

**Intercessions and Announcement – 3rd Sunday in Advent |
December 13 & 14, 2014**

That every member of the Church of God feel the call to rejoice at the nearness of God; that we may proclaim the joy of Christ's birth and prepare the way for His coming in glory, we pray:

That all of our religious and civic leaders be moved with concern for people who have been burdened with war and destruction and displacement; that those whose lives have been assaulted and whose hopes are dashed might know and feel God's own comfort, we pray:

For parents, teachers, catechists, and all those involved in the lives of children, that through their example of faith they may instill in our young people a love for the Lord and His Church, we pray:

For the will to seek a spirit of reconciliation, in Ferguson, Missouri, in New York City, and in every place, and in every heart; and for the wisdom to seek healing together, we pray:

For an increased understanding that our parish is where the Church lives; that we are a community of faith, of action, and of hope; that our parish be a place where the gospel is proclaimed and celebrated, where believers are formed and sent to renew the earth, we pray:

That each of us do what we are obliged and called to do; that our parish be blessed with the generous support of all our members, each contributing, time, talent and treasure, we pray:

That we who are comfortable might make ourselves a bit less comfortable; that those who are not so fortunate might receive what they truly need, we pray:

May all of our beloved dead, and all who have gone before us as friends of God join in an endless chorus of praise and thanksgiving for ever and ever: AMEN!

3rd Sunday in Advent | Dec. 13 & 14, 2014 | ANNOUNCEMENTS:

[Sunday Morning] All are welcome for coffee and conversation downstairs in the social hall after the final hymn is sung. I hope you'll join us!

Thanks to all our volunteer church cleaners!

We have all sorts of wonderful opportunities for Christmas charity at St Michael's – in fact, too many to mention here! Please visit the table in the back for information on our various programs.

Look for a postcard in the mail soon with pictures of our renovated space and times of the Christmas Masses; those times are also in the bulletin and on our regularly updated website.

Discussion is underway about reforming and reinvigorating our Parish Council. I have a slate of eight or ten parishioners who I think would be excellent in their service to us. I have extended invitations to them. Thanks to the past councilors who served long and well; and thanks to those who will stay on with the new group to give us institutional memory and guidance.

During Advent, we will continue to offer the sacrament of reconciliation on Wednesdays and Fridays after the 5 PM Mass, and also on Saturday afternoon, from 3:30 until 4:15; all of our youth are welcome to a penance service right after the Sunday evening Mass; we'll have visiting priests to assist. Also, remember that Mass is offered here every day of the week at 5 PM.

Mark Wilhelmson, from St. Louis County, and Patrice Menor, from our diocesan Social Justice Office, are with us Sunday morning to address the topic "How Our Parish Can Address the Issue of Human Trafficking in Duluth." That's Sunday at 9:15am in rectory basement meeting room.

The St. Michael's School Christmas program will be held Thursday, December 18th, at 6:30 p.m. in the church. All parishioners and families are welcome to attend.

You will find a parish staff member at the help desk in the gathering space today; stop there with any questions or comments!

And please remember: Visit us online at stmichaelsduluth.org; like us on Facebook; and follow us on Twitter!