

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-18a (9C)**  
**SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7 GOSPEL: Luke 3:10-18**

**A WORD FROM FATHER KELLY**

The Prophet Zephaniah made the proclamation: "Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!" and St. Paul wrote to the Philippians: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!" These are words that truly mark our Third Sunday of Advent, *Rejoice* or *Gaudete* Sunday. We are called to rejoice as we recognize that the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, is now near... both in the celebration of Christmas and in his Second Coming.

It seems more difficult today to hear people talking about "joy" in their lives. We seem to be caught in a longing, or a desire, to be "happy" instead. Certainly there is nothing wrong with happiness and indeed we should strive to find such bliss in our lives. But "joy" invites us to something much greater; joy is a way of living from the inside rather than the outside.

While "happiness" can be found in feeling good about a special event of our lives, a nice gift from one we love, kind words expressed in our direction, or the sight of something beautiful – in other words something experienced from outside ourselves, "joy" is much more a state of inner-being. "Joy" is realized when even in moments of great distress or sadness we have a sense of peace, calm, and goodness that we are created in God's image and likeness. "Joy" is realized when we understand that God loves us so much he sent his only Son, to be one like us in all things but sin, to suffer, to die upon the cross, and so be resurrected on the third day for our redemption and salvation. "Joy" enters our life when we realize that we are never left to our own defenses, but that God has sent the Holy Spirit to remain with us to the end of time to guide and protect us.

So today, *Rejoice, Shout for joy, Sing Joyfully, Be Glad and Exult with All Your Heart!* I shall say it again: *Rejoice!*

*"God is so great that he can become small. God is so powerful that he can make himself vulnerable and come to us as a defenseless child, so that we can love him."* ~ ~ Pope Benedict XVI



**THANK YOU FOR DONATING TO THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS**



A sister from Pennsylvania writes, "In our prayers, all the sisters remember in a special way the faithful of the dioceses who support the [Retirement Fund for Religious] collection. We realize that their sacrifices and generosity have made this [financial] assistance possible. May God reward them." The second collection totaled \$3,135.81 Thank you very much.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:**

**December 24: Christmas Masses –**  
 4:30 p.m. Family, 6:00 p.m. Jacksonville,  
 7:00 p.m. (English), 9:30 p.m. (Spanish),  
 and Midnight Mass, (English)



**December 25: Christmas Day Masses –**  
 8:30 a.m. and noon (English), 10:15 a.m. (Spanish)

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY**

**December 31:** Monday, 5:00 p.m. (**NOT 5:30**)  
**January 1:** Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. and noon (English),  
 10:15 a.m. (Spanish)

**BULLETIN, AND THEN NO BULLETIN**

The bulletin for the weekend of December 22/23 will be the same bulletin at the doors of the church on Christmas (December 24/25). Please take a bulletin on December 23 or on Christmas - not both - they will be the same. On December 29/30 we will have no bulletin.

Articles for the January 5/6 bulletin **must** be in by Wednesday, December 26. Thank you, Eileen

**Financial Report**

Year to date through	12/2/2012	12/4/2011
Offertory received	\$394,543.31	\$387,520.03
Needed for Budget	\$401,415.09	\$411,346.23
Over (Under) Budget	(\$6,871.78)	(\$23,826.20)

A parish thrives and grows on the financial contributions of all the parishioners. Thank you to all who contribute.

## WELCOME HOME CATHOLICS IS COMING!!

Once again the parish will be offering the Welcome Home Catholics program. Please spread the word to family and friends! This is a no obligation or commitment program of outreach and support for baptized and confirmed Catholics who have been away from the church and are considering their return. The first meeting will be Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office. **For information call 541-779-4661.**

### SACRED HEART CHURCH Additional Confession Times

Saturday, December 22  
3:00 - 5:15 p.m.

### Area Reconciliation Services

*St. Anne, Grants Pass*

Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 p.m.

*St. Joseph's, Roseburg*

Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 7:00 p.m.

