

The Catholic Community of Divine Savior

Norridge, IL

# Third SUNDAY of Advent

December 13, 2020

Rejoice always.  
Pray without ceasing.  
In all circumstances  
give thanks,  
for this is the will  
of God for you  
in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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We are in need of volunteer parishioners to assist the Re-opening Team with our weekday and Sunday Mass, and also Sacramental celebrations. Without the help of our volunteers we cannot continue to welcome our parishioners back to church. Please help us!

You can sign up by sending an E-mail to [dsavior@aol.com](mailto:dsavior@aol.com) or leaving a message at 708.456.9000. We will then contact you about training.

**The Solemnity of Christmas • The Nativity of Our Lord**

Christmas Eve Vigil Liturgies

Thursday December 24th     three-o'clock pm family liturgy

Thursday December 24th     four-thirty pm family liturgy

Christmas Day Liturgies

Friday December 25th     nine o'clock am • ten-thirty am

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

Vigil Liturgy     Saturday December 26th     four o'clock pm

Sunday December 27th     nine o'clock am

**New Year's Liturgies**

**The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God**

New Year's Eve

Thursday December 31st     four o'clock pm

New Year's Day

Friday January 1st     nine o'clock am

**The Epiphany of Our Lord**

Saturday January 2nd     four o'clock pm

Sunday January 3rd     nine o'clock am

For up-to-date information please check [www.divinesaviornorridge.org](http://www.divinesaviornorridge.org), our Facebook page, and bulletins.

Reservations are required for all Mass times and can be made through our website [www.divinesaviornorridge.org](http://www.divinesaviornorridge.org) or by calling the Parish Office 708.456.9000.





First, we'd like to start by thanking you all again for your incredible generosity in supporting the November Fill a Box = Feed a Family Food Drive!

While Thanksgiving is over, it is now December and the holiday season continues as does the great need for many during this pandemic. Hundreds of families are struggling with the normal day to day things and can't even begin to think about affording a Christmas meal or gifts for their children.

Many of us continue to look for ways we can help those in need especially during this holiday season of hope and love. We would like to once again offer you a concrete, simple way that you can do just that!

Divine Savior Church will be collecting \$25 Gift Cards to be passed out to families in need at the Quinn Center of St. Eulalia Church. There are a few ways that you can donate:

1. Drop off a \$25 Gift Card to the Divine Savior Parish Office any time between now and December 18th. Drop your gift card (in a labeled envelope) in the mail slot of the Parish Office.
2. Bring your gift card to Divine Savior on Friday, December 18th. The church will be open all day for safe, contactless drop off. Just put your gift card in the designated box in the vestibule.
3. Email Kacie Bratko at [Kacie723@yahoo.com](mailto:Kacie723@yahoo.com) for her address. You can drop the gift card in her mailbox at anytime!
4. Can't make it to the store to purchase the gift card? We are happy to do it for you! You can send in money and we will purchase and deliver the gift cards for you! Monetary donations can be sent via Quickpay/Zelle to [Kacie723@yahoo.com](mailto:Kacie723@yahoo.com) or through Venmo to Kacie Bratko. If neither of those options work for you, just email Kacie and we can work it out. You are welcome to mail a check or leave your donation at the church as well.

Any and all gift cards will be accepted but some ideas would include Aldi, Walmart, Jewel Osco, Target, Dollar Tree, etc. Please email Kacie with any questions you might have - [Kacie723@yahoo.com](mailto:Kacie723@yahoo.com).

Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity! You are truly appreciated! Please feel free to spread the word once again and share this event with others!



## Weekly Offerings

### December 5/6

Envelopes:	\$ 3,695.00
GiveCentral:	<u>\$ 1,914.00</u>
Total:	\$ 5,609.00

We are grateful for all who continue to faithfully support our parish each week during these challenging times.

## Christmas Oplatki

The sharing of *Oplatki*, thin wafers of unleavened bread, is a cherished Christmas custom. The wafer is rectangular in shape and may have a picture of the Nativity or Holy Family stamped on it. The wafers are blessed and then exchanged among family and friends. At the family table, the *Oplatki* are broken and distributed by the head of the household with blessings and good wishes for one another. This custom is quite old and may derive from the Jewish Passover meal. ***Oplatki* wafers will be available at the parish office until we run out. The donation is \$2.00.**

AS THE EARTH BRINGS FORTH ITS PLANTS,  
AND A GARDEN MAKES ITS GROWTH SPRING UP,  
SO WILL THE LORD GOD MAKE JUSTICE AND PRAISE  
SPRING UP BEFORE ALL THE NATIONS.

ISAIAH 61:11

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THIRD SUNDAY OF  
**ADVENT**

DECEMBER 13, 2020

## REPENTING AND REJOICING

The readings this week bear a certain similarity to those of last week—we hear a prophecy from Isaiah that is reiterated by John the Baptist in Mark’s Gospel—but today the focus is different. Last week John told us to repent. Today he is the light leading us to God. Today is also known as “Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday,” as the reading from First Thessalonians commands us to “Rejoice in the Lord always.” We are to rejoice. Right now. Combined with last Sunday, this seems like a mixed message. “Which is it? Repenting or Rejoicing?” But John is telling us that one leads to the other. As we prepare for the coming of our Savior we must first repent and then rejoice.

