The Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017
The Third Sunday of Advent

“There is one ... coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” Untying sandal straps was no prestigious job. In the days of John the Baptist, those straps would have been especially unpleasant to deal with. Besides the usual odors that accompany sockless leather footwear, there would have been the grime and dirt from the sandy roads and paths that swirled around the people who went everywhere on foot. Taking off someone’s shoes upon their arrival was the task of the lowly servants. So when John says he’s unworthy of doing this task for the “one who is coming after me,” he is putting himself in a very humble position. And rightly so.

John realizes that the Christ—-the Anointed One, the Messiah—is so far above him, so far above any of us, that we are truly unworthy of him. Indeed, the Son of God is not just the greatest of men; he is God-made-man and in his presence we most appropriately should bow in humble homage. Yet this God chose to stoop down to our human level and walk among us. He chose to get his sandals dirty. And still today he chooses to allow us to encounter him as a friend and companion.

But as John reminds us by his example, this encounter with the Lord is not the result of our own merits or accomplishments. We are sinners who stand in need of Christ’s help. But thanks be to God, he is always willing to extend this help to us. As St. Paul says in today’s epistle, “May the God of peace make you perfectly holy.” Indeed it is God who does the perfecting, not us by our own power. So let us approach the Lord this Advent season with a spirit of hopeful humility, trusting that God alone can make us worthy of welcoming his Son.

LPI, Inc.

The Sacraments

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions are heard each week on Saturday at the Church (SR #46) from 3:45pm to 4:45pm Learn more about this beautiful sacrament by visiting our website: www.allsouls-sanford.org/reconciliation

The Sacrament of Baptism: Call the parish office to learn the necessary requirements and make an appointment with Father Kenneth Metz to have your child baptized. Ask us about the requirements for Godparents.

The Sacrament of Marriage: Getting married? Congratulations! The process of being married in the Catholic Church could take between 6 months to a year to complete. Please contact Ann Cammarata at the parish office as soon as possible after your engagement if you would like to be married at All Souls Catholic Church.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office. The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. Did you know that the Sacrament may be repeated if the person becomes sick again? A person should be anointed before surgery when a dangerous illness is the reason for the intervention.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick and Homebound: If you are unable to attend Mass, please call the parish office so we may assist you in having a visit from one of our ministers or one of our priests.

Catholic Funeral and Burial: Please call the parish office or have the funeral home director contact us to arrange the Funeral Mass and for more information about burial at All Souls Catholic Cemetery.

Our Online Homilies: If you missed Mass over the weekend you may view the homily by visiting: www.allsouls-sanford.org

The Sunday of Joy!

“Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, which is called Gaudete Sunday; that is, the Sunday of Joy. In the Liturgy the invitation rings out several times to rejoice. Why? Because the Lord is near. Christmas is near. The Christian message is called the Gospel, “good news,” an announcement of joy for all people. The Church is not a haven for sad people, the Church is a joyful home! And those who are sad find joy in her, they find in her true joy!

However, the joy of the Gospel is not just any joy. It consists in knowing one is welcomed and loved by God who comes to save us and who seeks to help, especially those who are fearful of heart. His coming among us strengthens us, makes us steadfast, gives us courage, makes the desert and the steppe rejoice and blossom; that is, when our lives becomes arid. And when do our lives become arid? When they lack the water of God’s Word and His Spirit of love. However great our limitations and dismay, we are not allowed to be sluggish and vacillating when faced with difficulty and our own weakness. On the contrary, we are invited to strengthen the weak hands, to make firm the feeble knees, to be strong and to fear not, because our God always shows us the greatness of His mercy. He gives us the strength to go forward. He is always with us in order to help us to go forward. He is a God who loves us so very much — He loves us and that is why He is with us, to help us, to strengthen us, help us go forward. Courage! Always forward!”

Pope Francis, Angelus, December 15, 2013
Often people attend Mass at All Souls for several years, but never register. Registering here is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of All Souls Church. Being a registered parishioner makes the process much easier when it is time for infant baptism, school or religious education registration, weddings, when asked to be a baptismal or confirmation sponsor, and even funerals. A registered parishioner receives all parish mailings, too.

Church law advises that territories or boundaries no longer limit parish registration. All Souls accepts anyone who wants to share in the life of the parish regardless of where they live. In order to register, you need to complete a registration card. These may be found in the narthex of the church or chapel, the parish office during the week, or online at our parish website: www.allsoulssanford.org. Register today!

