



Bambinelli Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

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Gaudete
Sunday



- Gaudate Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. Gaudate means Rejoice!
- On this Sunday we rejoice that Christ is coming.
- The Pink Candle is lit on the Advent Wreath.
- A tradition in Rome and now elsewhere is for families to bring the baby Jesus from their family crib to Church where they are blessed at mass or another prayer service.
- Parishes could invite families to bring their baby Jesus figure to mass for the blessing.
- Families can be reminded only to place the crib figure into their Crib after the Christmas eve mass.

Blessing of the Baby Jesus Crib Figures

God our Father, you loved us so much you sent your only son Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, to save us and lead us back to you.

We pray that, with your blessing, these images of Jesus might be a sign of your presence and love in our homes.

Gracious God, give your blessing to all who will gather with us this Christmas, family and friends.

Open our hearts that we might receive Jesus in joy, do what he asks of us and see him in those who need our love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who came to give peace to the world, forever and ever. Amen (taken from *55 Ways to Connect with Families in your Parish*, Karen Kent, Veritas, 2017)

