

Liturgies
Saturday, December 7, St. Ambrose "Jesus saw the crowd and had compassion for them." ♦ Confessions 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m. – † Leonardo Iarrusso Vocation Prayer – Very Rev. John Van Hees
Sunday, December 8, 2nd Sunday of Advent "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Mass 9:00 a.m. – † Giuseppe & Anna Colaiacovo, † Philip Nagle, † Antonia & Angelo DiFelice, † Vincenzo Castagna, † Antonio & Filomena Castagna, † Loretta Berardi Palombi Mass 11:00 a.m. – Missa Pro Populo, (For the People) Vocation Prayer – Very Rev. Con O'Mahony
Tuesday, December 10, "God does not desire the loss of the little ones." ♦ Confessions 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. ♦ Devotions 6:30 p.m. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mass 7:00 p.m. – † Mario & Margherita Petrella, † Giovanni Imola, † Lucia D'Eramo Vocation Prayer – Rev. Felix Nwatu
Wednesday, December 11, "Come to me, all you that are weary." Mass 9:30 a.m. - with Jean Vanier Students Vocation Prayer – Sisters of St. John the Baptist (C.S.J.B.)
Thursday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe "Blessed is she who has believed in the fulfillment of the Lord's promises." Mass 9:30 a.m. - with St. Peter Students Mass 10:30 a.m. - with Holy Cross Students Vocation Prayer – Rev. Czeslaw Kolasa, S.A.C.
Friday, December 13, "This generation listened neither to John nor to Jesus." Mass 9:00 a.m. – † Lucyna Szczepanek ♦ Eucharistic Adoration following Mass, concluding with the Benediction, confessions available only when time permits Vocation Prayer – Rev. Ranjan D'Sa, O.C.D.
Saturday, December 14, St. John of the Cross "Elijah has come already, and they did not recognize him." ♦ Confessions 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m. – † Concetta Melfi, † Arselino Resendes Vocation Prayer – Rev. Louis Lenssen, C.R.S.P.
Sunday, December 15, 3rd Sunday of Advent "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Mass 9:00 a.m. – Missa Pro Populo, (For the People) Mass 11:00 a.m. – † Joe DaPonte, † Amparo Eugenio, † Pietro, Cesarin & Francesco Imola, † Lucia DiDomizio, † Souls in Purgatory, Int. of Maria DaPonte Vocation Prayer - Rev. Alessandro Tirelli, C.R.S.P.

Sunday Collection for Nov. 30/Dec. 1, 2019

Env. \$ 2061.50 + Loose \$ 283.10 = \$ 2344.60



THANK YOU,
for your generosity!
Your gift and attendance truly matters.

It is the life and future for our parish!



The Wise Men are on their way ...

2019 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

DEC 24 - 5:00 pm, 10 pm

* 4:15 pm, 9:30 pm - Carolling

DEC 25 - 9:00 am, 11 am

DEC 31 - 5:00 pm

JAN 1 - 9:00 am, 11 am

SATURDAY & SUNDAY HOLY MASS AS USUAL!

WELCOME :-)

ADVENT CONFESION OPPORTUNITY

-St. Mary's, Dec 10, Confessions 5-8 pm (guest priest),
Tuesdays 6 pm – 6:45 pm, Saturdays 4 pm – 4:45 pm,
Saturday, December 21, 3 pm – 4:45 pm
-Sacred Heart, Dec 13, Penitential Service and Confessions 7 pm
-St. Pius X, Dec 17, Penitential Service and Confessions 7 pm
-St. Basil's, Dec 19, Penitential Service and Confessions 7 pm

ADVENT IS... WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE!

Our Christian belief promises that Jesus Christ will come again in glory at the end of time. Our lives should be marked by joy and hope, not fear, as we wait for the Lord's return.

The four-week season of Advent celebrates this anticipated mystery of Christ's return and gives us the vision we need to live as disciples who eagerly await the Lord's coming. In the General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar, Advent is partially described as: "a season that...directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time." The Church's worship during the first two weeks of Advent fans our desire for the Lord's return through the prayers, readings and hymns that make up our liturgical celebrations.

Like the wise handmaidens awaiting the bridegroom (see Matt. 25:1-5), the followers of Christ are reminded to keep vigilant and alert as we await the Lord's return. Through prayer, spiritual reading, acts of charity, and participation in the Eucharist, we keep our souls aflame with Christ's love. The celebration of Advent helps us to expand the meaning and vision of our lives, so that we are not ends in ourselves, but a people who seek Christ as our hopeful end and joyful fulfilment.

WELCOME JASON WIKIS,

the Pallottine Fathers first Canadian candidate to the priesthood.
Please pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life!

