

# St. John Vianney Church

December 17, 2023  
Third Sunday of Advent



*Joy* On the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, the rose colored candle is lit. It reminds us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus, our true source of joy.

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Catholic Diocese of Peoria

**Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA, Pastor**

**Fr. Chris Haake, Parochial Vicar**

**Mass: Sunday 8:00 AM Wednesday 5:30 PM**

Reconciliation: Sunday 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM

PO Box 183, 313 S West St Cambridge IL 61238

Phone: 309-937-3304 Email: [stjohnvianney3@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnvianney3@gmail.com)

[www.threestjohns.com](http://www.threestjohns.com)

[www.facebook.com/stjohnvianneycambridge](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnvianneycambridge)

Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA: Email: [frghislain@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org](mailto:frghislain@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org)

PO Box 249, 390 E Highway Ave, Woodhull IL 61490 - 309-852-4549 Ext 106

Fr. Chris Haake: Email: [fatherhaake@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org](mailto:fatherhaake@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org)

406 W. Central Blvd, Kewanee IL 61443- 309-852-4549 Ext 118

Religious Education: Terri Borkgren 309-945-2628

Greeting Cards: Mary Kay Newman: 309-944-7032

Parish Secretary: Rita Taylor 309-714-8278

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St John, The Apostle

Mass Sunday 5:00 PM

PO Box 249 390 E Highway Ave

Woodhull IL 61490

Phone: 309-334-2180 Fax: 309-334-2136

Secretary: Tena Anseeuw

[stjohnchurch@divcominc.net](mailto:stjohnchurch@divcominc.net)

St John, The Evangelist

Mass Saturday 4 PM | Sunday 10:00 AM

PO Box 18 212 NE 1st St

Galva IL 61434

Phone: 309-932-2409

Secretary: Linda Simmons

[stjohngalva2@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngalva2@gmail.com)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Mass Intentions</b>	<b>Given By</b>
Dec 17 8:00 AM Sunday	For: Rhea Dwyer For: Jim Dobbels	By: Michelle LaBelle By: Marv & Mary Kay Newman
Dec 20 5:30 PM Wednesday	For: Orville Ossian	By: The Family
Dec 24 4:00 PM Sunday	For: Vincent Carroll	By: Dwaine & Janice VanMeenen
Dec 25 8:00 AM Monday	For: Joan Dobbels	By: Kathy Johnson

## *Serving at Our Lord's Altar*

<b>Lay Ministry Schedule for December 17-25, 2023</b>		
Sunday	December 17	8:00 AM
Extra Min:	Bill Taylor & Barb Montgomery	
Lector:	Larry Lavin	
Wednesday, December 20	5:30 PM	
Lector & Server Volunteers		
Sunday	December 24	4:00 PM
Extra Min:	Brian & Julie Dwyer	
Lector:	Chris DeKezel	
Monday, December 25	8:00 AM	
Extra Min:	Leonard Boelens & Larry Lavin	
Lector:	Don Hulin	
<b>USHERS</b>		
Dec:	Josh Gibson & Christian Jackson	
<b>COUNTERS</b>		
Dec:	Clyde & Kaye Maertens	

