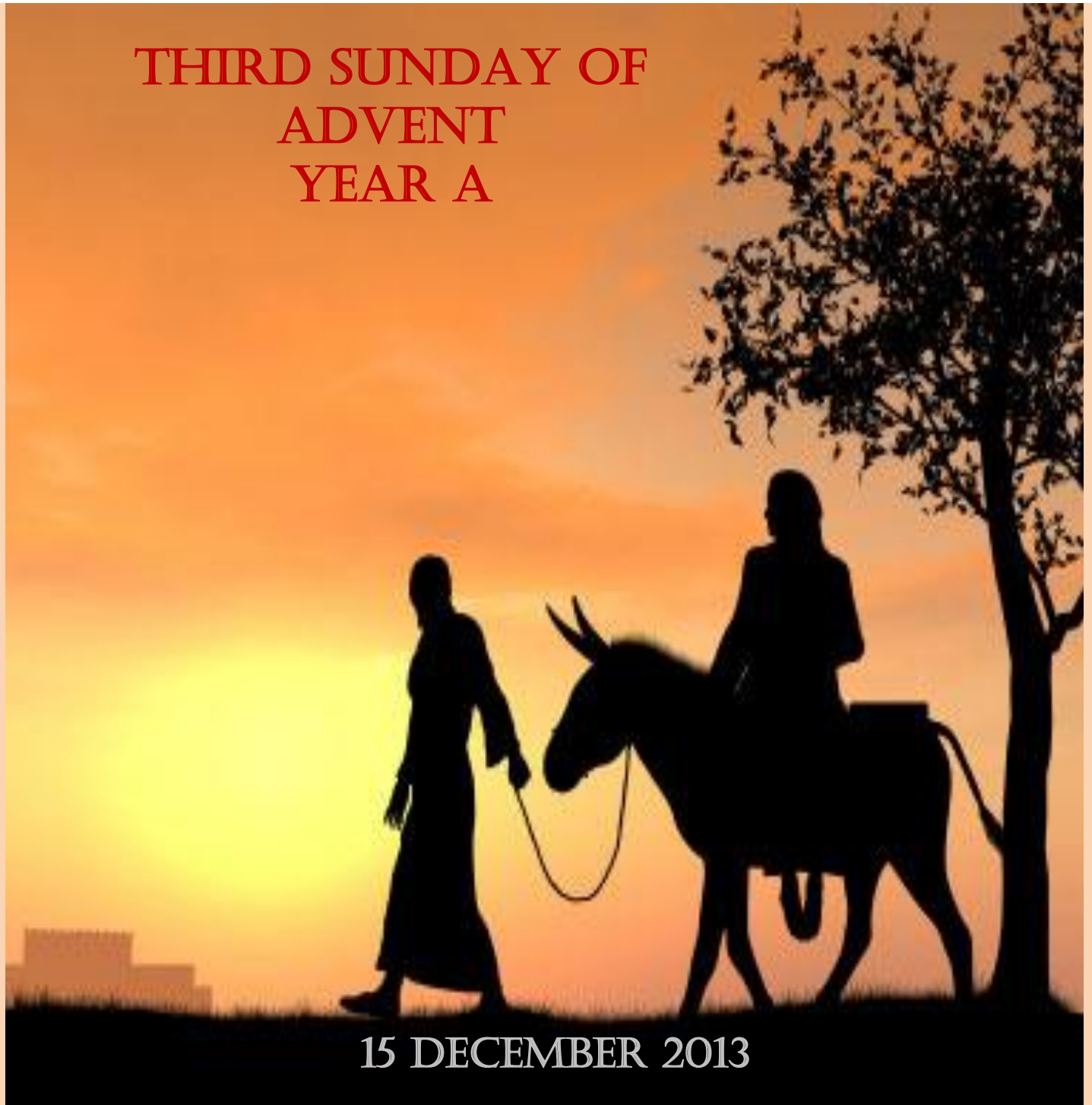


THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
YEAR A



15 DECEMBER 2013

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of Your love and our minds are searching for the light of Your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