### A LITTLE GOOD NEWS

Many years ago, Canadian singer Ann Murray had a hit song that spoke of her frustrations as she listened to the radio and read the headlines. She sang that “we sure could use a little good news today.” It strikes me that this is the message that the readings want us to leave with this week. The Gospel Antiphon proclaims, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor” (from Isaiah 61:1 and Luke 4: 18). John the Baptist is here to testify to the light, to the Good News.

### WILL THE REAL MESSIAH PLEASE STAND UP?

The Jewish people were waiting for their messiah, they were waiting for a hero. They prodded John several times trying to figure out what his role actually was, and to see what he knew. It became a guessing game. He tried to say nothing, but finally answered in a humble fashion, “I am not he.” He baptized with water as a means of leading people to the coming Christ and helping them to prepare. He somehow avoided the trappings of success that would turn his light on himself. Today he remains a road sign for us, pointing out Christ our Light.

We all want someone to rescue us, and most likely to fix the mistakes and errors that we continue to make as individuals and as nations. Much of that is human nature. Would there be as much fascination with superheroes if this were not the case? How many times do you as an adult turn to your folks for advice, or wish you could talk to a deceased parent? Some need help emotionally, others spiritually, others financially. The reality is that it is tough to get your “ducks in a row” and always has been. Today’s encouraging message is for us to always look to the Light for our help. May we always be like John the Baptist and testify how Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, has been our Savior.

### TODAY’S READINGS

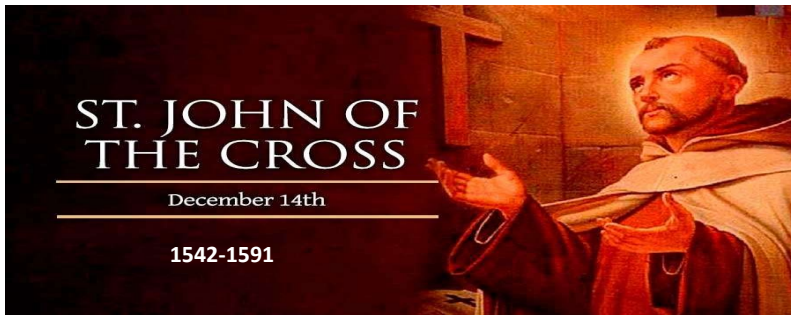
Isaiah 61:1–2a, 10–1  
Luke 1:46–48, 49–50, 53–54  
1 Thessalonians 5:16–24  
John 1:6–8, 19–28



REJOICE ALWAYS. PRAY WITHOUT CEASING.  
IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES GIVE THANKS.  
FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD FOR YOU IN CHRIST JESUS.

~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18





How beautiful the experience of love for God and neighbor, a fire deep within! How disheartening when love suddenly cools; and our souls grow dark, our prayer arid. How painful when misunderstanding, even rejection, comes our way, sometimes from those we least expect. For all such “seasons of the soul,” an inspiring fellow-pilgrim is the poet and mystic, John of the Cross. As a young Carmelite, he was recruited by Teresa of Avila for her Discalced (“barefoot,” evangelical poverty) Carmelite reform, striving to renew the Church from within after the Protestant Reformation had led countless religious away. John suffered unspeakably harsh abuse, even imprisonment, from friars who rejected this reform. Yet during these times of deepest suffering, John composed spiritual masterpieces that still guide souls to God, their titles reflecting his own painful yet ultimately victorious journey: from *The Dark Night of the Soul*, through *The Ascent of Mount Carmel*, to his *Spiritual Canticle* and *The Living Flame of Love*. John summarized his spirituality simply: “Put love where there is no love, and you will find love.”

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please remember Lillian Baureis, Maria Bordignon, John Bovard, Peggy A. Carolan, Marilee Cass, Joe & Annie Rose Cernick, Biagio Cirrincione, Marge Clemens, Al Corrado, Dawn Crimmins, Grace Crimmins, Josephine Davi, Rosemary DiBiase, MaryAnn Entrup, Geraldine Fergus, Amalia Gaglianese, John Gaydos, MaryAnn Gaydos, Lucille Gibula, Lucille Gutowski, Rosemary Hauck, Gina Hess, Renee Holm, Richard Humanski, Virgil Kolb, Jackie Kukielka, Gloria Lesniak, Erica Lursky, Maria Makos, Mickey Margelewski, Rafela Marchese, Mary Ann Maro, Rosalie McAteer, Berniece Michna, Ernest Morris, William Murray, Edward Pasdiora, James Pastorino, Mary Ann Romito, Lillian Ross, Caterina Savarino, Alicia Schmitz, Matt Schoenbach, Maria Scimeca, Dominic Senese, Elaine Sica, Mickey Stefanski, Steve Strzelecki, Rosemary Wegner, and all parishioners, family members, and friends in your prayers.

Please pray as well for all who have died. May they now rest in eternal peace.

