

DECEMBER 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION THIS WEEK

This Sunday we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" is a Latin word which means "rejoice". To signify this is a time of rejoicing, the priest, concelebrants and deacon have the option of wearing rose colored vestments. We also light the rose candle on the Advent Wreath. Even the Entrance Antiphon for the Mass invites us to "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice". Reflecting on the Word, we come to realize we can rejoice acknowledging that the words of the Prophet Isaiah: "Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you" have come true in Jesus Christ and will be fulfilled when He comes again. Certainly, John the Baptist lived with the hope of the fulfilment of that prophecy during His lifetime and inspired his ministry. John who is suffering imprisonment when he sends two disciples to Jesus, seems to need assurance that his work and suffering were not in vain. Jesus lovingly strengthens His cousin's faith and hope. He does not give John a "yes" or "no" answer regarding whether or not He, Jesus, is the Messiah. Instead, Jesus reminds John of the words of Isaiah who prophesied that when the Messiah comes "then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing." This Third Sunday of Advent calls us to rejoice in the Lord always because what was promised through Isaiah and all the prophets has been, is and will be fulfilled. We are encouraged to rejoice even in the imprisonment of sin, bad habits and personal struggles we experience in our lives. Being joyful in the midst of difficulty is not easy, especially for those who cannot find reasons to rejoice after the death of a loved one, the loss a job, or suffering an illness or financial difficulties. May the examples of our ancestors and the prophets, the words of St. Paul and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Living Word, strengthen our trust in hope that God's promise will be fulfilled when Jesus comes again Lord strengthen our Faith and Hope so that we can REJOICE ALWAYS!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24th
 Vigil: 7PM
 Midnight Mass: 11:45PM
Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25th
 Masses: 8:30AM and 10:30AM

NOTICE: 5PM SATURDAY MASS To Be Suspended

Beginning in January, the **Saturday 5PM Mass will be suspended indefinitely** due to low attendance. On certain holydays, parish feasts and celebrations[Easter, Pentecost, Confirmation, etc.] when deemed necessary a Mass on Saturday may be scheduled.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Come and prepare your hearts for Christmas by celebrating the **Sacrament of Penance/Confession on Wednesday, December 21 at 7pm.** There will be additional priests available to assist in hearing confessions. Let every heart prepare Him room!

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

Sun, Dec 11 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 Is 35:1-6, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-1; Mt 11:2-11
 5:00pm For those Suffering from Cancer
 8:30am For and End to Wars Throughout the World
 10:30am For Retired Religious Women and Men
Mon, Dec 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Rv 11:19, 12:1-6, 10 Jdt 13:18, 19 Lk 1:26-38
Tue, Dec 13 – St. Lucy
 Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23
 Mt 21:28-32
Wed, Dec 14 - St. John of the Cross
 Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25 Ps 85:9-14 Lk 7:18-23
Thu, Dec 15 – Advent Weekday
 Is 54:1-10 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13 Lk 7:24-30
Fri, Dec 16 - Advent Weekday
 Is 56:1-3, 6-8 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Jn 5:33-36
Sat, Dec 17 – Advent Weekday
 Gn 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17

MISSALETTES FOR 2022

The Missalettes that contain the Sunday readings are in the church pews for your convenience at Mass. If you wish to have your own personal booklet, they are available at \$5.00 each. Thank you for your cooperation in leaving the booklets in the pews.

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS!
Your Manuals Are Available!

PLEASE pick up your manual in the Sacristy and Check your name on the list indicating that you did get it.
Thank you for serving in this holy ministry!!