NOTRE-DAME-DES-PHILIPPINES CATHOLIC MISSION

MONTREAL, CANADA

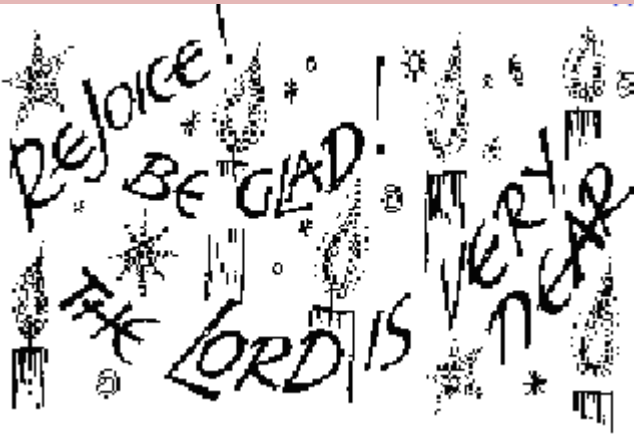
Rejoice! The Lord Is Coming!



On this Third Sunday of Advent "Gaudete Sunday" – St. Paul invites us to rejoice. He reminds us to remove from our hearts all anxiety and fear, for the Lord is near. In the Gospel, St. John the Baptist exhorts us to be generous, fair and service-minded. These are attitudes that make our preparation for Christmas practical and fruitful.

In this season of joyful expectation, we ever more open our hearts to welcome the Lord Jesus. Such is the basic disposition he needs to find in us so that he may bring about in us that radical renewal we are all yearning for.

I CAN WAIT



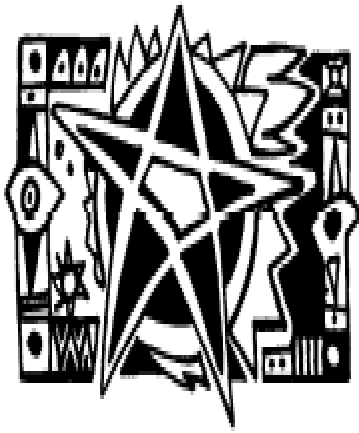
In today's reading Saint James urges us to be patient. "Make your hearts firm," he says, "because the coming of the Lord is at hand" (James 5:8). "Being patient" means enduring without complaint. The farmer mentioned in today's Gospel cannot make the harvest arrive ahead of schedule, but must wait for the sun, the rain, and the good earth to do their work.

Yet while the plants are growing there are tasks to be done in the effort to ensure a good crop, such as

weeding, fertilizing, and keeping away pests. Thus it is in Advent: God is sending us a savior, but we must prepare for his coming. Children, however, are born impatient. Having their needs met translates into survival and helps them establish bonds with those who love and care for them. As children grow, they learn valuable lessons in tolerance and understanding when they do not get what they want right away. Everyone has seen toddlers who "melt down" when they have to wait for something. It is more unsettling to see this same behavior in older children or adults, but it happens if they have not learned patience. If we have children, Advent is a yearly opportunity to teach patience.

The Church tells to wait four weeks—a long time for children. Many families use Advent calendars and Bible story books to focus their children on the day-by-day unfolding of this season. They take their children to an Advent penance service and help them to choose gifts for people named on the parish giving tree. They light the candles on the Advent wreath before meals and say special prayers together. The family time spent savoring each bit of movement over God's good time helps children see the importance of waiting, watching, and learning.

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John Paul II, in his Angelus message of December 19, 1999, explained that Christmas is not simply the remembrance of the Event that took place 2000 years ago when, according to the Gospel, the power of God took on the frailty of a baby. It is really about a living reality that is repeated every year in the heart of believers. "The mystery of the Holy Night, which historically happened two thousand years ago, must be lived as a spiritual event in the 'today' of the Liturgy," the Pope clarified. "The Word who found a dwelling in Mary's womb comes to knock on the heart of every person with singular intensity this Christmas."