### Remember Divine Savior in your will!

Giving a legacy to your church is an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God for all that you have been given and enjoyed during your life. It is also a means of ensuring that your past can become part of the future of your church’s life, through mission and ministry to all God’s people.

### Matching Gifts

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees.

Please contact your Human Resource Office to learn more about your company’s Matching gift policy and to determine if you are eligible for a matching gift.

## Letters from Heaven

Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

John the Baptist said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight ...”

O	R	D	F
L	H	T	O
T	E	E	Y
	H	W	A

T \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Answer: *the way of the Lord*

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## Mass Intentions

## Readings for the Week

**Monday, December 14, 2020**

Victims of Sandy Hook Elementary School

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020**

7:30 AM Divine Savior Parishioners

**Wednesday, December 16, 2020**

Phyllis De Giuseppe

**Thursday, December 17, 2020**

7:30 AM Giacomo & Maria D'Aniello

**Friday, December 18, 2020**

Divine Savior Parishioners

**Saturday, December 19, 2020**

**Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

4:00 PM

Virgil Kolb  
 Maria Cheung Li  
 Vera Pipitone  
 Eugene Slomski  
 Yolanda Slomski  
 Jeanette White  
 Intentions of Tim Arnold  
 Intentions of Marilyn Ofenloch  
 Intentions of the Intercessory Prayer Group

**Sunday, December 20, 2020**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:00 AM

Vito & Rosaria Anzalone  
 Mario Di Benedetto  
 Zaira Di Benedetto  
 Domenica Geraci  
 Betty Glomski  
 Frances Nimietz  
 Leonard Stancy

Monday: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a  
 Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13  
 Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday: Isaiah 45:6b-8, 21c-25  
 Luke 7:18b-23

Thursday: Genesis 49:2, 8-10  
 Matthew 1:1-17

Friday: Jeremiah 23:5-8  
 Matthew 1:18-25

Saturday: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a  
 Luke 1:5-25

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
 Romans 16:25-27  
 Luke 1:26-38

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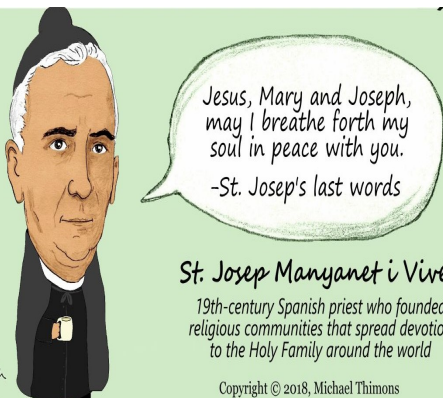
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All Mass intentions are remembered by Fr. LoBianco, Fr. Beath, Fr. Blazek, and Fr. Madigan during their private Masses and private prayer. We ask that you add these intentions to your prayers also.

### Liturgical Ministry Schedule for December 19/20

	Presider	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
4:00 PM	Fr. LoBianco	L. Olen	D. Sulimowski
9:00 AM	Fr. Blazek	M. Bratko	K. Petryszak

saint snippets



December 17

**St. Josep Manyanet i Vives**  
 19th-century Spanish priest who founded religious communities that spread devotion to the Holy Family around the world  
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### Mission Statement of The Catholic Community of Divine Savior

We are a faith community that seeks the fullest relationship with Jesus, by our communion with each other, through the Eucharist, Sacraments, Prayer, and Service.

#### Pastoral Staff

Pastor Rev. Richard J. LoBianco  
 Associate Pastor Rev. James D. Beath  
 Associate Pastor Rev. James F. Blazek  
 Director of Faith Formation/Business Manager  
 Ms. Mary E. Coban  
 Assisting Priests  
 Rev. William Holbrook Rev. Michael Madigan  
 Music Director Mrs. Mary Herman  
 Coordinator of Adult Formation Mr. Frank Lizak

7740 W. Montrose Avenue Norridge, IL 60706  
 (708) 456-9000 Fax: (708) 456-7838  
 E-mail: dsavior@aol.com  
 Website: www.divinesaviornorridge.org

#### This Week

Register for Mass  
 at [divinesaviornorridge.org](http://divinesaviornorridge.org)  
 or call 708.456.9000

Divine Savior Sunday Mass can be viewed at  
[www.divinesaviornorridge.org](http://www.divinesaviornorridge.org). Click on Sunday Mass  
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Holy Name Cathedral Mass  
 Saturday at 4:00 PM  
[radiotv.archchicago.org/television/broadcast-masses](http://radiotv.archchicago.org/television/broadcast-masses)  
 Every Sunday at 9:30 AM on ABC7

Mercy Home Mass  
 Every Sunday at 9:30 AM on WGN Chicago or  
[mercyhome.org/sunday-mass](http://mercyhome.org/sunday-mass)

Daily Mass at 10:00 AM from St. James Chapel  
<https://radiotv.archchicago.org/television/broadcast-masses>

#### **WEEKEND LITURGIES**

Saturday: 4:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM

#### **WEEKDAY LITURGIES**

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30 AM

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Every Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 PM. Please call the rectory.

#### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

One Sunday a Month. Please call the rectory.

#### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Please call the rectory.

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