



## THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



*Third Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday! –*

**14<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**“ Come Lord, and save us”**

**WEEKDAY MASS:** No weekday mass this week

**WEEKEND MASSES** Saturday Vigil 7pm, **SUNDAY** 10am.

**ADVENT PENITENTIAL RITE** this evening (Sunday) at 7.00pm

**DECEASED:** Brendan Graham, 5 Lurig View, Joseph McKavanagh, Glen rd

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Quinn, Seamus McKeown, Mary McAuley, Carmel Burns, Seamus Quinn, Deirdre McShane, Mary Hartley, Ellen Moore, John & Rose Connolly. Rosaleen Leech, Charlie Black, Neilly Darragh, Mary Black, John McAlister.

**Thought for today ...**

Drawing near to the poor will touch our lives. It will remind us of what really counts: to love God and our neighbour. Only this lasts forever, everything else passes away. What we invest in remains, the rest vanishes.

Today we might ask ourselves, “What counts for me in life.? Where am I making my investments. In fleeting riches with which the world is never satisfied, or in the wealth bestowed by God, who gives us eternal life?

This is the choice before us; to live in order to gain things on earth or to give things away in order to gain heaven. Where heaven is concerned, what matters is not what we have, but what we give away.

*Donal Neary SJ*

*Gospel Reflections for Sundays of Year A: Matthew*

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### *Good news of God*

**John the Baptist was a man of passionate commitment to what he believed in. He strongly believed in the coming of the Christ. This man of faith was being tested in that Jesus was a different type of Christ or Messiah from what he expected. He often wondered who the Messiah would be.**

**John was a man with a lot of conviction and truth. He preached what he believed and practised what he taught. But he seemed to miss the point sometimes. He seemed to miss that Jesus would be found, not in preaching only but in helping others.**

**John preached repentance for sin; Jesus preached the coming of the kingdom. The blind would see, and the lame would walk - these were to be signs of the coming of the 'One to come'.**



**The late Pope Francis says:**

*'There is no prayer in which Jesus does not inspire us to do something. Our faith in Jesus is seen in strong action. The poor are helped at our pre-Christmas collections.*

*We might ask not what we might get for Christmas, but how our Christmas might help others.*

*We might ask that Christmas will be happy for others because of us -*

*happy in body, with enough food for every family,*

*happy in mind that we know the truth of God's coming into the world, and*

*happy in forgiveness, as that is one of God's biggest gifts.*

*Lord, let me believe that your life is good news and  
help me to share this good news in word and deed with all whom I meet  
these waiting days*

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