

- December 17.- én, vasárnap, tartjuk a magyar karácsonyra felkészítő cserkész műsort. A Szent István Egyesület (SziE) finom ebédet főz amelyre mindenkit szeretettel vár. Délután 1:00 órai kezdéssel a cserkészek előadnak egy karácsonyra felkészítő műsort. Megkérjük a magyar asszonyokat, hogy hozzanak süteményt. Előre is köszönjük!

- December 17-én a karácsonyi műsor után lesz Zsófia nővér adventi lelkigyakorlatos előadása a felnőtt hívők számára. A téma a Szűz Mária lesz. Minden érdeklődőt szeretettel várunk!

A családok számára nem lesz külön hittanóra, hanem az ebéd utáni karácsonyi program részeként a gyerekek bekapcsolódhatnak a betlehemes játékba. Azok a hittanos gyerekek (fiúk és lányok), akik szeretnének kispásztorok lenni a betlehemes előadásban, hozhatnak hozzávaló öltözetet, ha akarnak.

Betegeink;

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Rácz Károly | Szabó István |
| • Bános Magdi | Vodnánkné Túri Ildikó |
| • Iván Teri | Batta Eve nővér |
| • Szuromi Anzelm atya | Zeller Kati és Róbert |
| • Juhász Kató | Szolga Bálint |
| • Redler Mária | Janet Rowe |
| • Muzsnal Rosália | Hermína nővér |

Halottaink;

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| • Wendell Weiss | Béres János |
| • Pedro Antonio Galdamez | Kádár István atya |
| • Telekes Imre | Mocsy Tamás |

Nem sokara kuldom a szentbeszed magyar szovege't.

English / 2017 Advent 03B

(Jn1:6-8, 19-28) This third Sunday of Advent is called 'Gaudete Sunday.' 'Gaudete' is the first word of the Latin entrance antiphon for today's mass. It means: 'Rejoice!' Why? – Because 'the Lord is near.' Our gospel today features John the Baptist. If we want joy in our lives, he teaches us the secret ingredient: humility. Let me explain! John was the greatest prophet ever. Moses, in turn, was the greatest prophet of the Old Testament. Besides greatness, however, these two prophets had little else in common. Moses was a man of success, who prevailed against all odds over his enemies. The Baptist, on the other hand, was a man of failure, who was executed by his enemies. Moses worked astounding miracles in Egypt. John worked no miracles whatsoever. What then did these two prophets have in common? – The answer is: humility. Moses was "humbler than anyone else on the face of the earth." (Num12:3) Except for the members of the Holy Family – Jesus, Mary and Joseph – John' humility was likewise unsurpassed.

In today's gospel, priests and Levites were sent to John with a crucial question: Was he the long-awaited Messiah? If John had said 'yes,' the crowds would have gladly crowned him king. Instead, he disappointed them with this candid admission: "There is one among you," he said, "whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." Slaves were the ones who loosened sandals, so John was in effect stating that he wasn't even worthy to be our Lord's slave. Could this keenly felt inadequacy be the reason why John didn't join our Lord and become his chief disciple? – There's another explanation: John's uncompromising preaching had already won him powerful enemies. He already had 'one foot in the grave,' so he wasn't about to drag Jesus in after him by joining forces with our Lord.

We often receive gifts that we don't merit. The first degree of ingratitude is failure to make some sort of return in deed for the unmerited gift that was given out of love. More ungrateful still is one who even fails to thank his benefactor in word. Most ungrateful is he who gives no thought to the fact that he is a beneficiary in the first place. This is the proud man's lot. Nothing brings us greater joy than counting our blessings. Yet, the proud man cannot because he takes them all for granted – as if the gifts freely given out of love by God and man were actually due to him in strict justice. Instead of feeling blessed, the proud man is miserable because he feels entitled to far more than he ever actually has. If we forget our blessings, the only thing left to count are our

misfortunes. This in turn brings profound sorrow. Pride is life's party-pooper. Humility is the only known antidote. Jesus said, "He who is faithful in very little is also faithful in much." (Lk16:10) If we're grateful for every little breath we take, we won't forget our greatest blessing either, namely: that the Lord is near. Gaudete! Amen!