We love new members and welcome—
Yepsenia Acosta
Ytala & Orlando Fernandez and Christina Somoza
Karol & Angel Figueroa, Jr.

Pray for our deceased priests

O God, you raised your servants, to the sacred priesthood of Jesus Christ, according to the Order of Melchisedech, giving them the sublime power to offer the Eternal Sacrifice, to bring the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ down upon the altar, and to absolve the sins of many in your own Holy Name. We beseech you to reward their faithfulness and to forget their faults, admitting them speedily into your holy Presence, there to enjoy forever the recompense of their labors. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the deceased priest of our diocese during December...

20  Rev. John Fiala  1990
20  Rev. Walter Franczek  1999
22  Rev. Vincent E. Smith  1981
22  Rev. Gerry Granahan  2010
30  Rev. Claude Laquerre  1985

Knights of Columbus

If you’ve got what it takes to go round after round, then you’ll enjoy BINGO in our topnotch BINGO Hall. We offer three game packages plus extras, a snack bar and full meals, intermissions, and a guaranteed payout. Located at 2509 Myrtle Ave, Sanford, 407.324.3699.

State law requires that all persons playing BINGO must be at least 18 years of age. Meetings 1st (Social) and 3rd (Business) Tuesdays at 7pm, 2504 S Oak Ave, Sanford. kofc5357.org

Liturgical Ministers: Here is the link for the next ministry schedule which runs from: December 2 through January 28, 2018. https://www.allsoulssanford.org/liturgical-ministries-schedule

Help us decorate for Christmas!

Come join our Art & Environment Committee in decorating the Church for Christmas on Sunday, 17 at 1:45 pm (after the Spanish Mass). All are welcome! The more the merrier!

Our Council of Catholic Women

Dear Sisters in Christ, Peace be with you!
This Advent Season please be alert to all our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. It is the perfect time to show love to all, especially those with special needs and perhaps some who are still struggling from hurricanes and financial stress.

CCW Vice President Annette Tolle is spearheading our “Hugs for the Homeless Campaign” this year and into 2018. We will announce the Sunday in the near future. Our Parish did so well last year. If you would like to make a year end contribution (for tax purposes) just send your check made out to ASCCW (All Souls Council of Catholic Women) to Annette Tolle, 2113 Shady Lane, Geneva, Fl. 32732. Thank you and I remain,

Lead with your heart...
Eleanor Tolley, President
etolley16@gmail.com

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etolley16@gmail.com
Save the Date! 21st Annual All Souls School Dinner Gala April 21, 2018 at Venue 1902 at Preservation Hall, 301 W 7th St., Sanford, FL 32771 (formerly the Seminole County School Student Museum)

Corporate and Individual Sponsorships are available. Go to our school website for more information: http://allsoulscatholicschool.org/index.cfm?load=page&page=221

Dear Parents: We are looking forward to seeing you at this coming Tuesday and Wednesday evening Faith Formation Sessions both beginning at 6:30 at the Historic Chapel.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the most unique and beautiful aspects of Catholicism. Jesus Christ, in His abundant love and mercy, established the Sacrament of Confession, so that we as sinners can obtain forgiveness for our sins and reconcile with God and the Church. The sacrament “washes us clean,” and renews us in Christ. It also “liberates” us to be forgivers. Consider the well-known Prayer of St. Francis: "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned."

An important way to prepare for the celebration of the Christmas, is to attend an Advent Penance Service by gathering together to celebrate the communal form of the Sacrament of God’s mercy and focus on the spiritual meaning of Advent.

Please plan to attend our Advent Penance Service with your family at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 18th at the Church on SR#46. The service will include a Liturgy of the Word, Examination of Conscience, and then individual confession and absolution. Our parish priests and several area priests will be on hand to hear individual confessions.

El Sacramento de la Reconciliación es uno de los aspectos más singulares y bellos del catolicismo. Jesucristo, en su abundante amor y misericordia, estableció el Sacramento de la Confesión, para que nosotros, como pecadores, podamos obtener el perdón de nuestros pecados y reconciliarnos con Dios y la Iglesia. La Santa Cena "nos lava y limpia", y nos renueva en Cristo. También nos "libera" para ser perdonadores. Considere la bien conocida Oración de San Francisco: “Es perdonando que somos perdonados”.