Liturgical Ministers

If you are a liturgical minister (Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Lector, etc.) and would like to resume your ministry please contact: **Carla Grant: 216-200-1525 or cgbible40@gmail.com** so she can review your status and get you back active. **Thank you for serving the Lord with your ministerial gifts!**

Black Catholic Congress XIII

Write the Vision: A Prophetic Call to Thrive
 The National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) convenes a national congress every five years. Each one renews and develops our mission with a Pastoral Plan. The next congress will be held July 20-23, 2023 at the Gaylord National in National Harbor, Maryland. Join with other Black Catholics and those who minister to Black Catholics in the United States for a celebration of our faith and

culture. To register, call Fr. James at the Parish office or go to www.nbccgathering2023.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2022-23

Please sign your child/teen for First Communion, Confirmation. Faith formation for our youth takes place on Sundays immediately following the **8:30am** Mass from **9:45am–11:00am.** To register your child, pick up a form at the church entrance or call **Mr. Cary Dabney** at 216-391-1655. **Online registration will be available soon!**

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	8:30 AM	10:03 AM
11-Dec	3rd Sunday of Advent	
Comm	Pam Pendleton	Chi Chi Onuorah
Lector	Keith Durand	Erika Jones-Smith
Server	Uzuchukku Oranugo	Gavin Smedley
		Eric Smedley Jr.
Usher	Lonnie Smith	Donzell Andrew Jr.
	Theresa Hughley	Michelle Booker
		Billy Cardwell
		Crystal Willis
18-Dec	4th Sunday of Advent	
Comm	Sabina Conroy	Josie Kramer
Lector	Doreatha Stover	Anna Smith
Server	Sharla Durand	Syan Hughes
		Melvin Onuorah
Usher	Karen Larry	Robin Allen
	Thomas Stover	Billy Cardwell
		Antoinette Smith
		Linda Weatherspoon

YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults in their 20's and 30's are invited to fellowship, faith sharing and event planning every 4th Sunday of the month after the 10:30 Mass (around 12:00pm) in the Saint Agnes / Our Lady of Fatima gym. Come and join other young adults in our parish as well as our surrounding parishes to learn and grow in faith together.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2022

Thank you to all who contributed to our Christmas Giving Tree this year. Your stewardship and love for your neighbors is greatly appreciated. Gifts will be delivered the Monday after Christmas. Thank you for your generosity and care for our moms and babies! **STILL MORE TIME:** If you still have a gift to bring, we are extending the time to this Wednesday, December 13th by 3PM for you to drop off your item(s) at the parish office.

ST. AGNES - OUR LADY OF FATIMA

CHRIST CALLS US TO BE ONE

ADVENT REVIVAL

DECEMBER 14, 15, 16

MUSICAL PRELUDE 6:45 PM

PROGRAM 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY - REVIVAL T-SHIRTS

THURSDAY - AFRICAN ATTIRE


Revivalist

FR. DR. ROY LEE PHD.

Fr. Lee was ordained for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. He served as associate pastor in several parishes in the Milwaukee area: St. Nicholas, St. Gregory, and St. Philip Neri. Over and above his work as a parish priest and equally as significant, Fr. Lee has had a very electric, challenging, and distinguished pastoral ministry as lecturer, educator, counselor, revivalist, retreat master, homilist, and chaplain in the U.S. Air Force. He is noteworthy scholar with considerable graduate-school training.

6800 LEXINGTON AVE
 CLEVELAND, OH 44103
 (216) 391-1655

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You are cordially invited to a **Do Drop In** reception celebrating the 80TH Birthday of Deacon Hardin M. Martin, Sr., and honoring his 54TH Anniversary of marriage to Rosary Anne Henry Martin.

WHEN: Sunday, December 18th, 2022

WHERE: Saint Agnes Our Lady of Fatima Church, Legacy Hall
 6800 Lexington Ave.,
 Cleveland, Ohio 44103

TIME: Following the 10:30 Mass
 12:00 PM to 4PM to which you are also invited

**"If ever there was a prayer that summarized our faith,
 And what was expressed in the Gospels,
 Our Father is it."
 St. Cyprian of Carthage...**

