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301

[Unsubscribe rita@stjamesla.org](mailto:rita@stjamesla.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by rita@stjamesla.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!