



# Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

Catholic Church serving in Eastern Kentucky since 1913

December 13, 2020 | 3rd Sunday in Advent - Gaudete Sunday

329 Poplar Street, Hazard, KY 41701

Phone : (606)436.2533 | 606.233.3012 for emergency or after hours | Fax: (606) 436.0171

[www.mgccc.org](http://www.mgccc.org)

## **Eucharistic Services:**

5:00 pm Saturday - Jackson, Vigil Mass  
11:30 am Sunday - Mass

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday after Mass; other times by appointment.

## **Ministers for next Sunday, December 20**

Sacramental Minister : Father Bob Damron

## **Ministers at MGC**

Lori Helfrich, Parish Life Director  
email: [lhelfrich@cdlex.org](mailto:lhelfrich@cdlex.org)

## **Mother of Good Counsel Prayer by B.J. Ewing**

Holy Mary, our heavenly mother, keep us in your care. Give us your good counsel as we strive to be disciples of your son Jesus and help us to grow in faith and in our love for God. Bless our parish which is named in your honor. Help us in our lives as we humbly pray and help us be attentive to the needs of our families and our community. Amen.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY  
Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv.

1310 West Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40508-2048  
Phone: (859)253.1993  
[www.cdlex.org](http://www.cdlex.org)



## **Parish Mission Statement**

Inspired and sustained in our Catholic faith through life-giving worship, we Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community, have as our mission to bring Christ and the teachings of the Catholic faith to one another and the larger community in a ways that draws us together as a supportive family, yet reaches out with a genuine concern for all people, so that we can be authentic witnesses in an area where Catholics are few in number.

Third Sunday of Advent (B)

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Anxieties, difficulties, and sufferings permeate our lives, and so many times the reality around us seems to be inhospitable and arid, like the desert...But the words of [John] the Baptist reveal that our joy rests on the certainty that this desert is inhabited: "Among you there is one whom you do not know."

—ANGELUS, GAUDETE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017



### Religious Education

Our Tri Parish Religious Education for will take place on today Sunday afternoon 12/13 from 2 to 3 pm. The Spring Schedule will be emailed to parents of the children in Religious Education.

### Teen Disciples

Teen disciples group will meet today Sunday December 13 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. New schedules will be coming soon for spring.

### Second Collection for Retired Religious December 12-13

Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

### Diocesan Annual Appeal

The annual appeal for the Diocese of Lexington has finished its public campaign but you are still able to donate to the appeal throughout December. Mother of Good Counsel has raised \$5550 of its \$6000 goal ( 93% of our goal. We have nearly reached our parish goal, if you are able to contribute even a small amount please consider making your donation to help us reach our goal. Please discern how you are able to support this appeal.

### Envelopes & Calendars

The offertory envelopes are available for 2021. Please pick them up from the parish. Also Catholic Extension wall calendars & date books are available to all for pickup at the parish. If you would like a printable calendar from the Sisters of St. Joseph you can visit [www.csjoseph.org/calendar](http://www.csjoseph.org/calendar).



### Catholic LGBT Ministry Lexington

40% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered suicide in the last 12 months, according to the 2020 Trevor Project Survey.

The Diocese of Lexington is a place of belonging for all.

If you or someone you care about is struggling with suicide or in crisis, please call:

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)  
Crisis Text line at 741741  
The Trevor Project 1-866-488-7386

Diocese of Lexington LGBT Ministry - Stan "JR" Zerkowski  
[jrfflex@gmail.com](mailto:jrfflex@gmail.com) 859 327 1047

### Advent Peace & Reconciliation Service

Wednesday, December 16 | 7 pm | Join us: live on Facebook

We "Wait in Joyful Hope" for the coming of our Lord, Jesus, this communal reconciliation service will help us prepare for that coming. And while the nights continue to get longer, we keep lighting our candles and reminding ourselves the God of peace is already present to us, even in our brokenness, our failings, and our woundedness. Join us for this evening prayer service to celebrate God's mercy and stretch toward reconciliation within our families, our neighborhoods, and our cities.

### O Antiphons Evening Prayer December 17 - 23 5:30 pm

We will gather for short evening prayer on Facebook from Dec. 17 - 23 to pray the O Antiphons as part of evening prayer. Join us in the lead up to Christmas.

### Angel Giving Tree

Again we will be offering a giving tree for parishioners to take a an ornament and purchase clothing, shoes and toy for children from the area. Please sign up via the Google document or call the parish office to sign up to adopt a child. Please have any presents dropped off to the Church no later than December 20.