### ***Other Weekday Masses:***

Woodhull: 8:00 AM Tuesday & Thursday    Galva: 8:00 AM Wednesday

### **For Prayer Chain requests contact:**

Terri Borkgren: 309-945-2628 or Julie Dwyer: 309-507-1627

**Dates to Remember:**

Today: CCD Christmas program & party

**Advent**

**Reconciliation Services**

Wed, Dec 20th 6 PM in Cambridge  
Thurs, Dec 21st 6 PM in Kewanee



**Christmas Weekend Masses**

**For Your Sunday Obligation:**

**Sat, Dec 23rd:**

Galva- 4:00 PM Woodhull -5:30 PM

Kewanee 5:30 PM

**Sun, Dec 24th:**

Galva-10:00 AM

**For the Holy Day of Christmas:**

**Christmas Eve, Sun, Dec 24th**

Cambridge-4:00 PM

Kewanee-4:00 PM

Woodhull-5:00 PM

Galva-6:00 PM

**Christmas Day, Mon, Dec 25th**

Cambridge-8:00 AM

Woodhull-10:00 AM



**Last Week's  
Gifts to God**

**December 10, 2023**

Collection: \$1,330.00

Building Fund: \$ 360.00

Sunday Total: \$ 1,690.00



**Weekly Offering**



**Weekly  
Envelopes**

Your 2024 Weekly Offering Envelopes are available on the card table at the back of the church. Please pick up yours today.

**2024 Altar & Rosary Books**

are available at the doors of the church. Please take yours home.



The new Living Faith booklets for Jan-March are available at each door. Everyone is invited to take one home.



**Brighten Someone's Day!**

A revised list of addresses for our parishioners who might appreciate being remembered with a card is at the entrances.



**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Xander Carlson, Donna Dobbels, Tom Montgomery, Ron Swanson, Mary Lou Robinson, Robert Franck & Judy Brockway Skelton. Please pray for the sick, their loved ones, and caregivers. May they never lose sight of the love of God.



**The Christmas Collection**

Quite some time ago the diocese changed the procedure for the Christmas collection offering envelopes to go to our parish and not the parish priests. If you would like to give something to Fr. G and Fr. Haake for Christmas, please address your gift directly to them.



**ANNOINTING OF THE SICK**

Before going into the hospital, please call Fr. Ghislain at 309-852-4549. If you are admitted to the hospital or nursing home prior to Fr. Ghislain anointing you, please tell admittance that you are Catholic. They will arrange for the designated chaplain to anoint you and will notify Fr. Ghislain.

**Third Week of Advent Prayer**



God of Love, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, as we wait and prepare for His coming. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. +Amen

**Trivia Question** (answer on last page)

Advent lasts \_\_\_\_\_ a) 40 days b) 30 days  
c) until the Christmas sales end d) 4 weeks

rejoice  
always

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. “Gaudete” is a Latin word, meaning “rejoice.” The Christian steward should be characterized by a spirit of rejoicing. The more we embrace the stewardship way of life, the more we will be filled with joy. Today as Advent begins to draw to a close and Christmas approaches, we should ask ourselves who and what we rejoice in.

Our First Reading, from Isaiah, expresses a fitting motto for the Christian steward. “I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul.” It is God Who is the source of our joy and contentment — not things or achievements or comfort, but our relationship with God. This is why stewards can share so freely of their time, talents, and material possessions — because ultimately we are not attached to these things. We recognize them as good gifts from our loving Father, but we are attached to the Giver of the gifts, not the gifts themselves. This allows for great freedom in life and the capacity for great joy in the Lord.

This freedom in the Lord is also the reason we can do as St. Paul instructs in his letter to the Thessalonians, in today's Second Reading. He tells us to, “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God.” As Christian stewards, we know that no matter what the ups and downs of life bring, our life is not our own — it is a gift from the Lord, and we can rest in full confidence that He will take care of us. When we offer every aspect of our life back to Him in grateful trust, every action we take, no matter how small, becomes a prayer. Our very lives become a testimony to the goodness of God.

We can become like John the Baptist, in today's Gospel passage from the Book of John. We read this description of the prophet: “A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light... He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.” This is our calling, too, to testify to the Light, our wonderful Savior by the way we make use of the time, talent, and treasure He has entrusted to our care. Our actions and our priorities themselves give testimony to all that God has done in our lives. What a privilege!

When God Himself is the source of our joy, it cannot be taken away from us. There is still time, this Advent season, to clear away any “clutter” in our lives that may take our focus away from Him. Let us strive to detach from any of these things so that we can be free to truly rejoice in God on Christmas Day.

[www.TheCatholicSteward.com](http://www.TheCatholicSteward.com)

