



Transfiguration of Jesus Catholic Church

506 E Main Street, Wallace, North Carolina 28466

P.O. Box 1601 Wallace, NC 28466

Santa Clara Catholic Mission

352 N Academy Street, Magnolia, North Carolina 28453

Very Rev. Randy Gonzales, CICM, VF
Pastor
919 – 710 - 0486

Deacon Michael Vandiver
910-271-4444



Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025

On the HORIZON

Dec 16 11:30 AM WOTC
Advent Prayer Service Christmas tea

Christmas Masses

December 24, 2025

5:00 PM	Vigil Mass (English)
7:00 PM	Vigil Mass (Spa- TJC)
9:00 PM	Vigil Mass (Spa – STC)

December 25, 2025
8:30 AM Mass of the Day (English)

Background of the Gospel

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” This Sunday is so named because “Rejoice” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter [14:3-12](#). In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.

www.loyolapress.com

Our Mission

To love and know more profoundly our Catholic faith, worship the Lord, minister to our members and to further spread our faith in the community.

Contact us:

Pastor : fr.randy.gonzales@raldioc.org

Office: office@tjccw.org

Staff: assistant@tjccw.org

Transfiguration Website: www.tjccw.org

Santa Clara Website: www.stccm.org

Parish Pastoral Council

Brian Russell – 317-213-6044

Finance Council

Mike Orlowski - 910-789-9430

Hispanic Ministry

Luis Galan - 910-271-4200

Greeting's Ministry

Pat Shaeffer – 910 – 409 - 3622

Susan Vertolli - 910-285-1943

Mass Intentions and Mass Cards

Donna Schulz - 910-285-0711

Music Coordinator

Lara Capparuccia - 910-548-0505

Office Hours

Mon. 9-6 PM (Wallace)

Tue. Day-off

Wed. 9-12 NN (Wallace)

Wed. 2-6 PM (Magnolia)

Thur. 9-12 NN (Wallace)

3-6 PM (Wallace)

Fri. 9-12 PM (Wallace)

Call to make an appointment

Adoration

Mon. 6:00 – 7:00 PM (Wallace)

Wed. 6:00 – 7:00 PM (Magnolia)

Thurs. 9:30-10:30 AM (Wallace)

Reconciliation

Thur. during Holy Hour

Sat. 4:30 PM or by appointment

Weekend Mass Schedule

Transfiguration of Jesus

Saturday 5:00 PM English

Sunday 8:30 AM English

10:30 AM Spanish

Santa Clara Mission

Sunday 1:00 PM Spanish

Weekday Masses

Mon, Thurs-Fri 9:00 AM (Eng.)

Mon 7:00 PM (Esp.)

Wed (Santa Clara) 7:00 PM (Esp.)

The Pope's Monthly Intention (December):

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Prayer Tree Requests should be sent to all three committee members. This is to ensure that no prayer request goes unanswered. Also, please make sure that permission is given by the person or family needing prayer, to send out the request.

Cheryl Partyka	cherylpartyka@gmail.com	910-285-6661
Donna Davis	donnAMD56@gmail.com	910-285-5326
Maureen Goodwin	maureengoodwin65@gmail.com	240-252-9727

Blair Davis, James Callahan, Kaye Foster, Cheryl Crismore Coughlin, Kelly Parish, James Keeney, Jim Scott, Norm Green, Tom Tworkowski. Tom Stracuzza, Robert Czachor, Anna White, Sandra Parker, Stan Lavis, Richard Mulliner, Angie Staub, Sandy Reed, Addie DePersiis, Atticus Davis, Jen Matera, Jay D Hunter, Bev Plattner.

Dear Jesus, we turn to You in the time of illness. O dearest Comforter alleviate our worry with your gentle love. We place our sick under Your care and humbly ask that You restore Your servants to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge whatsoever you do, you do for the love of us.

Liturgy Committee

Gaudete Sunday, celebrated on the **Third Sunday of Advent**, is a joyful pause in the midst of a penitential and expectant season. The name comes from the Latin word *gaudete*, meaning “**rejoice**,” taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass: “*Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete*”- “Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). This Sunday reminds the Church that, even as we prepare and repent, **joy is already breaking into the world** because the Lord is near.

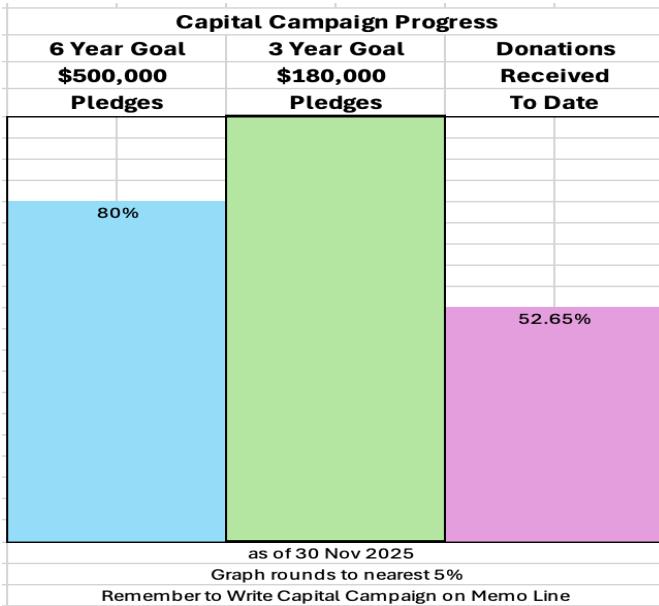
Historically, Advent developed as a season of preparation modeled partly on Lent—simple living, prayer, and penance. Yet by the Middle Ages, the Church introduced a mid-season moment of encouragement. The liturgical color for Gaudete Sunday became **rose**, lighter than the usual purple, symbolizing a softening of tone. This color shift expresses hope: the light of Christ is approaching and the darkness is receding. The Advent wreath also reflects this with a rose-colored candle, often called the “Shepherd Candle” or “Joy Candle.”