### Christmas Mass Sign Up

There is a registration system for our Christmas Masses. There will be a 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass, a Midnight Mass and a 9:30 am Mass Christmas Day. This registration is ot open. We also plan to stream the 5:30 pm Mass & Midnight Mass via Facebook. You may call the parish or register online ( you will be directed to the sign up on Eventbrite from our webpage - <http://mgccc.org/advent/>)

## Our Weekly Offering

for 12/6/20

Loose: \$12

Envelopes : \$2065

Monthly: \$185

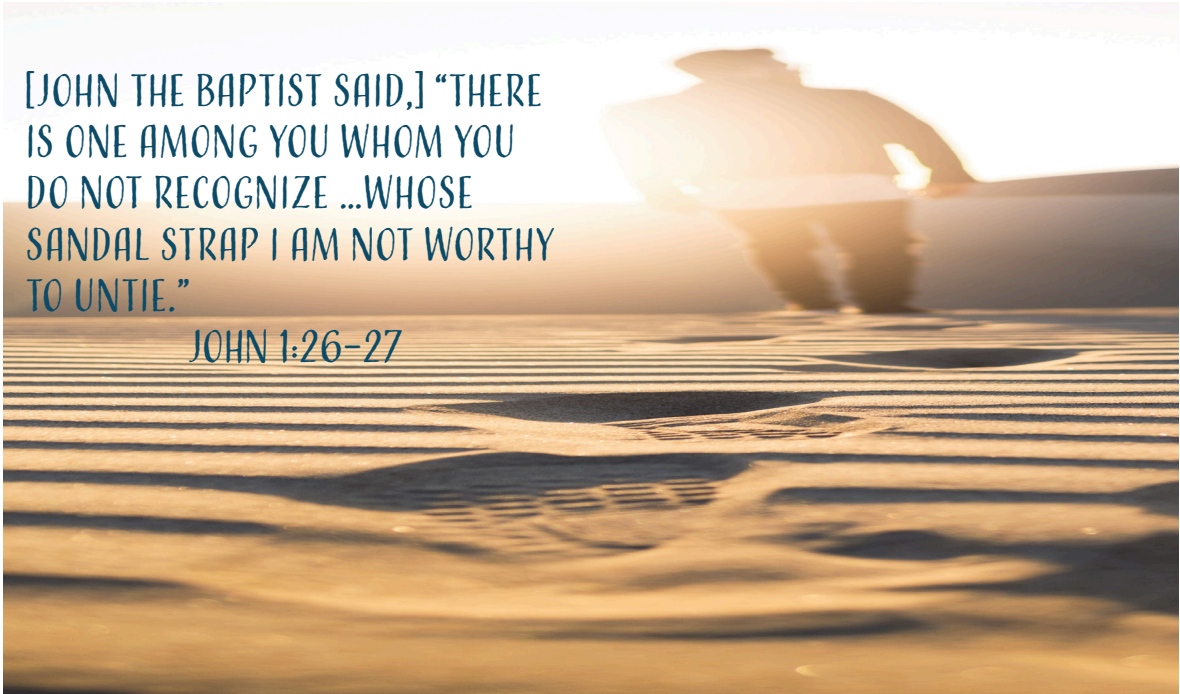
CCHD : \$55

Immaculate Conception : \$55

Christmas Flowers: \$50

Weekly Online Donations: \$75

**Total Weekly Offering: \$2497**



[JOHN THE BAPTIST SAID,] “THERE IS ONE AMONG YOU WHOM YOU DO NOT RECOGNIZE ...WHOSE SANDAL STRAP I AM NOT WORTHY TO UNTIE.”

JOHN 1:26-27

## Who Are You?

So far the readings for Sundays in Advent have shown God leading the people into a new way of life—a way of righteousness and loyalty, of honesty and responsibility. Today the readings show the people beginning to see that the accomplishment of this transformation would come through the leadership of one individual. Who might that person be?

The passage from Isaiah describes a prophet, one anointed by God and bringing good news to the poor. When the Baptist appears on the scene in John’s Gospel, people wonder if it might be him. He insists he is not the one, nor is he a prophet. Then, “Who are you?” (John 1:19) Recalling the passage from Isaiah read on the First Sunday of Advent, John tells them he is the one repairing the road, getting it ready for the long-awaited one to arrive. He adds that his baptism is a baptism of repentance. He is readying them to be what Paul describes as “perfectly holy...blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

We now see that these readings are preparing us for salvation. We are now told that such divine graciousness will be inaugurated by an individual, one who has not yet been identified. Will it be a powerful king? A mighty warrior? A spectacular prophet? Those in the time before Christ didn’t know. We now know that it will be someone powerful enough to initiate a revolutionary change in the lives of the entire people. Now waiting gets exciting. —Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### For Reflection

How might you envision this long-awaited one?  
What do you think the nation needs in a leader?

