



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT. DECEMBER 14, 2025

“REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS”

Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent in the Christian liturgical calendar. Its name comes from the Latin word “*Gaudete*,” meaning “Rejoice.” The term comes from the opening antiphon of the Mass for that day: “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” “Rejoice in the Lord always.”

This week’s Gospel continues our Advent focus on John the Baptist. Last week John spoke about his relationship to the coming Messiah; now, from prison, he sends messengers to ask Jesus if he is truly the one they await. Jesus points to his miraculous works as signs of the Kingdom and then praises John for preparing the way. He adds that all who labor for God’s Kingdom can share—even surpass—John’s greatness.

The signs Jesus mentions echo Isaiah’s vision of salvation: God’s saving work is already present in Jesus and in the Church, yet still awaiting its fullness. Even today we can glimpse God’s presence in the world, and by our words and actions we help prepare the way for God’s reign. This is a genuine reason for rejoicing.

“ALÉGRENSE SIEMPRE EN EL SEÑOR

El Domingo de Gaudete es el tercer domingo de Adviento en el calendario litúrgico cristiano. Su nombre proviene de la palabra latina “*Gaudete*,” que significa “Alégrese”. Este término procede de la antífona inicial de la Misa de ese día: “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” — “Alégrese siempre en el Señor”.

El Evangelio de esta semana continúa nuestro enfoque de Adviento en Juan el Bautista. La semana pasada, Juan habló sobre su relación con el Mesías que había de venir; ahora, desde la cárcel, envía mensajeros para preguntar a Jesús si realmente es aquel a quien esperan. Jesús señala sus obras milagrosas como signos del Reino y luego elogia a Juan por preparar el camino. Añade que todos los que trabajan por el Reino de Dios pueden compartir e incluso sobrepasar la grandeza de Juan.

Los signos que Jesús menciona evocan la visión de salvación de Isaías: la obra salvadora de Dios ya está presente en Jesús y en la Iglesia, aunque aún espera su plenitud. Incluso hoy podemos vislumbrar la presencia de Dios en el mundo, y con nuestras palabras y acciones ayudamos a preparar el camino del Reino de Dios. Esta es una verdadera razón para alegrarnos.



FAITH AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Written by Alondra Valdez Klemek

The feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated every December 12th in the Americas and stems from a revered Marian apparition in Mexico in 1531 to a humble Aztec man by the name of Juan Diego (now St. Juan Diego). On December 9, 1531 Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when Our Lady first appeared to him, speaking to him in his native Nahuatl language. She asked him to go to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga and request that a chapel be built in the place where she first appeared. Juan Diego did as Our Lady asked, but the Bishop did not believe him and sent him away. Our lady appeared again to Juan Diego on another day and asked him to return to the Bishop with the same request, which was again denied. The bishop then told Juan to not return, unless he had a sign to prove that the request have the lady give him a sign.

About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. With this worry, poor Juan tried to avoid the lady. Nevertheless, on December 12th, she again appeared to Juan and assured him that his uncle would recover; She then provided out of season and non-native Castilian roses for Juan to take to the bishop in his cape or "tilma," at a time when roses would not normally be blooming as it was winter in the desert. Juan Diego then again returned to the Bishop with the same request, and with his requested "proof." When Juan Diego opened his tilma in the Bishop's presence, the roses cascaded onto the ground, and the Bishop sank to his knees in recognition of the proof that Our Lady had sent him. On the tilma where the roses had been, appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac, which tilma and Image now resides at the shrine which she had requested, built in Mexico City.

Our Lady of Guadalupe's apparition was transformative to both indigenous and Spaniards alike, in that she appeared as a Mestiza woman becoming a powerful icon of unity and hope, and a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. Our Lady of Guadalupe's December 12th feast day starts with an early dawn mass or service and "Las Mananitas" a traditional, Mariachi good morning song; and many Roses gifted back to her, and continues throughout the day with traditional foods; song and celebration.



MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 13TH – DECEMBER 21ST

Sat. Dec. 13th 4:30 Vigil: People of the Parish

Sun, Dec. 14th 9:00: Int. of the Korman Family

11:00: + Karen Mushkin

1:00 (Spanish Mass): + Emma & Danela Solano

Wed. Dec. 17th : Health of Ginny Luttrell

Thurs. Dec 18th: + Sebastian Reney

Fri. Dec. 19th : + Michael Coakley

Sat. Dec. 20th 4:30 Vigil: Health of Waldon Thomasson

Sun, Dec. 21st 9:00: People of the Parish

11:00: + Otilia Sanchez

WEEKLY COLLECTION

DECEMBER 6TH & 7TH – \$2,443

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING GENEROSITY.

WHAT ARE POSADAS?



commemorate the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph's search for a place to stay where Jesus could be born. Posadas in Mexico feature hot food and drinks, sweets, music, and piñatas. Throughout Mexico, churches and communities still celebrate these festivities with their traditional, religious elements. We invite you to learn more by looking for the schedule of Posadas (stops at various family homes in Cachagua). Gracias.

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST'S DESK...



This is the Sunday of joy. For that reason, the priest wears rose-colored vestments, and we light the rose candle on the Advent wreath as a reminder that our salvation is near. Joyful people naturally attract others, especially since joy is one of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. As Saint Paul tells us in Galatians 5:22–23, the fruits are: *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.* *Fr. Jhonnatan*

EVENT CALENDAR

Mon. Dec. 15th – Tue. Dec. 23rd 7 pm
POSADAS

Tues. Dec. 23rd, 7 pm MISA DE NOCHE
BUENA & BIG POSADA IN CACHAGUA

Wed. Dec. 24th, 4:30 pm. CHRISTMAS
EVE CHILDRENS MASS

Thu. Dec. 25th 10:00 am CHRISTMAS
DAY MASS

Thu. January 1st, 2026, 12pm Noon
English Mass MARY MOTHER OF GOD

A CHRISTMAS TRADITION

The word posada means inn or lodging, and traditionally posadas are a celebration of the Christmas story. They take place on nine nights from December 16 to 24 and



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SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass
 Wednesday — Friday, 12 noon

Weekend Mass
 Saturday Vigil at 4:30 PM
 Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00 AM in English
 Spanish Mass: 2nd Sunday of the Month
 1:00 PM in the Church
 4th Saturday of the Month at 7:00 PM in Cachagua

Reconciliation
 Saturday at 3:30 PM and by appointment

Office Hours
 Wednesday — Friday 1:00 PM — 3:00 PM
 Sundays: 10:00 AM — 11:00 AM

"At the heart of silence is prayer. At the heart of prayer is faith. At the heart of faith is life. At the heart of life is service."

— St Teresa of Avila

PARISH MINISTRIES

For more information about our ministries, follow the link in this QR code:



Pastoral Council	Social Media
Finance Council	Website
Faith Formation	Eucharistic Ministers
Bereavement Ministry	Coffee Hospitality
Human Trafficking	Sacristans
Music Ministry	Lectors
Parish Hall & Kitchen Renta	Ushers

PARISH STAFF

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