*Shepherd of the Valley*

Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7:00 p.m.

### 7:00 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

M. Dec. 17: +Holy Souls  
T. Dec. 18: +Doris De Rego  
W. Dec. 19: Kyle Wright  
Th. Dec. 20: Legion of Mary  
Fr. Dec. 21: +Holy Souls

### 8:30 a.m. DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

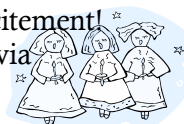
M. Dec. 17: +Wesley Wardleigh  
T. Dec. 18: +Catherine Stuber  
W. Dec. 19: +Holy Souls  
Th. Dec. 20: +Ralph Cavanaugh  
Fr. Dec. 21: The Batzer Family  
Sat. Dec. 22: +Holy Souls

**PLEASE PRAY** for the ill of our parish especially: Gloria Hoover, Diane Wilcox, Shizuka McCue, John Preston, Rose Coyle, Margarita La Hue, Bert and Trudy Oman, Charles Larkin, Lucina Guerrero, Betty Mercier, Thelma Roberts, Sharon Senske, Mabel Keenan, Marie Casilio, Rob Sperling, Mary Beveridge, Jeff Leroy, Helen Doody, Rita Morrell, Mickey Ketchum, Thomas Miller, Rose Casagrande, Marion & Bill Owens, Dick & Beverly Handley, and Calvin & Maria Schwenk.

**Please pray for the deceased of our parish especially:** +Arnold Paradis, +Michael Console, +Steven Parker, and for their families.

### CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

The time has come once again to form the Christmas Eve Children's Choir! We are looking for singers from age 8 and older. We are having a rehearsal on Thursday, December 20, at 7:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall Choir Room. Please come and share in our excitement! If you have any questions please call Sylvia Pyeatt at 541-779-4661 ext 113



### ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS!!

The ladies of the Altar Society are having a Tamale Sale in the Hall after the 8:30 Mass today. Please stop by and give them your support. Proceeds help to purchase the candles used at Mass.

**Up Coming:** Sweet Heart Ball to be held at the Rogue Regency on Saturday, February 16, 2013. Please call Louise at 541-776-2441 for information.



### 5:00 SUNDAY MASS, 12/23 IS CANCELLED.

The church will be being decorated for Christmas.

### PATRICIAN MEETING

December 17<sup>th</sup> – Monday at 9:30 a.m. Topic: Vatican II - #1 Constitution of Sacred Liturgy. 50 years after Vatican II, the Holy Father has asked us to review the 16 parts of this document during the "Year of Faith".

Father Carmelo is our Spiritual Advisor. All are welcome to share in this discussion.



### COFFEE AND DONUTS

December 16<sup>th</sup> hosted by St. Vincent de Paul volunteers

December 23<sup>rd</sup> -- no coffee and donuts

December 30<sup>th</sup> hosted by:

Lee O'Driscoll & Bruno Hutter



*Could you not keep watch for one hour? Mk 14: 37*

Blessings to all who keep watch one hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Please call Dan and Sarah Rice at 541-582-3717 for information.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

During this Advent season we are learning "To Keep Christ In Christmas". We are also singing the beautiful "O Come Emmanuel" hymn each Sunday; learning why the vestments changed to purple; what each of the Advent candles symbolizes; and most importantly that Mary said "Yes to God!!". It is so great learning and sharing "how cool it really is to be Catholic"!!



### Sacrament Preparation

This Sunday is the children's 4<sup>th</sup> class for Reconciliation and the children are all practicing and saying their prayers in readiness for their first Reconciliation in January. Please keep these precious children in your prayers as they continue to grow in their Catholic faith during this important time in their lives.

