



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 02 December 2007

**“Keep awake, therefore,
for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.”**

(Today's Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44)

Announced mass intentions...

Sat., Dec., 01 5:00PM Mass – Gerard & Dan Mahoney+

Sun., Dec., 02 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
8:00AM Mass – Georgette Danis+
9:30AM Mass – Gerta Patry+
Ashley Hibbard+
11:15AM Mass – Bertha Mook (Ivg)
7:30PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioner

Mon., Dec. 03 12:15PM **NO** Mass

Tues., Dec., 04 9:30AM Mass

Wed., Dec., 05 12:15PM Mass – Barbara Riggins+

Thurs., Dec., 06 9:00AM Communion Service held at
Billings Lodge
12:15PM Mass–Mahoney & Vullings Fam+

Fri., Dec., 07 11:00AM **ADORATION** until 12 Noon
12:15PM Mass – Eleanor McDonald+

Sat., Dec. 08 5:00PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Sun., Dec. 09 **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
8:00AM Mass – Rigden & Frenette Fam+
9:30AM Mass – Rita & Richard Lemieux+
Willie Buter+
Leo MacKinnon+
11:15AM Mass – Bertha Mook (Ivg)
7:30PM Mass

We remember in our prayers the sick...

-our parishioners- Laurette Allen, Brian Beahen (husband of Jackie), Colleen Bonnah, Vivian Braganza (husband of Marlene), Francis & Barbara Cullinan, Marie Claire Grandbois, Gertrude Kennedy, Alice Haughton (wife of Bob), Betty Hubbard, Betty Hurst, Patricia Joseph, William Long (husband of Sophia), Reg MacDonald (husband of Joan), Odette MacKinnon, Romeo Maione (husband of Elizabeth), Margaret McClory, Deacon Bruce McLeod, Yolanda Miron (mother of Mina), Brian Rose, Margaret Ross, Norman St. Louis Dalacy Tukkiapik, Ray & Betty Valin, Sherri Vallee

-relatives- Tillie Andruchow (mother of Jean Ryan), Cathy Becker (sister of Maureen Monaghan), Mary Beggan (sister of Anne Cooper), Richard Calagoure (brother-in-law of Barbara Riggins), Helen Chynces (sister of Theresa Sarcevich), Barbara Cooper (sister of Imelda Marrast), Monica Desjardins (daughter of Leo), Keith & Patricia Esmond (father of Liz), Guy Gosselin (brother-in-law of Theresa Sarcevich), Dan Greenwood (son-in-law of Peggy Soutar), Cathy Jirsch (sister of Aileen Halls), Theresa Lassaline (sister of Mary Simms), Ayin & Godwin Lee (parents of Robert), Oswald Luke (father-in-law of Robert Lee), Marie Miele (mother of Christine), Donald Pajot (brother of Marc), Fr. Dan Sedlar (brother-in-law of Santa), Ted Vullings (father of Gerry Vullings)

-the deceased- Alice Obina+ (wife of Robert Okumu)

Events Calendar

Sat., Dec., 01 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A
4:30PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Dec., 02 9:30AM NO Children's Liturgy
10:30AM NO Children's Choir practice
Annual Christmas Bake/Craft Sale at all morning Masses

Mon., Dec., 03 7:00PM K of C Executive meeting

Tues., Dec., 04 7:30PM MPD – Rm. A
8:00PM AA – Hall

Wed., Dec., 05 7:00PM Liturgy – Rm. A
7:00PM Pastoral Care – Library
7:30PM Music (7:30) practice – Church

Thurs., Dec., 06 6:30PM Christian Meditation – Rm. A
7:30PM Choir (11:15) practice – Church

Fri., Dec., 07 1:00PM African Angels – Rm. A
5:00PM Divine Mercy Cenacle – Church

Sat., Dec., 08 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A
4:30PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Dec., 09 9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:30AM Children's Choir Practice

Companions of the Cross selling calendars at all the Masses

Pastor's Column...

Dear Parishioners,

Welcome to the New Liturgical Year and to the Spirit of Advent. As the earth cycles annually through its seasons, just so the church celebrates with quite deliberate rhythm the seasons of the liturgical year.

As you might know, the church's liturgical calendar follows a 3 year cycle, each year being represented by the letters A, B, and C. This year it is cycle A. During the year A cycle, the Gospel of Matthew is the primary focus. (B cycle for Mark and C cycle for Luke—The Gospel of John is proclaimed on particular Sundays in each of the years).

The liturgical year begins with the season of Advent. The word Advent comes from the Latin word “Adventus” meaning coming or arrival. We all know for whose arrival we are all waiting for.

Let us tune ourselves spiritually to get in touch with the spirit of the season. In your prayers and generosity, please do not fail to include our parish family, Holy Cross.

GLAD NEWS TO SHARE

On behalf of the Parish Community, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the family who donated the entire amount (\$22,000) towards the painting work done in the Church. No doubt God blesses our parish through our

parishioners in different ways. The family's magnanimous generosity towards their parish community is very much appreciated by all of us.

