

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2017



As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
*Behold, I am sending my messenger
ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice of one crying out in the desert:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."*

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Rev. Barry Windholtz

Pastor

St. Rose Church

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Sunday, December 10

Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 **BW** Evelyn (Rose) Meier (Birthday Remembrance) from Her Family
10:30 **BW** Special Intention for Mary Windholtz
12:00 **BW** The Special Intentions of the Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose

Monday, December 11

12:10 Al (Doc) Ober from Jim and Carol Trimbath

Tuesday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

12:10 Ruth Ahaus (Birthday Remembrance) from Elaine Ahaus

Wednesday, December 13

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

12:10 Jack Cameron from Marty Bens

Thursday, December 14

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12:10 Harry Patrie from Carolyn and Elmer Jones

Friday, December 15

12:10 Mr. Kim Trinkley from Mark & Mary Barbara Miller & Family

Saturday, December 16

12:10 Alvin Ober from Mary Louise Gallagher

7:00 **BW** Bill Rust from the Kevin Keefe Family

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 **BW** Alvin Ober from Bernadene White

10:30 **DE** Walter Meier from His Family

12:00 **DE** The Special Intentions of the Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose

Lectors and Lay Distributors for December 16th and December 17th

7:00 J. Christmann, M. Gregorio, M. Luehrmann, F. McCune, W. Russ, L. Solimine

8:30 Tom Perrino, Tim Smullen, Michael Trotta

10:30 Michael Alfieri, Roland Becker, Timothy McMahon, Dennis O'Connor

12:00 Jim Condo, Ron Frey, Matt Schwietering

Would you like to remember St. Rose in your will? It is one way to say thank you for the many things for which you have been given.

In the charity of your prayers please pray for the soul of Tom Neyer whose funeral was at St. Xavier Church this past week.

In the back of church are boxes from St. Vincent DePaul to take home and fill with food for a family of four for Christmas. Please return them by December 16-17th. A sheet of suggested items is in the box.

Today is the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Information is attached to the bulletin.

St. Rose Penance Service will be December 18th at 7:00 PM

Mass Schedule for Sunday, Dec. 24th 8:30, 10:30, 12:00.

This obligation to attend mass is separate than our obligation for Christmas.

Christmas Eve Masses: 3:00PM, 5:00PM, 7:00 PM & 12:00 Midnight. Christmas Masses: 8:30, 10:30 & 12:00.

In the back of church are your envelopes and gift for 2018. If you have any corrections on the name or address or cannot find your envelopes, please call Rose Ann @ 871-1162.

All parishioners and friends are invited to our annual **St. Rose Christmas Party** on Tuesday, December 12th starting at 6:00 pm. Tickets are being sold after the masses in back of Church for \$10.00 a person. Please plan to join us for dinner and a festive carol singalong. St. Rose will provide the meat and dessert. We ask you to bring a side.

Mark your calendars for our fourth annual St. Rose Choir **Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 17th at 4:00 p.m. Admission is free, and tickets are not required. An instant hit last year, you will not want to miss this beloved, heart-warming celebration of the Christmas season. We hope you'll join us!

The **St. Rose Cookbook** is still available to purchase for those who are interested. Great to use as a party gift, house warming gift, or Christmas gift; the cost is \$15.00. Call Rose Ann at 513-871-1162 to purchase one or more.



Opening Prayer

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reflecting on Living the Gospel

The church gives us the opening verses of Mark's gospel for the Second Sunday of Advent. As a lion, Mark pounces on his subject matter. A one-line intro is followed by a mishmash of Scripture quotes attributed to Isaiah. In actuality, Mark combines Malachi 3:1a with Isaiah 40:3 and applies both to the enigmatic figure of John the Baptist. It's as though Mark doesn't have the time for precise details. He charges in. This is why Mark is often portrayed as a lion. With John the Baptist's unkempt appearance and fiery, apocalyptic preaching, he gathered crowds of those acknowledging their sins and seeking forgiveness. He proclaims, "One mightier than I is coming after me." This person will baptize with the Holy Spirit. In these short verses the stage is set for Jesus. Mark has no infancy narrative such as Matthew or Luke would have it. There is no dramatic, cosmic prologue attuned to the opening words of Genesis as the Gospel of John would have it. Instead, Mark charges in, immediately quoting Scripture before introducing John the Baptist. We readers are swept up in the story.

Perhaps it is appropriate that we read these opening verses on the Second Sunday of Advent with our busy lives, shopping lists, and details to which we must attend. The gospel, and especially its opening, seems to lend itself to our frenetic pace. Still there is the proclamation that something, someone, is coming. He is mightier than John the Baptist, mightier than our concerns for the season, mightier than our lists of things to get done. He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and our lives will never be the same.

Closing Prayer

May the glory of God be revealed in our work to make mercy, justice, and peace a reality in our own deserts and cities, and that by so doing we may see God's kingdom in our midst. Amen.

For Reflection:

• Who are the "prophets" among us who proclaim the presence of God in our midst?

Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the opening prayer (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect");
2. One person read aloud the gospel;
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer;
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection";
5. Pray the "Closing Prayer."

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Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey.



And this is what he proclaimed:
"One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Readings for the week:

2nd Sunday of Advent	Monday	Tuesday Our Lady of Guadalupe	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	3rd Sunday of Advent
Isa 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 2 Pet 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8	Isa 35:1-10 Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 Luke 5:17-26	Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Jl 1:13-18 Luke 1:26-38 or 1:39-47	Isa 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 Matt 11:28-30	Isa 41:15-20 Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab Matt 11:11-15	Isa 48:17-19 Ps 11:2, 3, 4 and 6 Matt 11:16-19	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Matt 17:9a, 10-13	Isa 61:1-2a, 10-11 Luke 1:46-48, 50, 53-54 1 Thess 2:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28