



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent (B)

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Who Are You?

**S**o far the readings for Sundays in Advent have shown God leading the people into a new way of life—a way of righteousness and loyalty, of honesty and responsibility. Today the readings show the people beginning to see that the accomplishment of this transformation would come through the leadership of one individual. Who might that person be?

The passage from Isaiah describes a prophet, one anointed by God and bringing good news to the poor. When the Baptist appears on the scene in John's Gospel, people wonder if it might be him. He insists he is not the one, nor is he a prophet. Then, "Who are you?" (John 1:19) Recalling the passage from Isaiah read on the First Sunday of Advent, John tells them he is the one repairing the road, getting it ready for the long-awaited one to arrive. He adds that his baptism is a baptism of repentance. He is readying them to be what Paul describes as "perfectly holy...blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

We now see that these readings are preparing us for salvation. We are now told that such divine graciousness will be inaugurated by an individual, one who has not yet been identified. Will it be a powerful king? A mighty warrior? A spectacular prophet? Those in the time before Christ didn't know. We now know that it will be someone powerful enough to initiate a revolutionary change in the lives of the entire people. Now waiting gets exciting.

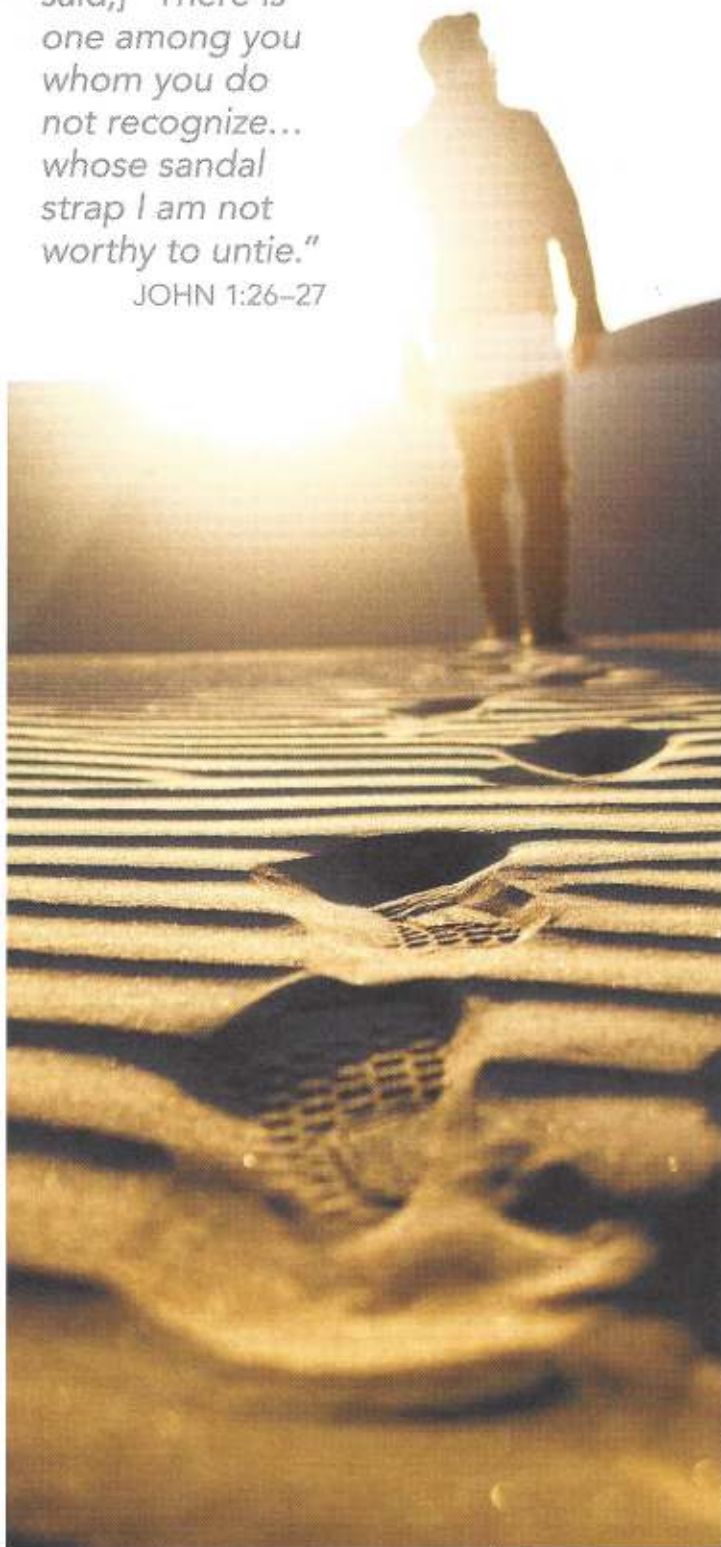
—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

[John the Baptist said,] "There is one among you whom you do not recognize... whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

JOHN 1:26-27

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ How might you envision this long-awaited one? What do you think the nation needs in a leader?
- ★ What kind of revolutionary transformation do you think we need today?