Una forma importante de prepararse para la celebración de la Navidad es asistir a un Servicio de Penitencia de Adviento reuniéndose para celebrar la forma comunitaria del Sacramento de la misericordia de Dios y enfocarse en el significado espiritual del Adviento.

Planifique asistir a nuestro Servicio de Penitencia de Adviento con su familia a las 7:00 p. m. El lunes 18 de diciembre en la Iglesia en SR # 46. El servicio incluirá una Liturgia de la Palabra, un Examen de Conciencia, y luego una confesión y absolución individual. Nuestros sacerdotes parroquiales y varios sacerdotes de área estarán disponibles para escuchar confesiones individuales.

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Week Day Readings

Readings for the Week of December 17, 2017

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

“When it is the depth and power of God that stirs, is there anything of which love is incapable?”
-Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16
8:30 am †Kenneth E. Perez Marrero Chapel by Ilsa & Luis Perez & Family
5:00 pm †Gene & Eva Rogero Church by Linda & Jack Holt
Sunday, December 17
8:00 am †Dolores Ell Chapel by Maggie & Hank Lugering
9:30 am †Louie Ciullo Church by the Salomone Family
11:00 am †Maria Garcia Church (Spanish) by the Baquera Family
12:30 pm Living & Deceased of the Baquera Family Church (Spanish) by Mercedes Garcia
2:00 pm People of the Parish Chapel (Latin) by the Parishioners of All Souls
Monday, December 18
8:30 am Nora Trimpey Chapel by Matthew Winkelman
Tuesday, December 19
8:30 am †Kenneth Solon Chapel by the Solon Family
Wednesday, December 20
8:30 am †Lucian Williams Chapel by the Solon Family
Thursday, December 21
8:30 am †Richard Palmano Chapel by Tina & Harvey Quick
Friday, December 22
8:30 am †Joseph Hai Ngo Chapel by his wife
Saturday, December 23
8:30 am †Carmel Sperry Church by Karen Bruning
†Anne Morgan by her friends from All Souls Catholic Church
Sunday, December 24
8:00 am †Joyce Dual Chapel by Leah, Karen & Joe Dual
10:00 am †Oberto Piedra Church by his Family
12:00 Noon †Oberto Piedra Church (Spanish) by Janice Gill
Christmas Eve Masses—Sunday, December 24
4:00 pm †Michael Gill Church by Janice Gill
†Jenni Heneghan by her family
†Pete Luther Long Church by his family
†Jeanne d’Arc Salvail Church by Norma & Paul Salvail

Our Sanctuary Light in our Chapel burns this week for the repose of the soul of Ron Antonio, as requested by his sister. May he rest in peace. Our Altar wine is provided this month by Janice Gill. Bless you, and thank you for your generosity to the parish!

Live the Liturgy—John the Baptist came to testify to the light, who is Jesus Christ. Like John, we are called to testify to that same Light. We do so by living lives of faith and bringing the joy of the Gospel to everyone we meet. We are people of joy who rejoice at his birth and eagerly await his coming again. We share that joy by tending to the needs of the poor, helping those who are broken, and witnessing to the freedom that a life in God brings. May we take our task of being joyful witnesses to the good news seriously as the celebration of Christ’s birth fast approaches.

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: On many Sundays, especially during Advent and Lent, we hear a reading from one of the prophets. What is significant about them for us? Didn’t Jesus fulfill all their predictions?
Answer: Lent and Advent are the times of the church year when the prophetic word forms an important part of the liturgical season. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Baruch, and Zephaniah are just some of the prophets who offer powerful and essential lessons for Christians of any era. Prophets do not predict the future— they are very aware of their unworthiness to embrace this call from God, and struggle to follow once again the word of God.

If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it; Retrouvaille can help. Give the gift of rediscovered love and communication to your beloved this Christmas. Retrouvaille has helped thousands. Our next program begins January 26, 2018. For more information call 352.274.4614. This is not counseling or group therapy. All calls and names held in strictest confidence. And please check our website at Retrouvaille.org.

Is your marriage breaking your heart?
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Did you know: Last year All Souls St. Vincent de Paul received 902 food items from the students at the All Souls School? We appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity from these children and their parents!

From Part 1: 1.11 of the Society’s Rule (Concerns from Deeper Needs and Spirituality): Vincentians are sincerely concerned with the deeper needs and the spiritual well-being of those they help, always observing a profound respect for the conscience and the faith they believe in, listening and understanding with their hearts, beyond both words and appearances.

