

St. Mary of Victories & St. Stephen of Hungary Chapel

744 South 3rd Street, St. Louis, MO 63102
Rev. Brian W. Harrison, O.S., Chaplain Confessions ½ hour before Mass
Sunday Masses: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Telephone: (314) 231-8101 website: www.smov.info

December 13, 2015 – Third Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions this week:

Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	James Cole, Sr. (deceased), requested by his son James Cole, Jr.
	11:00 a.m.	For the people of St. Mary of Victories, living and deceased
Monday:	5:00 a.m.	For the healing and health of Warren Reznicek
Tuesday:	5:00 a.m.	For the intentions of Msgr. Joseph Herres
Wednesday:	5:00 a.m.	Conversion of Logan Wilson, requested by his mother Lillian Wilson
Thursday:	5:00 a.m.	Bernardine Knisley (deceased) requested by Gertrude Lehner
Friday:	5:00 a.m.	Deceased members of “Friends of Suffering Souls” (Nancy Wilbert)
Saturday:	5:00 a.m.	For Elisabeth M. Wilbert, requested by Nancy Wilbert
Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	For the people of St. Mary of Victories, living and deceased
	11:00 a.m.	For Ilona Nagyváradí Sándor, requested by Klara Schwarcz

Sunday Collection, December 6	9:00 a.m.	\$577.00
	11:00 a.m.	\$91.00
Tuesday December 8th, Immaculate Conception:	7:00 p.m.	\$105.00

Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Advent (pp. 386-387): Today we anticipate the joy of Christmas with special lighter-colored ornaments. The keynote of our Mass texts is “Rejoice!” – *Gaudete!* – the opening word of the ancient entrance antiphon that gives this Sunday its traditional name. That antiphon in turn comes from today’s second reading, wherein St. Paul exhorts the Philippians to rejoice *always*. That’s not necessarily easy for those whose Christmas season may include grief, loneliness and suffering. But what’s the *reason* that joy is possible regardless of external circumstances? All the readings today give us the answer: *The Lord is at hand!* (2nd reading). Israel, “Daughter of Zion”, whose mission is embodied perfectly in the person of Mary, can rejoice because her King, a “mighty savior”, is already present in her midst (1st reading, Zephaniah). And the Baptist preaches that with repentance from sin and sharing with the poor we will be ready to receive this mighty, saving King (Luke’s Gospel).

Christmas Party: Next Sunday, Dec. 20th, after the 11:00 Mass, we’ll have our annual Christmas party in the Mindszenty Hall. Santa Claus will visit the kids, and there’ll be face-painting and other games for them. Come join in the fun! If you can bring along a plate of cookies, that will be great!

Christmas Masses: Friday, December 25th, Christmas Day, is a holy day of obligation. Our Masses will be at the same time and format as on Sundays: 9:00 a.m. Latin/English *Novus Ordo* and 11:00 a.m. English/Hungarian. (We do not have a midnight Mass at SMV.) *Many thanks to all those who worked so hard yesterday morning decorating the church and hall and setting up our crib scene!*

Sausage Sale: Our Fall sausage sale made an excellent profit of \$897.00. Warmest thanks to all the ladies who worked so hard to make it a success!

Christmas Ornaments: The Hooper family have produced with some beautiful ornaments for Christmas trees adorned with photos of our church’s statues of Mary and the Child Jesus! Prices are \$3.00, \$5.00 and \$7.00. See Fr. Harrison after the 9:00 Mass or Jim & Lisa Hooper after the 11:00 Mass. (Lisa has also produced a beautiful children’s coloring book and prayer book with lovely pictures of our church! It should be published and on sale very shortly, and will help raise funds for SMV.)

Imádkozzatok betegeinkért: Please pray for our sick parishioners, especially Jimmy Essex, Frank Borkin, Dante Proserpi, and others who are suffering pain as advancing years take their toll.

Support Catholic Radio! Please take a flyer at the door with the December schedule of radio programs for Covenant Network Radio (part of the EWTN family).

Fr. Harrison’s Retreat: This week, Monday to Friday, Fr. Harrison will be making his annual 5-day retreat. (This is required by the church for the spiritual growth of all her priests). During this time Father will be here at SMV, but will not be taking phone calls or answering emails. Please pray for him.

“Pray for Bishops Now” apostolate: There is always an urgent need in the Church to pray for our Catholic bishops, including of course the Holy Father. Visit www.prayforbishopsnow.com for more info.