The origin of this celebration lies in ancient Roman liturgy, where the Church marked certain Sundays of preparation with special names taken from the opening word of the Mass texts. Gaudete Sunday parallels **Laetare Sunday** in Lent; both lift the spirit of the faithful as feasts draw near.

Today, Gaudete Sunday reminds us that Christian joy is **not mere emotion**, but a deep confidence that God is acting in our lives. Even in hardship, the promise of Emmanuel—God-with-us—gives us reason to rejoice.

Parish Ministries & Committees

Capital Campaign Progress Report



*O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!*

Finance Committee (Monthly Financials)

	Nov Budget	Nov Actuals	Nov Expense
Offertory	\$17,820	\$20,314	
Maintenance	\$3,475	\$4,853	
Others		\$	
Total	\$21,295	\$19,896	\$19,868
Net Revenue			\$5,299

*Includes the Rectory Loan Payment of \$333.00

Faith Formation

Christmas and New Year's Masses

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Masses)

Dec. 24	5 PM	English
	7 PM	Spanish
	9 PM	Spanish (Santa Clara)
Dec 25	8:30 AM	English

Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Masses)

Dec. 31	5 PM	English
	7 PM	Spanish
	9 PM	Spanish (Santa Clara)
Jan 1	8:30 AM	English

What Are the O Antiphons?

The **O Antiphons** are a set of **seven ancient prayers** used by the Catholic Church during **Vespers (Evening Prayer)** from **December 17 to 23**. Each antiphon begins with the exclamation “**O**” and invokes the coming Messiah with a **unique biblical title** drawn from the Old Testament—especially from the prophets (like Isaiah) and the wisdom literature. These antiphons are more than titles; they are **longings of the Church** in the final days of Advent, calling out to Christ: “*Come and save us!*” They date back to at least the **6th century**, and by the **8th century** they were firmly part of the Roman liturgy.

Why Do Catholics Have Them?

We pray the O Antiphons because:

1. They express the Church’s ancient longing for the Savior. **In the last week of Advent, the Church intensifies her prayer: “Come, Lord Jesus!” Each antiphon captures a different dimension of the hope for the Messiah.**
2. They summarize the whole Old Testament expectation of Christ. **Every title—Wisdom, Root, Key, Lord—comes from Scripture and shows how Jesus fulfills the prophecies.**
3. They prepare us spiritually for Christmas. **From December 17–23, the prayers build a crescendo of anticipation before Christmas Eve.**
4. They form the basis of the hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” **Each verse of that beloved Advent hymn corresponds to one of the O Antiphons.**
5. **They reveal the identity of Christ. When read in order, the titles form an acrostic: E R O C R A S which means in Latin: “Tomorrow, I will come.” This hidden message is the Church’s way of telling us: *Christ is near*.**

Weekly Schedule (December 13- 20)

Saturday 1:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Wedding Convalidation Confessions Vigil Mass (Eng) Special Intention of the White Family requested by Richard and Jennifer Ciuccoli +Jessica Clark and +Katie Clark requested by Mike and Julie Couch	Greeters: Transporter: Lectors: EMC: Altar Servers:	Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13 P Schaeffer M Francis C Partyka, D Conte C Partyka, M Hopkins, J Couch M McCarthy
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Sunday 8:30 AM	Mass +Maureen Lenox requested by Rosanna Hirshkind	Greeters: Transporter: Lectors: EMC: Altar Servers:	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11 M Russell, C Russell M Masinick P Jazowski, J Paquette R Hirshkind, P Harran, Deacon Mike Janet, Adriana
9:00AM 10:30 AM	Faith Formation Classes Sunday Mass (Spanish)	Greeters: Transporter: Lectors: EMC: Altar Servers	Jorge, Tino, Jorge, Elias, Valentin, Alberto Jorge, Tino, Jorge Jorge, Merari Tony, Martha, Luis Dorian, Sofia, Jairo
1:00 PM	Sunday Mass (Santa Clara)		

Monday 9:00 AM 9:45 AM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 6:30 PM	<i>Fr. Randy is at CICM Provincial Council Meeting</i> Communion Service Church Decoration Adoration Online Rosary: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3836517593 Communion Service	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday	<i>Fr. Randy is at CICM Provincial Council Meeting</i>	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	<i>Fr. Randy is at CICM Provincial Council Meeting</i> No Adoration (Santa Clara) No Mass (Santa Clara)	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Thursday 9:00 AM	<i>Fr. Randy is at CICM Provincial Council Meeting</i> No Communion Service/Adoration/Morning Prayer	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Friday 9:00 AM	<i>Fr. Randy is returning to the Parish</i> Communion Service	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Saturday 1:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Wedding (TJC) Quinceañera (STC) Confession Vigil Mass	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38