

December 13th and 20th, 2020

One Who is Coming: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Isaiah 61:1–2, 10–11 | Psalm Luke 1:46–50, 53–54
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 | Gospel: John 1:6–8, 19–28

The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't.

He is not Elijah returned from the heavens (see 2 Kings 2:11), although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire (see Mark 1:6; 2 Kings 1:8) and preaches repentance and judgment (see 1 Kings 18:21; 2 Chronicles 21:12–15).

Not Elijah in the flesh, John is nonetheless sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfill his mission (see Luke 1:17; Malachi 3:23–24).

Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word (see Deuteronomy 18:15–19; John 6:14). Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since he was in the womb (see Luke 1:15, 44).

John prepares the way for the Lord (see Isaiah 40:3). The baptism he performs is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance.

John shows us the One upon whom the Spirit remains (see John 1:32), the One who fulfills the promise we hear in today's First Reading (see Luke 4:16–21). Jesus' bath of rebirth and the Spirit opens a fountain that purifies Israel and gives to all a new heart and a new Spirit (see Zechariah 13:1–3; Ezekiel 36:24–27; Mark 1:8; Titus 3:5).

John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. As we sing in today's Responsorial, the Mighty One has come to lift each of us up, to fill our hunger with bread from heaven (see John 6:33, 49–51).

And as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle, we should rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing that God will make us perfectly holy in spirit, soul, and body—that we may be blameless when our Lord comes.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

December 24th (Christmas Mass)	-6:00pm, 8:00pm & 10:00pm
December 25th (Christmas Mass)	-10:00am and 11:30am
December 26 (Saint Stephen)	-10:00am
December 26 th (Sunday Vigil – Holy Family)	-4:30pm
December 27th(Sunday Mass - Holy Family)	-9:00am and 11:00am
December 28 th (Holy Innocents)	-9:00am
December 29 th (Weekday Mass)	-7:00pm
December 30 th (Weekday Mass)	-9:00am
December 31st (Mary Mother of God Mass)	- 4:30pm and 6:00pm
January 1st, 2020 (Mary Mother of God Mass)	- 11:00am

***Bolded** celebrations require reservations, see below for more details.*

ADVENT CONFESSION

In addition to Father Jason's usual availability, he will also be available for Confession on Saturdays, December 12th & 19th, from 10 am until 12 Noon.

ENVELOPES FOR 2021 SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Envelopes for 2021 Sunday offerings are at the front of the Church. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY THE BOX WITH YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON IT.** If you have never used the envelopes and wish to start, please ask for a new box at the Rectory or call (514) 747-4226 during office hours (9 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.) to register. **We request all users to please put your name and address on the first few envelopes for the New Year to ensure proper recording.** Thank you.

SUNDAY MISSALS

The 2020-2021 Sunday missals are available starting November 4th, after every Mass. For those who would like to have a copy of their own, the cost is \$5.00 each. There is a collection plate beside the Missals for the people to put their money in.

NOTICE:

The Church is OPEN!

We have returned to our usual mass schedule. Yet Covid-19 is still around, so precautions are to be followed to make sure we can stay open, and safe.

You can check regularly our parish website for updates:
www.our-lady-of-fatima.ca

The Archdiocese of Montreal has set up a webpage where they will post diocesan updates and information, regarding the actions taken by the Archdiocese, in response to the coronavirus as things unfold:
www.diocesemontreal.org/en/covid-19

During these difficult days be assured of my prayers for you, and together let us pray for all those effected by this virus, and for its swift end! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to e-mail me: fatherjpiper@gmail.com

ANNOUNCED MASSES
December 12 - 27, 2020

Saturday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 12th	Our Lady of Guadalupe Offered for Our Lady's Intentions
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 12th	Sunday Vigil Margaret Megelas – RIP – by the Be My Disciples Catechists
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 13th	Third Sunday of Advent (Year B) <i>Pro Populo</i>
11:00 a.m.		Margaret Smith-Davis – RIP
Monday	Dec. 14th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 15th	Weekday Florence Gadwah – RIP – by Janet Prasad
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 16th	Weekday Mom and Dad Jarry RIP – by Pauline
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 17th	Weekday Clara Braganza – RIP – by Maria Lobbo
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 18th	Weekday Clara Braganza and Ruy Charles – RIP – by Maria Lobbo
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 19th	Sunday Vigil Jacqui and Deceased Members of the correia family – RIP – by Janet Prasad
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 20th	Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B) Albert E. Piper – RIP – by Kevin and Linda Piper
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday	Dec. 21st	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 22nd	Weekday Felix Opulencia Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry and Ofelia Roy
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 23rd	Saint John of Kanty Leo, Rosa Maria and Anthony Borges – RIP – by Anne Marie
Thursday 6:00 p.m.	Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve Souls in Purgatory
8:00 p.m.		Tom Kennedy – RIP – by the family
10:00 p.m.		The Dager-Abboud family – Special Intentions
Friday 10:00 a.m.	Dec. 25th	Christmas: Nativity of the Lord <i>(Mass intention available)</i>
11:30 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>
Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Dec. 26th	Saint Stephen <i>Souls in Purgatory</i>
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 26th	Sunday Vigil Antoni and Louise Butkus – RIP – by Pauline
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 27th	Holy Family (Year B) Bruna Alesi – RIP – by her parents
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>

Reservations During the Christmas Season:

Due to the ongoing restrictions due to the pandemic, reservations will be required to attend the Christmas (December 24-25) and Mary, Mother of God (Dec 31 – Jan 01) masses. Reservations will become available as follows:

Monday, December 21st at 10am – registration for the *Christmas Eve & Christmas Day* (December 24-25) masses will be opened.

Wednesday, December 23rd at 10am – registrations for the *Sunday* masses (December 26-27) will be opened.

Monday, December 28th at 10am – registration for the *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God* masses will be opened.

Wednesday, December 30th at 10am – registrations for the *Sunday* masses (January 02-03) will be opened.