KYLE COTTRELL / UNSPLASH





**Holy Trinity Catholic Church**



**St. Thomas More Catholic Church**



**St. Patrick Catholic Church**

**\*\*Main Office\*\***

**Holy Trinity Church & Rectory**

212 S. Main St.

PO Box 159

Cherry, IL 61317-0159

Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: [HolyTSP@gmail.com](mailto:HolyTSP@gmail.com)

Website: [www.bureaucatholic.org](http://www.bureaucatholic.org)

And on Facebook at

"Bureau Catholic Churches".

**Mass Schedule**

Weekdays - Tuesday 12:15pm and

Thursday - 8:30am

Saturday Confessions - 3:15-3:45 PM  
or by appointment

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM

Sunday Mass - 8:30 AM

**\*Pastor of the Three Churches**

Fr. Patrick Fixsen

Email: [frpat.fixsen@gmail.com](mailto:frpat.fixsen@gmail.com)

**\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\***

All Events On Hold

**\*\*Emergency Phone\*\***

**For All Three Churches**

815-664-8241

**St. Thomas More Church**

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Phone: (815) 663-6201

Email: [StTMoreDalzell32@gmail.com](mailto:StTMoreDalzell32@gmail.com)

**Mass Schedule**

Weekday Mass -

Wednesday & Friday - 8:00AM

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:30 PM

**Sunday (Last Chance) Mass-**  
**5:30 PM**

**Adoration Room**

Open Monday-Saturday 9AM-8PM

Sunday - 9AM - 6PM

**Divine Mercy Prayers**

Every Friday 3:00PM

**\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\***

**Dec. 12 - Chicken Dinner**  
**(Will Call and Limited Delivery)**

**St. Patrick Church**

**(Office at Holy Trinity Church)**

106 Church St.

Arlington, IL 61312

Phone: (815) 894-2006

**Mass Schedule**

Sunday Mass - 10:30 AM

**\*3 Churches Pastoral Assistant**

Julie Hollinger

Email: [JulieHTC@outlook.com](mailto:JulieHTC@outlook.com)

**\*\*Office Hours\*\***

Holy Trinity - Tues, Thurs, & Fri.  
- 9AM-12PM

St. Thomas More -

Wed - 9AM - 12PM

**\*\*Facebook:** Use Link on Home  
Page - [www.bureaucatholic.org](http://www.bureaucatholic.org)

**\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\***

**Dec. 12 - Sausage Making**

**Daily Mass Intentions for**  
**Masses the Week of December 14, 2020**

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

**\*\*Facebook Link - 9:00AM\*\*STM**

**\*\*www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 5:30PM\*\*HT**

**\*\*www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00AM\*\*HT**

**\*\*Facebook Link - 9:00AM \*\*STM**

† No Mass

† Richard Guerrini

† Virginia Lucas

† Charlie & Hazel Keutzer

† Dean & Dolly Abney

**Next Weekend's Mass Intentions**  
**Weekend of December 19-20, 2020**

Saturday:

Sunday:

**\*\*Facebook Link - 4:00PM \*\*STM**

**\*\*www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00 AM\*\*HT**

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM (No Streaming)

**\*\*St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 6:00 PM (Last Chance Communion)**

**Offered For**

† Alan Hahn

† Julie Joiner

† For The Parishioners

† No Mass (Only Holy Communion)



### Latest Offering's

Holy Trinity - \$3132.00  
St. Patrick - \$1928.00  
St. Thomas More - \$2658.00

### Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday 12pm - 2pm  
Saturday 3pm - 5pm  
(Re-Opened Again)

### Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

#### Holy Trinity

##### LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - ?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

##### SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -  
?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

##### COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -  
? & ?

### \*\*Mass Intentions\*\*

We are in need of Mass Intentions for weekday Masses. The Masses on the web are a great occasion for family members not living in this area to pray with us for family members who have died. Please consider having a weekday Mass for a deceased member of your family and thank you. Mass intentions can be paid through our online giving program, mail or dropping by our office.

