

## Third Sunday of Advent, December 10/11, 2016

### Christ IS Coming: Work At It

**Reflection** The third Sunday of Advent is often referred to as Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. This Latin word from the introduction to this Sunday means to “Rejoice in the Lord; again, I say rejoice.” The reading from Isaiah is full of excitement and joy as our God is a saving God who is coming to bring unimaginable new life to his people.



Our lives are a journey made up of many small journeys. Some of these small journeys will be sad and others joyful but they all lead to the time when we meet the Lord face to face and our journey ends. In heaven, there is no beginning or end, no sadness only joy. So, we prepare now to meet the Lord not only at his first coming but for the time we will meet Him for our judgement, His second coming.

On this journey, we must be constantly preparing. Today's gospel has John asking, “Is Jesus the one who is to come?” Jesus' answer is a list of his earthly service. His answer becomes a guide for those who desire to be disciples who know, love and serve our Lord and God.

**Meditation** Jesus, you came to serve and not to be served. Help me to adopt the heart of a servant and to follow your example. Help me to **Work At It**, serving others.

**Action Steps/ Family Activity** This week look for just one simple new way to serve and follow through on that thought.

**Prayer** Lord Jesus your life as a humble infant and servant, including your passion, death, and resurrection is offered for our salvation. Your life was devoted to us due to your unfathomable love, a love we can do nothing to merit or gain, but that is always there regardless of our behavior. Your love is the source of our joy and peace. Give us the grace to reflect that love back to you along with our praise, our honor, our worship, and our grateful thanks. Amen

**Submitted by:** Deacon Jack Koenig