### Family Mass December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

I still have opening for angels, shepherds and wise men at the Family Mass. Children meet in the Nursery at the Parish Hall the same day for a quick rehearsal at 3:45pm. I have a few angel wings; some shepherd smocks and two wise men tunics left if you would like to borrow them for your child to wear. This is great opportunity for children to be active at this special Mass and a beautiful way to remember and be involved in the true meaning of Christmas. If you need further details about Religious Education, Sacrament preparation or the Family Christmas Eve Mass please contact Mary Stallard at the Parish Office.....ph# 541-779-4661 ext 107 ....or email ...mstallard@shcs.org.

**NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES  
DECEMBER 23RD  
RE CLASSES RESUME DECEMBER 30TH!!!!**



**LIFE TEEN GROUP (HIGH SCHOOL) AND EDGE GROUP (JUNIOR HIGH)** will meet this Sunday, December 16th, at their regular time. We will then have a Christmas Break until January 6th, 2013 when we will meet to start the New Year.



## SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

### CONGRATULATIONS, CUB SCOUTS!

As one of many extracurricular activities our students participate in, Sacred Heart School is the long-time sponsor of Cub Scout Pack 1 which is open to both students of the school and students from other schools. On Wednesday, December 12, 2012, nine (9) fifth graders who have achieved the rank of Webelos II Were honored for achieving Cub Scout's highest award – the Arrow of Light. This award is earned through a series of activities (badges) which include skills accomplishments in the following areas: Physical, Mental, Community Involvement, Technology, and Outdoor Activities. Additionally the scouts are involved in core scouting activities including Camp McLoughlin, Snowcapades, Pinewood Derby, Rocket Launch, Scouting for Food, Popcorn Sales, Table Rock hikes, and church and community events. Please congratulate John Beattie, Brady Eiler, Kevin Hunt, Marcel Janes, Riggs Loftin, Jacob McClure, Rory McNamee, Matthew Mills, and Matthew Shenk, for the collective body of work they accomplished over the past five (5) years, and their achievement of Cub Scouting's highest award!

Submitted by: Riley Loftin, Webelos Den Leader and Travis Jantzer, Cubmaster Pack 1

**SCRIP** will be on sale after the 7:00 and 8:30 Masses every Sunday until December 16. Help support the School while doing your Christmas Shopping! Thank you.

### OVERFLOW SEATING AT CHRISTMAS MASSES

When the church is full at the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Mass, the ushers will direct the overflow to the parish hall, where Mass will be broadcast on the big screen. Communion will be brought to the hall.



### CHARITABLE GIFTS YEAR END CUTOFF

Donors must deliver or mail gifts on or before December 31, 2012 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2012. Checks that are placed in the church offering on January 1, 2013 will not qualify, even if predated in 2012 or actually written in 2012.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday to Friday: 7:00 a.m.  
Monday to Saturday: 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday (English)**

7:00 a.m.  
8:30 a.m.  
10:15 a.m. St. Joseph, Jacksonville --  
-- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month  
12:00 noon  
5:00 p.m.

**Sunday (Spanish)**

10:15 a.m.  
1:30 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday: 3:00 to 5:15 p.m.  
or by appointment.

**ROSARY**

Monday through Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday -- Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Closed 12:30 -- 1:30 for lunch

**Thank you Advertiser of the Week  
KOSMATKA DONNELLY & CO.**

*Please thank our Advertisers with your patronage.*  
To place an ad please call Jack Wallich at  
1-800-867-0660. Thank you.



**KITCHEN TOWELS AND RAGS NEEDED**

The Parish Hall kitchen is in desperate need of towels and rags. As you clean out your drawers and cupboards for the Holy Days please think of us! Thank you.

**Youth Minister/Newman Center Coordinator:** We are searching for a faithful and faith-filled Catholic to coordinate our Youth and Newman ministry programs. Working closely with the Pastor, the Youth Minister/Coordinator will provide leadership in the design and implementation of the youth ministry and Newman programs for youth and young adults within the church community of Our Lady of the Mountain. This is a part time position, with no more than 10 hours a week. To apply, please send resume and references to the Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic Church (987 Hillview Drive, Ashland, 97520. [olmop@mind.net](mailto:olmop@mind.net)) ASAP.