What kind of revolutionary transformation do you think we need today?



Readings for the Week

### Monday

DECEMBER 14

*Advent Weekday*

Nm 24:2-7,  
15-17a

Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 15

*Advent Weekday*

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13

Mt 21:28-32

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 16

*Advent Weekday*

Is 45:6c-8, 18,  
21c-25

Lk 7:18b-23

### Thursday

DECEMBER 17

*Advent Weekday*

Gn 49:2, 8-10

Mt 1:1-17

### Friday

DECEMBER 18

*Advent Weekday*

Jer 23:5-8

Mt 1:18-25

### Saturday

DECEMBER 19

*Advent Weekday*

Jgs 13:2-7,  
24-25a

Lk 1:5-25

### Sunday

DECEMBER 20

*Fourth Sunday  
of Advent*

2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38



## From the Parish Life Director

Those who dream sow joy! As we enter into this third week of Advent, we celebrate with joy that we are near to Christmas. Christians are meant to be a joyful people. It is during a visit with Mary's cousin, Elizabeth - whose baby in her womb, John the Baptist, responds with joy to Mary's greeting - that Mary is moved to praise God in song. This song is the Magnificat prayer from the Gospel of Luke. This song is one of joy and challenge. Just as both Elizabeth and Mary faced challenging pregnancies they were filled with joy. Mary's song shows us that sowing joy emerges as we surrender to God's vision. May we be a joyful example to others as we heed to God's vision for our lives. Let us spread joy wherever we go.

### Who is John the Baptist?

What we know about John the Baptist comes from a combination of Scripture and Church traditions that evolved during and after the writing of the Scriptures of the New Testament.

John's parents were Zechariah, who was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Elizabeth, who was related to Mary. The angel Gabriel told Zechariah that his wife would bear a son, even though she was quite old. It is believed that John was born in the region of Ain Karim, southwest of Jerusalem. When he was in his early twenties, he was a member of the Qumran community, and later was a hermit in the desert. John began his public ministry in his late twenties in the Jordan River Valley.

His preaching followed the long line of Jewish prophets who preached against the evils of the day and demanded inner repentance and outer baptism as a sign of that repentance.

John continued his preaching in the Jordan Valley even after encountering Jesus. Eventually John was arrested by Herod Antipas and imprisoned at Machaerus Fortress by the Dead Sea. He was beheaded at the request of Salome, the daughter of Herodias, and buried at Sebaste, in Samaria. After John's death, many of his disciples followed Jesus, including Andrew and John.

John, whose name means "God is gracious," is usually represented in pictures holding a long slender cross with a small lamb partially hidden behind him.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR I

— Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

### One Like Us by Laurie Brink, OP

The Incarnation of Jesus means that, though he is the Son of God, Jesus is one like us (Heb 4:15), having experienced a full range of emotions, struggles, successes, and failures. Far from removing himself from the pain and suffering of his day, Jesus reached out in compassion, restored those who were suffering, and returned frequently to his source of strength. As we prepare for the Christmas celebration of the Incarnation, these sessions provide us an opportunity to reflect on the humanity of Jesus. By exploring these questions—What did Jesus do? Why did Jesus do it? How was Jesus able to keep doing it?—we will come to know more deeply that Jesus is one like us, and in our response and service to others, we are also one like him. We welcome you to share these links with your parish, bible study group, and friends. Following each presentation, reflection questions provide an opportunity for group discussion or private prayer.

#### One Like Us. Introduction (11 minutes)

<https://vimeo.com/ctufacultyreview/481835372/95a4843a9d>

#### One Like Us. Part 2 (29 minutes):

<https://vimeo.com/ctufacultyreview/482085275/85ec19324c>

#### One Like Us. Part 3 (12 minutes)

<https://vimeo.com/ctufacultyreview/482110039/e9fa74c9f5>

#### One Like Us. Part 4 (26 minutes):

<https://vimeo.com/ctufacultyreview/482129311/fe541d5e0e>



Stay Connected to MGC on Social Media



Mother of Good Counsel



Mother of Good Counsel

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

### Birthdays This Week:

12/12 : Stephanie Turk

12/17: Pope Francis

### Prayer List

Joey Napier, Ray & Wanda Lindon, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Louise Ayres, Marjorie Himmertzheim, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Nancy Nuttter, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Bob Rogers, Deedee Wells, Sherrian Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Willie Wagers, Christina Askew, Valerie Parsons and Renee Messer.

If you know of someone who needs a pastoral visit or is in the hospital and would appreciate a visit contact the parish and let Lori know about the request.

### Prayer Family: Guy Mullins

Our Lady of Guadalupe is a painting by Rain Ririn.