How You Help Us Help Others: We recently assisted a Veteran with three small children. He is so attended to his children’s needs and the house is kept beautifully. He has served our country and we are Blessed to serve him.

Year-End Giving: The Society is a 501© (3) and we’re happy to provide a tax receipt for your year-end giving. We thank you for your generosity!

Food Pantry Need of the Week: Small Laundry Detergent. Thank you!

This Week’s Vincentian Reflection: In today’s Gospel John the Baptist says: “I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord.” Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord. Christmas is a time of love and gift giving please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so others to know the love of the Lord. Christmas is a time of love especially with those they help, always observing a profound respect for the conscience and the faith they believe in, listening and understanding with their hearts, beyond both words and appearances.

Like and post to us on our Facebook Pages:
All Souls Catholic Church
All Souls Catholic Cemetery
All Souls Community Harvest Festival

Sign-up to receive parish emails or text messages through our Flocknote service. We regularly send updates about parish activities, events, and announcements. You can sign-up to receive our email and free* text alerts by texting Allsouls to: 84576 (*Standard messaging rates may apply from your cell phone provider)

Follow us on Twitter: @AllSoulsSanford

Watch: Parish Media Ministry for our priest’s Weekly Homily
online at our parish website: https://www.allsoulsanford.org

La Corresponsabilidad Diaria

Como cristianos, estamos llamados a una vida de oración. No solamente durante el tiempo de Adviento, pero durante todo el año. Cuando hablamos de ser siervos de oración, nos referimos a tener presencia de Dios a todas horas. Todos los días comenzamos ofreciendo a Dios el día. Todas las noches descansamos en él y deseamos que todas las horas pasadas consistieron en darle gloria.

Durante el ajetreado tiempo de Adviento, es difícil cultivar la vida de oración, pero sin ella, podemos fácilmente perder el sentido de la estación. Es durante este tiempo del año cuando necesitamos oír más la amonestación de San Pablo a los tesalonicenses: "Vivan siempre alegres, oren sin cesar". Así es como evitarremos el peligro del consumismo y la secularización, y en cambio pondremos nuestra mirada fija en Jesús.

Trae a Jesús contigo a la fiesta de Navidad de tu oficina. Llévale contigo al centro comercial. Tenle en cuenta cuando te sientas a ver la televisión. Dale todo tu tiempo y deja que su presencia llene cada momento de tu vida. Cuando luchamos por estar con Jesús a todas horas, produciendo fruto y la experiencia será más grande de lo que te imaginas. Quizás gastes menos dinero y pases más tiempo con aquellos a los que amas, especialmente con aquel que te ama más, la propia Encarnación.

-Tracey Earl Welliver, MTS (Master of Theological Studies) LPI, Inc.

Grupos de Oración Spanish

Nuestro Grupo de Oración Jesús María y José cordialmente te invita a su reunión tradicional en Capilla Histórica, en Oak Avenue cada lunes a las 7:15 pm, comenzando con el rezo del rosario, oraciones y la adoración del Santísimo Sacramento. Todos están invitados a asistir. Por favor úname a la lista de invitados a asistir. Para favor úname a la lista de invitados a asistir.

Padres y Madres Oración cordialmente te invita a la reunión tradicional en Capilla Histórica.

This week in the parish

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>Adult Bible Study, 9:30 am &amp; 6:30 pm (Suite C)</td>
<td>Parish Office Suite</td>
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<td>SVDP Mtg., 7:00 pm (K of C Hall)</td>
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<td>Parish Advent Penance Service, 7:00 pm (CH)</td>
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<td>Spanish Prayer Group, 7:15 pm (CP)</td>
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<td>Dec. 19</td>
<td>Spanish Choir, 6:00 pm (CH)</td>
<td>Parish Office Suite</td>
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<td>Faith Formation, 6:30 pm (CP)</td>
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<td>RCIA, 7:00 pm (TRC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parish Choir, 7:00 pm (CH)</td>
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<td>Dec. 20</td>
<td>Faith Formation, 6:30 pm (CP)</td>
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<td>DAWG, 6:45 pm (SH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>Contemporary Choir, 6:30 pm (CH)</td>
<td>Parish Office Suite</td>
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<td>Holy League, 7:00 pm (CP) Rosary at 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Baptism Class (English), 7:00 pm (CR)</td>
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