2020 DONATION ENVELOPES

Donation envelopes are ready to be picked up in the narthex.
If you do not find yours or have changes to the address, please call the office.

Christmas Flower and Decoration Donations

As we do every year, we are planning to fill the sanctuary with poinsettias and other seasonal decorative elements for Advent. Donations are also welcome for this. The Christmas Manger will be located on the right side of the altar and will be constructed by a group of Vietnamese parishioners. We will use our original statues. We welcome donations towards decorating the church for Christmas. Please use an envelope and mark it "Flowers/Church Decorations" or visit our office personally. We also welcome donations In Memoriam, submitted names will be displayed next to the manger. Thank you for your generosity. Have a blessed Advent!

ANGEL'S TREE

We want to reach out with presents to those who wait for them, who need them and who will enjoy them. Please DONATE A PRESENT(S) for a family/single, child/adult/boy/girl, age etc. More information will be found on a tag hanging on THE ANGEL'S TREE (*on the wall*) next to the baptismal font. Please return the presents unwrapped, in a bag, along with the tag (*this is very important*) by **Sunday December 15, 2019**. They can be dropped off in the church alcove or in the office (*during regular office hours, give us a call before you come*). We will also need volunteer drivers (*Santas on wheels*) to deliver the presents to our Christmas recipients. More instructions will follow. You can contact kristinepaul at rogers dot com for more information.

EVENING PRAYER WITH ADVENT HYMNS

The Diocesan Choir presents Evening Prayer with Advent Hymns, together with the Saint John's Bible and a small reception at St. Raphael's Parish in Burlington, 4072 New Street in Burlington on Sunday, December 8th, 2019, starting at 7 p.m. Choral preludes begin at 7 p.m. with Evening Prayer at 7:15 p.m. There will be a Free-Will offering in support of St. Raphael's Parish.

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING PRAYER

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Saviour of every nation.
Lord God, let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

YOUNG HEARTS FOR JESUS!

Altar Servers and those wishing to be! Mr. Nelson Potts invites altar servers and young people in Grade 4 and above to a special meeting on **December 17th** in the church beginning with Mass at 7:00 p.m. Have questions about what things are in the church? Why do Priests and altar servers have to wear those vestments? Fr. Luke and Mr. Potts will answer all your questions in a fun way. We will gather once a month so you can have time to think of some new questions. Parent's presence and/or consent form required. Please contact our office for more information.

FCMAB/FIESTA PINOY DINNER & DANCE

The Filipino Fiesta Pinoy group is having their annual dinner and dance party on Saturday, December 14th. This event will take place at the Branlyn Community Centre at 238 Brantwood Park Rd. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. Lots of prizes to win!!! Adults \$25.00, Kids 6-12 \$15.00, and under 5 is free. For tickets please call Allan Saluta at 226-388-8707.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY-NEXT WEEKEND

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from nativity scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the 'Bambinelli'-as they are known in Rome-reminds us that the nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secret of true joy. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on **Sunday, December 15th** to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day-as you lay Jesus in the manger. Allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessing we receive at Christmas.

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, making his paths straight." Could God be calling you to be a priest in order to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the Lord"? Contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988, or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

BIBLE SUNDAY

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, Motu proprio "Aperuit illis", published on 30 September, establishes that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God." This will henceforth replace our Diocesan "Bible Sunday" which has taken place on the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. To observe Bible Sunday this year, all the faithful will be asked to join in a prayer of thanksgiving for the Word of God at the conclusion of the General Intercessions at all Masses on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.

MIDNIGHT MASS AT CATHEDRAL

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate Christmas Midnight Mass in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Wednesday, December 25th at 12:00 a.m. The celebration will be live streamed and telecast on S+L and CHTV. The broadcast will begin on Christmas Eve at 11:30 p.m. with Carols from the Cathedral. All are welcome to attend or to watch via live stream or television.

CARE MINISTRY IN OUR PARISHES

"Our parishes must be capable of generating a people, that is, offering and creating relationships where people feel that they are known, recognized, welcomed, listened to, loved – in other words, not anonymous parts of a whole...we must have a revolution of tenderness in parishes and the Diocese...pastoral care is based in baptism and blossoms from brotherhood and is not the task only of the Pastor and Priests, but of all the baptized," according to Pope Francis. To that end, the Family Ministry Office will be offering three sessions meant to be a come & see event that will include many ways to reach out to your Parish Community. An individual Parish can't provide for every need, but we believe that you will find one or two recommendations that will work for your own Parish Community. In our Parish Community you will find St. Vincent de Paul, Mass at St. Joseph Lifecare, bringing communion to the homebound parishioners, Christmas Angel Tree, and supporting our schools.

ADVENT = HOPE, PEACE, JOY, LOVE