For the Ride Home by Ted Bergh © ParishVision LLC 2013

*Stir up our hearts, O Lord,
to prepare the ways of Thine
only-begotten Son, that
through His coming we may
be worthy to serve Thee with
purified minds. Who lives
and reigns, with God the
Father, in the
unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, world
without end.
Amen.*



We take this opportunity today to welcome all our brothers and sisters who are visiting us this joyful season. Although you may not be able to visit us regularly, we are happy that you are with us during these Special Days and we hope that you will visit your spiritual home of THE FILIPINO CATHOLIC MISSION OF MONTREAL more often.

Be assured of our fraternal prayers for all of you!





SIMBANGGABI 2013

On October 11 of last year, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Benedict XVI initiated a Year of Faith. Its purpose was to rekindle in the Church a new fire for the Gospel way of life, and to point us outward to evangelize with good news a world that has become wearied by injustice, violence, and despair. On November 24, 2013, we concluded the Year of Faith with the mandate of our new Holy Father Francis, to go "out onto the streets" to proclaim the vision which faith has given us; to be missionary disciples. Faith is not only to be cherished – it is to be shared.

Recognizing that we live in a world that is often characterized by the suffering and despair that sometimes darkens our vision and clouds our being Christians, we will celebrate during this year's SIMBANGGABI as a Church that has been given an alternative vision; one of love and hope. That vision is God's vision, made visible in Christ, whom we welcome this season. Now is the time, as Pope Francis said, to recommit ourselves to taking our vision out into a world that needs it desperately. It is time for us to make a difference in the world. It is our faith, our Filipino faith– lived boldly and generously – that will make that difference.

The main theme for this year's Simbang Gabi 2013 is **"SAIL ON... THE FILIPINO FAITH"**.

DEC. 15 SUB- THEME: CRY OUT WITH JOY AND GLADNESS

Celebrant : FR. FRANK ALVAREZ, pme / Choir: PRAISE BAND

Hosts – FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY, THE TADEO CLAN

DEC. 16 SUB- THEME : ENCOUNTERING JESUS: THE BEGINNING OF ALL EVANGELIZATION

Celebrant : FR. GERVAIS TURGEON, pme / Choir : BAGONG HIMIG

Hosts – K OF C, THE VALENZUELA FAMILY, THE PANDY FAMILY

DEC. 17 SUB- THEME: SHARING OUR FAITH AND CULTURE

Celebrant : FR. GUY LEVESQUE, pme / Choir : ACG

Hosts – LEGION OF MARY, MAAC, THE TOLENTINO FAMILY

DEC. 18 SUB- THEME: BE NOT AFRAID

Celebrant : FR. JACQUES BOURDAGES, pme / Choir : FCMM ADULT CHOIR

Hosts – ADULT CHOIR, THE BACOSA's, THE MANINGAS SISTERS, THE BAUTISTA FAMILY

DEC. 19 SUB- THEME: ACCEPTING THE WILL OF GOD

Celebrant : FR. ANDRE COMTOIS, ofm / Choir : PRAISE BAND

Hosts – SECULAR FRANCISCANS, THE MOJADO's, THE VISARIO FAMILY

DEC. 20 SUB- THEME: CHARITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Celebrant : FR. JEAN BINETTE, pme / Choir : YOUTH CHOIR

