

Turn From Sin

Gaudete Sunday—Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)

The crowds asked John the Baptist, “What should we do?” [Luke 3:10](#)

Among those within the crowds who were asking Saint John the Baptist this question were tax collectors, soldiers and ordinary people. John gave an answer to them all, first telling them to turn away from the sins that they struggled with the most. Sin takes on many forms and often is closely associated with our daily duties in life. Some sins are sins of commission, meaning sins we commit by an intentional act. Some sins are those of omission, meaning a lack of certain virtues or a failure to do what we ought to do.

After addressing the particular sins that those in the crowds were struggling with, John then turns their attention to Christ. He states to them that “one mightier than I is coming” and that “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” In other words, John was giving the people a twofold command. First, work to overcome sin. And second, turn your eyes to Him Who is coming to you. Repenting from sin is not enough. Once we repent, we must then fill the void within our souls with the presence of Christ.

Advent, just like Lent, is an important time within our liturgical year to heed these messages. Though it’s true that we must work to overcome sin and turn to Christ every day of the year, God knows we need a special time each year when we give concerted effort to these spiritual endeavors. So before Advent passes you by, heed the words of the Baptist and take some time to examine your conscience thoroughly. Perhaps use a detailed list of the Ten Commandments or the Seven Capital Sins. Once you do that, seek out an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Doing so is essential to a fruitful Advent season.

Once you thoroughly repent of the sins you struggle with the most right now, turn to the Savior of the World with special attentiveness to the miracle of the Incarnation this Advent. Spend time adoring the God Who came to us in the form of a little child. Meditate on this Gift. Gaze at a nativity scene prayerfully. Read the Scripture passages about the birth of Christ. Close your eyes and imagine yourself there at His birth.

Reflect, today, upon this twofold exhortation from John and apply it to your Advent preparations. Cleanse your soul in a special way from all sin this Advent. Then prayerfully ponder and meditate upon the reality we are preparing to celebrate. As John says, allow the Christ Child to truly “baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” through your deepening devotion and prayer this Advent.

My dear Jesus, please help me to see my sins as You see them.

Help me to be attentive to every sinful action I commit and even those smaller sins of omission.

As I ponder my sin, please draw me to Your mercy and grace so that I can then open the eyes of my soul more deeply to see You and to adore You more completely this Advent. Jesus, I trust in You.



Parish Staff:

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Pastoral Council

Father Ishida, Pat Whipple, Janet Whipple,,

Mario Cruz, Danielle Treis, Father Miller

Finance Council

Father Ishida, Eric Hanson

Physical Address: 200 W. Alder, Sprague, WA 99032

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Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

December 15, 2024

3rd Sunday (Gaudete Sunday) of Advent

Holy Mass and Sacraments Schedule

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am

12:30 pm English Mass

Reconciliation: Sundays at 10:00 am

Baptism and Holy Matrimony:

The family should be registered and active members at Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish for a least three months prior to Baptism or Holy Matrimony. Couples are engaged to marry need to contact Fr. Ishida at least four months prior to the wedding date for marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please contact Father Ishida.

Parish Office:

Please email or leave voice message.

FORMED.org—“The Catholic NetFlicks

Step 1. **Sign up as a Parishioner (it's FREE)** : search for **St. Anne Medical Lake**

Step 2. Then enter your name and create a password.

welcome

to our parish

Gaudete Sunday of Advent

Lectionary #9c ~ Liturgical color: violet or rose

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Resp Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:1-0-18

NO Gloria

The Creed

December is the Month of the Divine Infancy

Nativity of our Lord

Christmas Day, Mass @ 12:30 PM

NO Mass on December 26 & 27.

Father Ishida will be out of town.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1, Mass @ 12:30 PM



Welcome to Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish To all visitors who are joining us for worship today. May your time with us be grace-filled and may the Lord Jesus bless you and your loved ones today and every day.

Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Sundays @ 10:30 am - confession @ 10:00 am
12:30 pm - English Mass



Troop 19

Spokane, Washington

Attention fathers of boys ages 6-18. Do you want to deepen your Catholic faith while experiencing the great outdoors with your son?

The Troops of Saint George apostolate aims to use the outdoors as our canvas and the sacraments as our path to light the way for the formation of Holy Catholic men and boys.

Learn more about past and upcoming activities, reach out to ask questions or join at our website—spokanetsg.org

Information Session 12/21/2024, 5pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral
Lower Level, Spokane

Dinner provided. Events for 2025 Detailed

Please RSVP to Troop19@tsghq.org
Please attend and help us make 2025 a great year for the Troops!

Beeswax Candles for sale!

Interested in handmade beeswax candles?

Contact Savannah Roach at
RoachSavannah98@gmail.com
or call 509-671-5656

Facebook—under homemade goods.
<https://tinyurl.com/yafbutsz>

Parishioner of Mary, Queen of Heaven



FORMED.org

JOIN for free!

Directions on front of
the bulletin
Catholic "net flicks".



Seven Sisters Apostolate

**That our prayers
may find the heart
of every priest and
bishop.**



A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop—a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

Please contact Linda Pearson if you are interested in joining her at 509-879-0753 or email sookiesue@msn.com

Seven Sisters Apostolate meet after 9:00 am Mass at **St. Anne Parish, Medical Lake**. For all those interested—**Please join us in the Church.**

Diocesan news
to your inbox
every Friday



We love
having you as part of our flock

Keep in touch
with us via
email & text

Text the word **westolains**
to the number **84576**

"The priesthood is the love of
the heart of Jesus."

St. John Vianney



Pray the Rosary for Eucharistic Revival With Mary, draw closer to her Son as you ponder these mysteries.

Mary, Jesus' first tabernacle, leads us to adore and follow Him in all the joys, lights, and sorrows of this earth to the unending glory of reigning with Him in heaven. Pray all 20 mysteries focusing on the renewed Eucharistic fervor.



2024 ACA Parish Goals

Mary, Queen of Heaven,
Sprague \$5, 759

We have currently received
\$5,470—94.98% of our goal.

Thank you to all who have donated.

Please note: Mass Intensions take approximately 2 weeks to get processed and on the calendar. Please note this when giving your stipends for Intensions.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

08	Sunday	Pro Populo
09	Monday	
10	Tuesday	
11	Wednesday	
12	Thursday	
13	Friday	
14	Saturday	
15	Sunday	Pro Populo

Mary, Queen of Heaven ... Pray for us!
St. Anne ... Pray for us!