### \*\*Recurring Special Church Events\*\*

Wednesday's - Rosary - 6PM

(On Website)

(After Wednesday HT Evening Mass)

Friday's - Divine Mercy Chaplet -

On Facebook - 3PM -

St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel

### In This Month Of The Advent Season

As most all of you know, I follow the messages closely given to the modern Catholic prophets, or messengers, on the state of the world. Sometimes, they even provide helpful spiritual tips to bring us closer to God and many of those have been exceptional. However, some prophets, or messengers, have not always been found to be aligned with what the church teaches. And so, therefore, we do not have to accept them personally. The messages I have usually shared have been given approval by the local ordinary, where the visionary lives, as not containing "Doctrinal error that attempts against the faith, morals or traditions" of the Catholic Church.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "It is not [so-called 'private' revelations'] role to improve or complete Christ's definitive revelation, but to help live more fully by it in a certain period of history. Guided by the magisterium of the Church, the *census fidelium* knows how to discern and welcome in these revelations whatever constitutes an authentic call of Christ or his saints to the Church. . ." (CCC#78) And it also says, "...In all he says and does, man is obliged to follow faithfully what he knows to be just and right." (CCC#1778) So with that in mind, I will curb mentioning the modern prophets in the bulletin or from the pulpit.

As this month is when we prepare ourselves to celebrate God sending us His Only Son, we are getting closer every day for Jesus' Second Coming. As such, more confession times will be added to refresh our souls to the grace of God!

Tues-December 15-1:30-2:15pm STM  
Thurs- Dec 17-3:30-4:15pm St Pat  
Sat-Dec 19 - 11-11:45am - St. Pat  
Tues-Dec 22 - 6-6:45pm - STM

### Confessions

The next confessions will be at St. Thomas More's Hall on Tuesday, December 15th from 1:30-2:15pm. Please come to adoration chapel vestibule between church and hall. Please look through door window to see if anyone is inside before entering.

### This Week's Update

#### \*\*Food Events Coming Up\*\*

St. Thomas More will be having one more Chicken & Spaghetti Dinners tonight by calling in your order, and will call, and/or delivery for Dalzell people only. The Chicken will be fried and a limited number will be baked. Please call 815-252-4377 or 815-993-7043 to order from 4:15 to 7PM on December 5th & 12th.

I am very grateful to EVERYONE who has helped with the to-go chicken dinners both last week and this week. And also to the Sausage Makers up at St. Patrick in Arlington, they have been tremendous in giving our church a little extra needed income. So thank you to everybody participating in these activities while we carry them out safely with regard to the Covid-19 problem.

This third week of Advent, or "Gaudete Sunday", we recall John the Baptist and his mission to forgive people's sins through baptism. Forgiveness of sins remains the main topic during Advent and our need to always have a clean soul. Please take note of the additional confession times at the bottom of the middle column.

In the strange times we live, we always have a need to live by and promote by our way of life the Ten Commandments and the teachings of the church so that all people can see the beauty of a life with Jesus Christ. All of you have a big place in my heart, so pray, be holy and stay close to Christ!

Fr. Pat Fixsen



# Dear Padre,

## Who was John the Baptist?

**W**hat we know about John the Baptist comes from a combination of Scripture and Church traditions that evolved during and after the writing of the Scriptures of the New Testament.

John's parents were Zechariah, who was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Elizabeth, who was related to Mary. The angel Gabriel told Zechariah that his wife would bear a son, even though she was quite old. It is believed that John was born in the region of Ain Karim, southwest of Jerusalem. When he was in his early twenties, he was a member of the Qumran community, and later was a hermit in the desert. John began his public ministry in his late twenties in the Jordan River Valley. His preaching followed the long line of Jewish prophets who preached against the evils of the day and demanded inner repentance and outer baptism as a sign of that repentance.

John continued his preaching in the Jordan Valley even after encountering Jesus. Eventually John was arrested by Herod Antipas and imprisoned at Machaerus Fortress by the Dead Sea. He was beheaded at the request of Salome, the daughter of Herodias, and buried at Sebaste, in Samaria. After John's death, many of his disciples followed Jesus, including Andrew and John.

John, whose name means "God is gracious," is usually represented in pictures holding a long slender cross with a small lamb partially hidden behind him.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR | [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



NICOLAUS OF HAGUENAU AND MATTHIAS GROENEWALD: JOHN THE BAPTIST, DETAIL OF THE ISENHEIM ALTARPIECE

### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Anxieties, difficulties, and sufferings permeate our lives, and so many times the reality around us seems to be inhospitable and arid, like the desert....But the words of [John] the Baptist reveal that our joy rests on the certainty that this desert is inhabited: "Among you there is one whom you do not know."*

—ANGELUS, GAUDETE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017



## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 14

Advent Weekday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a

Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 15

Advent Weekday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13

Mt 21:28-32

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 16

Advent Weekday

Is 45:6c-8, 18,

21c-25

Lk 7:18b-23

### Thursday

DECEMBER 17

Advent Weekday

Gn 49:2, 8-10

Mt 1:1-17

### Friday

DECEMBER 18

Advent Weekday

Jer 23:5-8

Mt 1:18-25

### Saturday

DECEMBER 19

Advent Weekday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a

Lk 1:5-25

### Sunday

DECEMBER 20

Fourth Sunday

of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12,

14a, 16

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38