Hosts – MARTHAs, YOUTH MINISTRY, THE PAVICO CLAN

DEC. 21 SUB- THEME: BELIEVING IN THE WORDS OF THE LORD

Celebrant : FR. FRANK ALVAREZ, pme / Choir: CLEC

Hosts –CATECHISTS/PSG

DEC. 22 SUB- THEME: UNITY AND LOVE IN GOD'S PLAN

Celebrant : FR. GERVAIS TURGEON, pme / Choir: BAGONG HIMIG

Hosts – KAWAN, BAGONG HIMIG CHOIR, THE QUIRAPAS FAMILY, MINERVA KAHULUGAN, THE FOZ CLAN

DEC. 23 SUB- THEME: OPENING OURSELVES TO THE JOY OF SEEING GOD WORKING IN THE WORLD

Celebrant : FR. FRANCOIS BRUNELLE, pme / Choir : PRAISE BAND

Hosts – THE FCMM ADMINISTRATORS, THE TABAMO FAMILY THE UNABIA and PURAY-PACHEO FAMILIES, THE MENTES FAMILY

We hope you could come and join in this opportunity to pray together and strengthen our bond and perceive the relation of all the themes and see in their explanations the chance to celebrate in a deeply spiritual way this year's Christmas, with the eagerness to share the Filipino traditional Christmas festivity of THE SIMBANGGABI !

What every Catholic should know
ABOUT
EVANGELIZATION
BIBLE
DISCOVERY

CALLING ADULTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE FAITH !!!

Every Sunday @ 9:30 a.m., @ the Church Hall.
 The Evangelization and Bible Discovery Seminars are held in our Mission community.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME !



Are you an adult thinking more deeply about God? About faith? About things that last? Are you an adult thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Are you an adult who considers yourself Catholic but has never been baptized? Or been confirmed?

Or celebrated First Communion? If so, call Sister Celia at 514- 387 5292 for more information or to find out about the RCIA process.



CASH, NON – PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPLIES, SCHOOL SUPPLIES are still being

collected this month to be sent to the Archdiocese of Palo (Leyte, Philippines)



SIMBANGGABI 2013

-We are now preparing for the SIMBANGGABI 2013 to be held from December 15 – 23, at 7:30 p.m. here at the FCMM. All those who are interested to sponsor any of

the Aguinaldo Masses are requested to contact Mrs. Susie Alejandro, Mrs. Luming Silverio or the FCMM Office.

REMINDER: Aguinaldo Mass' sponsorship has a minimum donation of \$25.00 (Tax Receipt eligible).

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2013

***Victimized Children.** That children who are victims of abandonment or violence may find the love and protection they need.

***Prepare the Savior's Coming.** That Christians, enlightened by the Word incarnate, may prepare humanity for the Savior's coming.

Our ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE will be held on

Sunday, December 22nd before the 11:30 a.m. Mass and at 7:00pm. before the Simbanggabi Mass. There will be a number of priests in attendance. This celebration is one of the

best ways for each of us to prepare for the Feast of Christmas. Please find time to attend !



Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised..."

- Matthew 11:4-5

When Jesus cured the sick we called it a miracle. Yet God has blessed us with many good things – our eyesight, our hearing, our talents, our health and so much more – and we often take it all for granted. The good steward recognizes every blessing in life as a miracle from God and strives to use those gifts for God's honor and glory.



OFFERING

Your Offerings for the week ending December 08, 2013 totaled \$ 3, 310.00

Thank you for your continuing generosity !
 God bless you always!!!



PLEASE NOTE:::

YEAR 2014 ENVELOPES are now available for pick-up after each Mass. Please contact Mr. Mel Villanueva, Mr. Pedro Diaz, Jr. or the FCMM Office for information.

**IN ALL THINGS
GIVE THANKS**

**OUR
PRAYER
CONCERNS**

• We join in the *Thanksgiving Intentions of* : LINA EUSEBIO, LORIE PALISOC MERLY GUMAL and FAMILY, CONCEPCION SISON.

• Please join in *lifting up to the Lord the special intentions of*: MATET, MARK & MATTHEW RUBIO.

