



THE UNIVERSITY PARISH OF CHRIST SUN OF JUSTICE

2125 Burdett Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

518-274-7793

<https://rensselaernewman.org>

December 17
2023:

Third Sunday of
Advent

Find us on  

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN

Fr. Larry Rice, CSP
518-276-6517
chaplain@rpi.edu

PASTOR

Fr. Tom Morrette, Pastor
518-273-7602
ParishOffice@olvol.org

MASS/LITURGY SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS

Mon.-Thurs. 5 PM

WEEKEND MASS

SATURDAY VIGIL 5 PM

SUNDAY 10 AM ([livestream on YouTube](#))
and 5 PM

CONFESSION The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available Saturdays 3:30-4:30 PM and by appointment with Fr. Larry at chaplain@rpi.edu

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DEC. 16 5 PM Mass—Elizabeth O'Reilly requested by David and Jean Seaver

SUNDAY, DEC. 17 10 AM Mass—Angelina Morra requested by Leo and Marie Carroll

SATURDAY, DEC. 23 5 PM Mass—Lawrence Casabonne requested by Patricia Jackson

Consider having a Mass said in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (ex. birthday), or, most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. Complete the form [here](#) or a hard copy form can be found in the C+CC hallway.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23

- Sunday Vigil Mass - 5 PM

Sunday, December 24

- Sunday Mass - 10 AM
- Christmas Eve Mass - 7 PM

Monday, December 25

- Christmas Mass - 10 AM

COLLECTIONS

Your continued generosity is appreciated! Here are ways to give...

- Mail your collection envelope and/or your check **made payable to Christ Sun of Justice** or place in the collection basket.
- Make an [online donation](#) ("Mass donation" in the comments section.)
- Venmo: At offertory time (or any time, really!) you can use your Venmo app to give to "csjparish". If it is for a special collection, just note that in the comments box.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Romans 12:6 "In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well."

COFFEE HOUR Weekly coffee hours are held after the 10AM and 5PM Sunday Masses. Please come and meet your fellow parishioners! Help is always needed and sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.

CHRISTMAS GIVING THROUGH THE PARISH

Each year, during this season of giving, our parish community supports Unity House with gifts of grocery store gift cards. To donate to this collection, please place Price Chopper/Market 32 or Hannaford Gift Cards in an envelope, with your name, address and "Christmas Giving" on the outside of the envelope. Cards can be placed in the collection basket, dropped off or mailed to the C+CC. Gift cards submitted with no identifying information will be considered anonymous. Thank You!

C+CC NEWS

IN THE NORTH—Exhibit by artist, Virginia Bryant OCT— DEC. 30. Artist information can be found [here](#).

PIANO RECITALS

SAT. Dec. 16

- 1PM—Students of Lin Cheng. More info [here](#).
- 6:30PM—Students of Kristie Chen. More info [here](#).

SUN. Dec. 17

- 2:30 PM—Students of Julia Omelko. More info [here](#).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Readings can be found in multiple ways:

- Web: <https://bible.usccb.org/>
- Sign-up for a daily email with a link to the day's readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading#subscribe>
- On the Hallow app
- In the Bible

Dec. 17 Sun: Is 61: 1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1: 46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1Thes 5: 16-24; Is 61: 1; Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28
(*O Antiphon: O Sapientia*)

Dec. 18 Mon: Jer 23: 5-8; Ps 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Matt 1: 18-25 (*O Antiphon: O Adonai*)

Dec. 19 Tue: Jud 13: 2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71: 3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1: 5-25 (*O Antiphon: O Radix Jesse*)

Dec. 20 Wed: Is 7: 10-14; Ps 24: 1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1: 26-38 (*O Antiphon: O Clavis David*)

Dec. 21 Thurs: Song 2: 8-14 or Zeph 3: 14-18a; Ps 33: 2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1: 39-45 (*O Antiphon: O Oriens*)

Dec. 22 Fri: 1 Sam 1: 24-28; Ps: 1 Sam 2: 1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1: 46-56 (*O Antiphon: O Rex Gentium*)

Dec. 23 Sat: Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24; Ps 25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1: 57-66 (*O Antiphon: O Emmanuel*)

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Today's gospel reports "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope, they are a fact.

CSJ BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

There will be no book discussion group for December so that everyone can reflect and enjoy the Christmas Spirit! Please join us for our next book discussion meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 6:30-8:30 pm in the lounge to discuss, John Vailant's "[Fire Weather, A True Story from a Hotter World.](#)" Everyone is welcome to participate! Join us each month for a new book. Contact Grace Reale with questions or future suggestions at graceereale@gmail.com

NOTES

ATTENTION STUDENTS Stay with us in spirit this holiday season! Before leaving campus, add your name to an ornament, located on the table in the hallway of the C+CC. The 'student tree' will be decorated and visible for all holiday Masses.

DECORATING Please help during Advent with decorating the Chapel for Christmas. After the large Christmas tree is installed in the Chapel, the lights will be put on and the Christmas ornaments will be placed nearby with an invitation for all to place a ball or two on the tree. Likewise the font area will be ready for anyone/everyone to help decorate. Let's make this a wonderful parish activity!