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PRAY FOR THE SICK+

Ogechi Achunine, Georgia Atkinson, Kalima Assami, Joyce Baker, Bessie Bolles, Gabriel Blair, Joyce Blanton-Smith, Anna Broadhead, Thella Brooks, Christine Byrd, William Byrd, Marcella Caffie, Kathy Clayton, Terrell Cole, Robin Davis, Edna Evans, Richard Gayle, James Nakima, Myron Gholson, Yvonne Griffin, Toni Griffin-France, Adriene Hall, Wendell Harris, JoAnn Hinson, Althea Hite, Ursula Hite, Patricia Heard, Estelle Hodges, Kyllan Hughes, Valada Hutchinson, Maxine Jackson, Andrea Johnson, Joseph Jones, Brianna Jones, Evelyn Jones, Reaber Jones, Craig Kelly, Janie Kincaid, Francesca Lehu, Dolores Malby, Elizabeth Malby, LaVerta Marshall, Bill Miller, David McClain, Chantel McConnell, Chaquita McClinton, Sharon McDuffie, Terri Mohr, Verendez Moore, Lounette Payne, Erma Pollard, Nisha Presley, Sue Scott, Regina Shanklin, Jerry Shelton, Kevin Sipp, Deborah Smedley, John Strozier, Barbara Sudberry, Danita Thomas, Janice Thompson, Hubert Watson, Desiree Webb, Aris White, James Keifer, Kathy Heard, Eboni Edwards, Monique Johnson, Margie Jones, Barbara Marshall Brown Naomi Matthews, Fay Grady, Tyrone Grady, Rachael Glaster, Jame Hoyle, Judy Guzy, Latina Thomas, Constance Durrach, Mary Roberts, Donald Leftwich, James Jackson, Marcia St. John, Sabrina Wilson, Betty Moore, Ophelia Swain, Fidela Lozada, Evelyn Morson-Eaddie, Alonzo Givens, Juanita Carter, Yvonne Williamson, Regina Woodard, Beverly Greene-Reed, Jahiem Wilson Ali'Bey, Warren Family, William Jackson, Kardier Jackson, Carol Hollinger, Mattie McDonald, Anita Gullett, Natalie Webb, Carson Wetherwax, Gail Xavier, Jaqueline Zeigler, Darlene Harris, Lasonia Sims, Bertha McClain, Nina Simmons, Bertha McClain Alexander, Loraine Taylor

YOUR SACRIFICE LAST WEEK

Thank you for your sacrificial gift for our church. Your response to our offertory commitment has been tremendous! Our goal to meet our budget is \$5,400.00. **Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!**

SUNDAY OFFERINGS 12-04-2022

In Church	\$5,159.00
Cash App	\$217.00
Vanco On-Line	\$486.56
Building Fund	\$40.00
Candles	\$22.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Dev	\$20.00
Local Charities	\$129.00
Hall Rental	\$4270.00
Hall Rental via Cash App	\$300.00
Total	\$10,643.56

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Family, it is that time again to think about preparing our church for the Christmas holidays. Flower envelopes will be available next Sunday in the Gallery and Narthex to memorialize Poinsettias in remembrance of our loved ones. Donations remain at \$15.00 per plant and are requested by December 21st. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Are being prepared for 2023. If you wish to receive envelopes, or if you are using electronic giving and no longer need them, please contact the parish office.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Retirement Fund for Religious

This special annual collection supporting our retired religious women and men raises funds that are distributed to religious communities throughout the eight counties of the diocese and across the country. These funds help communities provide for the immediate needs of their elder members. Religious communities are exceedingly grateful for this assistance and are careful stewards of each dollar received. This in pew collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** will be this weekend **December 10 – 11, 2022**. Donations are also accepted online at <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/events/2022/12/10/retirement-fund-for-religious--2022-collection>.

You are encouraged to give to those who have given a lifetime by donating to this collection. Your generosity provides vital support and helps to ensure ongoing viability for religious communities. Most importantly, please pray for God’s blessing on all religious. Rest assured, they are praying for you.

Christmas Concert at Historic St. Peter

The Cleveland Chamber Choir, under the direction of Jelani Watkins, will bring *Winter Carols and Lullabies* to **Historic St. Peter Church** (E. 17th St. and Superior Ave.) on **Saturday, December 17th at 7:00pm**. A pre-concert talk given by Dr. Charles McGuire of Oberlin College and Conservatory will begin at 6:30pm. Free will donations will be accepted. Free parking is available around the church property. All are welcome!

CLEVELAND CATHOLIC RADIO

Did you know Cleveland has its very own 24/7 Catholic radio station? What is Catholic radio, and why should you listen? AM1260 The Rock, Cleveland’s Catholic Radio station, provides quality Catholic programming for all ages and for every stage of your faith journey, 24 hours a day! A representative from the station will be speaking at all of our Masses on **Sunday January 8**. Tune in to AM1260 The Rock or visit www.am1260therock to learn more.