• Your prayers are also humbly requested for all the sick and suffering members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially: FR. FRANCISCO ALVAREZ pme, FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, FR. GERARD LOISELLE, pme, MSGR. ANDRE DESROCHES, SR. LUZ PADERANGA op, ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., FE PADERANGA, ANNIE MOJADO, ELECITA ARACENA, BALDOMERA AMBAYEC, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, DAWN DELA PAZ, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, BERNARDINO FERNANDO, ANTONIO FOZ. May God bring them healing and peace.

• Remember also all of our deceased relatives and friends, especially: PEDRO LIMLENGCO, JUAN BAUTISTA SR., HERMOGENES PAVICO SR., ALL THE VICTIMS OF TYPHOON YOLANDA IN GUIUAN and TACLOBAN, ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

MASS INTENTIONS

Do you have a deceased relative for whom you wish all the Grace of God; or perhaps a dear friend who could use a bit of divine assistance in their lives, or simply if you have reason to offer thanksgiving for a new-born son, daughter, God-child, niece, nephew or the like? Well the Sacrifice of the Mass contains within it all of the graces of God and all that man can do to worship Him. Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 – 387 5292) during normal business hours and ask how you can have a Mass offered for your intention.



CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

To your enemy, forgiveness,

To an opponent, tolerance.

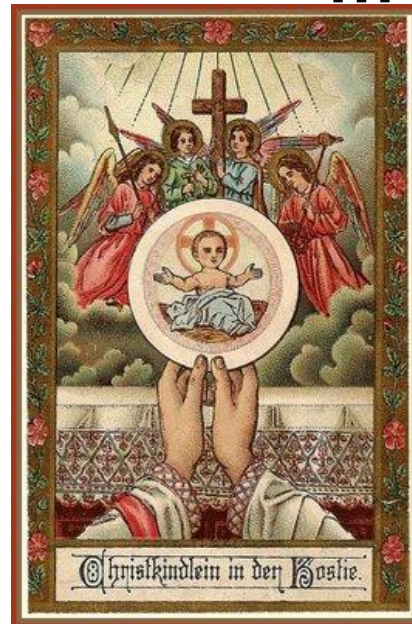
To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example

To yourself, respect.



As the commemoration of our Lord's Birth is at our doorstep, let us remember the billions of people for whom Christmas will be like any other day. Jesus still has to be born in their hearts.

Let us pray for them:

**“O Radiant Dawn,
Splendor of Eternal Light,
Sun of Justice,
shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death.”**

FCMM HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

December 14, 2013 (Saturday)

2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. -ADVENT RECOLLECTION

December 15 - December 23 (7:30 p.m.) -
SIMBANGGABI '13

THEME: *SAIL ON ... The Filipino Faith*

- ❖ No 6:00 p.m. Masses on December 18 and 20
- ❖ PERPETUAL HELP / STO. NIÑO NOVENA
(7:00 p.m. before the Simbanggabi Mass)

December 22 (Sunday)

- ❖ 11:30 a.m.- 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASS
- ❖ 7: 30 p.m. - 9TH Night of the SIMBANGGABI
- ❖ PENITENTIAL SERVICES BEFORE THE MASSES

December 24 (Tuesday) NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
8:00 p.m. - MIDNIGHT MASS

December 25 (Wednesday) NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

- ❖ 1:00 p.m. - CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

December 27 (Friday)

- ❖ 6:00 p.m. - MASS

December 29 (Sunday) FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.- MASS

December 31 (Tuesday)

- ❖ 7:00 p.m. - NEW YEAR'S EVE VIGIL &
THANKSGIVING MASS

January 1, 2014 (Wednesday) SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD

- ❖ 1:00 p.m. -NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

January 3 (Friday)

- ❖ 6:00 p.m. - MASS

January 5 (Sunday) THE LORD'S EPIPHANY

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.- MASS

January 12 (Sunday) THE LORD'S BAPTISM

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.- MASS

January 19 (Sunday) FEAST OF SEÑOR STO. NIÑO

- ❖ 11: 30 a.m.- MASS
- ❖ 1: 30 P.M.- FELLOWSHIP and FIESTA
CELEBRATION