BLUE BOOKS are available. Please take one home to guide you on your Advent journey.

HALLOW Christ Sun of Justice has partnered with Hallow to encourage all parishioners to surrender it all this Advent season and prepare your heart for Jesus like never before with readings from the works of C.S. Lewis, voiced by award-winning actor and the voice of Aslan in the Narnia movies, Liam Neeson. Jonathan Roumie and Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, will guide us through prayer and reflection on these powerful writings to prepare our hearts for Christmas and rediscover the wonder of Christ's coming into this world and into our hearts



Hallow is the #1 Catholic app worldwide and includes 1,000 prayer sessions available for free, and over 10,000 audio-guided sessions in an upgraded premium subscription. Hallow is designed to help you grow closer to God and develop a daily habit of prayer, and includes prayers for kids and families, resources for mental health, meditations for sleep, seasonal music, multiple languages (including Spanish, Portuguese, and Polish!) daily trivia, podcast-style courses to learn more about faith, and more! Register today by scanning the QR code here or visiting Hallow.com/pray (App store) to get started.

INCLEMENT WEATHER Winter is fast approaching! Please call the C+CC phone (518- 274-7793) and listen to the voicemail for any changes in Mass times. Also, if you see on TV that OLV Masses are cancelled, Masses at CSJ will also be cancelled.

'O ANTIPHONS' OF ADVENT 'O Antiphons' are an ancient tradition in the Roman Church and are sung on each evening of Dec. 17-23. Find more information [here](#), as well as, Fr. Larry's reflection [here](#).

TAX LETTERS If you would like to receive a CSJ gift acknowledgement letter for tax purposes, please complete the form [here](#) or call the office. Letters will be sent out starting JAN. 15.

CONTACTS

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FR. LARRY RICE, CSP

Father Larry Rice may be contacted at chaplain@rpi.edu

This Sunday marks the third week of Advent, and for much of the Church's history, it's had a special name: "Gaudete" Sunday. The traditions surrounding this Sunday go back as far as the 4th or 5th century, as does the Season of Advent itself. Advent, our preparation for Christmas, was originally a 40-day penitential season, like Lent. In fact, since it used to begin on November 12th, it was called "St. Martin's Lent." "Gaudete Sunday" was the Advent counterpart to "Laetare Sunday," which marked the mid-point in Lent.

On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, "The Lord is coming." But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, "The Lord is near." This shift is marked by a lighter mood, and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation.

Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. Vestments and liturgical paraments are usually rose colored, a hue seen only on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. On this day, we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is also rose-colored, or if you prefer, pink. We don't actually have any pink/rose vestments, so I'll be sporting a lighter violet than the rest of Advent.

The word "Gaudete," by the way, comes from the old introit to the Mass of this day. It's the Latin word for "Rejoice." In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God, who loves us, is still in charge, and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy. This is reflected in the second reading for the day, from the first letter to the Thessalonians: "Brothers and sisters, rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances, give thanks, for this is the will of God for you, in Christ Jesus."



SPIRITUAL SEEDS

by Tracy Watson, RPI Associate Catholic Chaplain

spiritual.advisorCCC@gmail.com

Two Things

1. Shout Outs of Gratitude

Last weekend we distributed 125 final exam care bags to our students! Thank you University parish bakers Jean, Christine, Barbara, Ora, Emily, Kathy, Cherie, MaryAnn, Fran Geralyn, Donna, Betty, Rose Mary, Teresa, Barb, Mary, Annie, Jess, and Deb for your faithfulness to this ministry: we are grateful! Thank you to Christine Relyea for creating the beautiful handmade ornaments for each bag, and to

Wyatt, Christine and Annie for assembling the bags. And continued gratitude for all of you reading this who pray for our students, me and this ministry week in and week out.

2. I share with you a poem as we journey through these final days of Advent

~ What is Power?

I think of power as loud - But sometimes power is quiet...like the persevering "peck peck" of the baby bird boring its way to freedom.

OR the silence of an understanding heart.

I think of power as unyielding— But sometimes power is supple... like the bent weeds, bowing in breeze and tempest.

OR the heart-rending glance of a forgiving face.

I think of power as big - But sometimes power is small... like the little snowflake, tired but intact after a long journey.

OR like the joy-releasing touch of tenderness.

I think of power as rule-But is not power service...like the selfless apple tree that never eats its own fruit?

OR the worth-restoring moment of being called by name?

I think of power as rich- But is not power poor...like the empty cup, open to be filled with pure, crystal water?

OR Assisi's peace-producing Saint who talked with trees?

I think of power as knowing much- But is not power believing, even a little... like the mountain-moving seed?

OR the faith-filled Virgin who brought forth Jesus?

~ by Sister Joan Metzner, MM

Got a suggestion? A question?

Contact Associate Catholic Chaplain Tracy Watson, MDiv, (spiritual.advisorccc@gmail.com or watsot4@rpi.edu) or Newman Student Leaders Cameron Yergeau (yerbec@rpi.edu), Toby McDonald (mcdont7@rpi.edu), Riley Scritchfield (scitr@rpi.edu) and Joey Trosa (trosaj@rpi.edu).