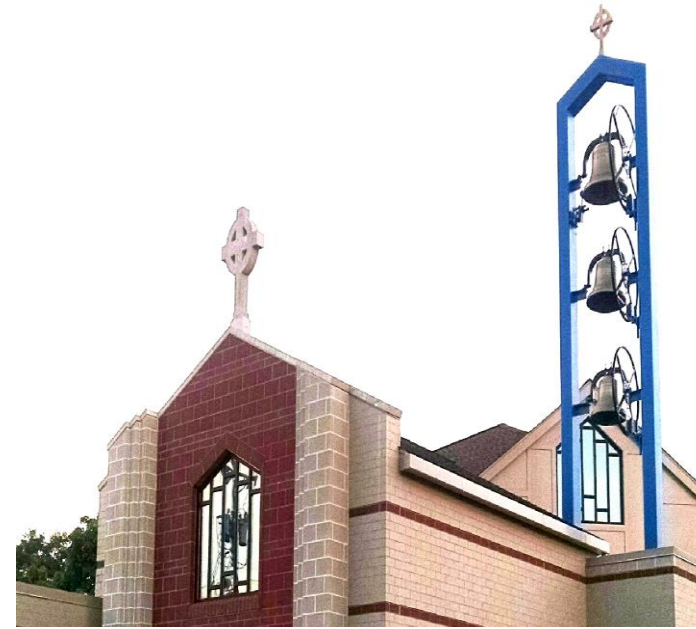
FATIMA FAMILY CENTER

Toyland/Joyland Christmas Support:

The Fatima Family Center is taking requests from families with children and youth ages 0 to 12 to receive Christmas gifts: We have 20 available due this Monday by 3PM. If you or someone you know has children in need within that age range, **please contact Fr. James to fill out a request at the parish office right away: 216-391-1655 ext. 11**

St. Agnes+Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

A Ministry of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars
Visit the Capuchins at www.capuchin.com



MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Agnes + Our Lady of Fatima Church is a visionary Catholic Christian Community.

*As a diverse parish, we embrace
 Africentric worship,
 Christ centered hospitality,
 and missionary service.*

*Sustained by the wisdom of our elders
 and energized by the spirit of our youth,
 we come together in faith
 as a church family
 to give witness to the liberating message
 of the Gospel.*



PARISH INFORMATION

Address: 6800 Lexington Avenue
 Cleveland, Ohio 44103
Office: 216-391-1655
FAX: 216-391-7919

Website: www.saolf.org
 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9AM-12:30, 1:00PM-3:30PM
 Fridays: Closed

Mass Schedule:

Saturday(Sunday Vigil): 5:00PM
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
 Weekday: As Scheduled
 Holyday: 7:00 p.m.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. James Watson, OFM Cap. Pastor
pastor@saolf.org
 Rev. David Domanski, OFM Cap. Associate Pastor
ddomanski@dioceseofcleveland.org
 Rev. Mr. Hardin Martin, Deacon
deaconmartin@saolf.org
 Miss Brittany Taylor, Parish Secretary
btaylor@saolf.org
 Mr. Cary Dabney, Director of Religious Education
carywdabney@gmail.com
 Mr. Danny McElroy, Director of Music Ministry
dannymac63@roadrunner.com
 Mr. Reginald Daniels, Custodian
custodian@saolf.org

Fatima Family Center: 6600 Lexington Ave.
 LaJean Ray, Director
 216-391-0505

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Saturdays: 4:00 pm or anytime by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants:
 Arrangements made in advance with a priest or deacon.
 Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

Sacrament of Marriage:
 Preparations begin with a priest or deacon BEFORE setting a date and six months prior to intended date.
 Contact the parish to schedule an appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick and Home Visits:
 Please contact the parish office.

Parish Registration: Welcome to our parish. To register, please contact the parish office.

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

Electronic Giving Opportunities:
 Go to www.saolf.org and click on “Make a Gift.”
 For **CashApp** users: send to **\$saolf**