May God continue to bless that family for their kind thoughtfulness towards the parish.

God Bless,
Fr. James Raphael CMF
Pastor

Parish News and Community Life...

HOLY CROSS PARISH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERT—



The Choirs of Holy Cross Parish cordially invite you to a concert featuring the music of Advent and Christmas. This concert will be held here in this church on **December 16 at 3 p.m.** There is no charge to

attend, although free-will offerings will be accepted. Come and get into the spirit of the season by enjoying classic religious music both traditional and contemporary! We hope to see you there!"

MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S MASSES NEEDED—

In preparation for the Christmas season, Mass Coordinators, Lectors, Announcers and Eucharistic ministers are asked to **please sign your name next to the date and time that you can assist.** Sign-up sheets are on the desk by the bookrack. Please sign up no later than December 09.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS in memory of a deceased loved one. Special donation envelopes will be available at the entrances of the Church **until December 09.** The names of the deceased will be printed on a special insert in the Christmas bulletin.

2008 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available for pick up on table at the back of the church. Please take the next available box and complete the slip of paper and leave the paper in the basket.

HOSPITALITY

Following the talk by **Flora MacDonald** at our recent **Women's Breakfast**, a number of people asked if they **could send a contribution/donation** to the work of **Future Generations** Afghanistan. Ms. MacDonald has forwarded the details to us. Donations can be sent to the following address and cheques should be made to Future Generations Canada, or to Flora MacDonald "In Trust". Flora MacDonald, Apt. 1103 - 350 Queen Elizabeth Dr., Ottawa, ON K1S 3N1. Thank you to everyone who attended the breakfast and helped to make it a great success!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus will be selling the delicious gourmet Christmas fruitcakes produced by the Cistercian Monks at Oka, Quebec again this year. They will be available in two sizes, a 2 lb loaf at \$14 and a 3 lb. round cake in a decorative metal tin suitable for gift giving at \$22. The cakes will be in limited supply and will be on sale for two weekends only, on December 02 at the Christmas Mini Bake/Craft Sale in the parish hall and on the weekend of December 09/10 after all masses. If you should wish to reserve one or more cakes in advance, please sign the sheet provided at the back of the church. All proceeds of the sale of these cakes go to Campaign Life Coalition.

The Knights of Columbus will be selling **CAR RAFFLE TICKETS** after all the Masses on December 16/17 at the Walkley Rd entrance. Tickets cost: \$2/each or 6/\$10.

PASTORAL CARE

Reminder: Our **CHRISTMAS** Pastoral Care Meeting takes place on Wednesday, December 05 at 7 p.m. **PICTURE TAKING!! TREATS!! PUNCH!!**

Our Pastoral Care Team Members are available to visit the sick and/or bring Holy Communion. Please call Betty Dillon at 613-521-2887.

Social Action...

MISSION, PEACE, AND DEVELOPMENT

African AIDS Angels will be available for purchase today after all Masses, at the Walkley entrance after the evening Masses and at the Bake/Craft sale on Sunday morning. All proceeds go to help those in sub-Saharan Africa, especially children, who are affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The Development and Peace postcard about mining was an insert in last week's bulletin. The signed cards may be returned to the designated box at the MPD table at the back of the church. The MPD committee meets on Tuesday, December 04 at 7:30 in the meeting room A.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP – Tip of the Week

Advent has arrived. As Dr. Seuss said, "*The greatest thing in life doesn't come from a store.*" As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, what greater gift can we give to our children than a healthy planet filled with love, peace and joy! Some practical ideas: purchase gifts that support charities such as the African AIDS Angels or make a charitable donation in someone's name; decorate with LED Christmas lights; purchase cards made from recycled paper and recycle the paper you receive; re-use your gift bags; purchase gifts with limited packaging; buy rechargeable batteries for electronics.

SAINT OF THE WEEK ST. FRANCIS XAVIER Feast Day – December 03

Many a cruise has been ruined by seasickness, but can you imagine being seasick for five months? That's how long St. Francis Xavier was seasick as he made the voyage from Spain to India to begin his missionary career.

In the pantheon of saints, St. Francis Xavier is certainly one of the best known. With St. Ignatius of Loyola and six other men, he helped found the Jesuit Order. After his ordination, he spent the rest of his life preaching and teaching in India, Malaysia, and Japan. His dream was to go to China, but he died on an island about half-dozen miles off the coast. Ironically, he had tried to take refuge on a Portuguese sailing vessel, but once again he became seasick. He came ashore and died in a fisherman's hut.

Often we may not be seasick but we can become *seesick*. We can become so sick of seeing all the pain and misery in the world that we put on mental blinders. We decide what we don't know won't hurt us, so we stop looking around. We pretend the problems of homelessness and injustice aren't really as bad as everyone says they are. When we choose not to recognize misery, however, we are in danger of not just being *seesick*, but of becoming blind to the opportunities we have to make the world a better place. There is, after all, none so blind as those who will not see.

(Taken from 365 Saints by Woodeene Koenig-Bricker)