



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 16 December 2007

*“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.”*

(Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11)

### *Announced mass intentions...*

Sat., Dec., 15 5:00PM Mass – Adam Podgorecki+

Sun., Dec., 16 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 8:00AM Mass – Dominic O'Hara  
 Beatrice Shields+  
 9:30AM Mass – Bertha Mook (lvg)  
 Thelma Ozorio+  
 11:15AM Mass – Bunny Sullivan+  
 Mary Daniels+  
 7:30PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Mon., Dec. 17 12:15PM **NO** Mass

Tues., Dec., 18 9:30AM Mass – Celebrated with Holy  
 Cross School and Seniors' Day

Wed., Dec., 19 12:15PM Mass – Lina & Tony Iacobucci (lvg)

Thurs., Dec., 20 9:00AM Mass at Billings Lodge  
 10:00AM Mass at Billingswood Manor  
 12:15PM Mass – Pro Life  
 6:30PM **Advent Mass for Holy Family  
 School** – held in the Church

Fri., Dec., 21 12:15PM Mass

Sat., Dec. 22 5:00PM Mass – David Lynn+

Sun., Dec. 23 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners  
 9:30AM Mass – Gerta Patry+  
 Ashley Hibbard+  
 11:15AM Mass  
 7:30PM **NO MASS**

### *Events Calendar*

Sat., Dec., 15 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A  
 10:30AM Choir Practice – Church  
 4:30PM Rosary – Church  
 K of C – selling Car Raffle Tickets after all Masses

Sun., Dec., 16 9:30AM Children's Liturgy  
 10:30AM Children's Pageant/Choir practice  
 3:00PM **Advent/Christmas Concert**

Mon., Dec. 17 7:00PM **Parish Reconciliation Service**

Tues., Dec., 18 9:30AM **Seniors' Day** – reception to  
 follow after Mass in the Parish hall  
 7:00PM Baptismal Preparation – Church  
 7:00PM Finance – Rm. A  
 8:00PM AA – Hall

Wed., Dec., 19 7:30PM K of C general meeting – hall  
 7:30PM Music (7:30) practice – Church

Thurs., Dec., 20 6:30PM Christian Meditation – Rm. A  
 7:30PM Choir (11:15) practice – Rm. A

Sat., Dec., 22 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A

Sat., Dec., 22 9:30AM Choir Practice – Church

Sat., Dec. 22 4:30PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Dec., 23 9:30AM **NO** Children's Liturgy  
 10:30AM Children's Pageant/Choir practice

### **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 Houghton (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), Margaret Ross, 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), Helen Chynces (sister of Theresa Sarcevich), Barbara Cooper (sister of Imelda Marrast), Monica Desjardins (daughter of Leo), Keith 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), Margaret Kent (mother of Madonna Ozorio), 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), Albert Ozorio (father of Rui), Donald Pajot (brother of Marc), Fr. Dan Sedlar (brother-in-law of Santa), Ted Vullings (father of Gerry Vullings)

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### **COLLECTION REPORT**

~ A Summary of Your Generosity ~  
 09 December – \$6,255.65 (env.) / \$712.54 (loose)

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### *Pastor's Column...*

#### **SHOPPING FOR GOD**

Dear Parishioners,

The Season of Christmas is around and so too the shopping frenzy. Commercialization of Christmas has reached the tipping point. The agents of retail have tossed off all references to a Christian celebration in favour of generic holiday come-ons. We have all heard enough about the term WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction). There is also something called WCD (Weapons of Christmas Destruction).

It is a good idea to exchange gifts among us, but in our shopping lists let us also include a gift for God who sent His only Son into this world. What gift can we offer God? Perhaps it may be bringing our children to the Church and infusing in to them the meaning of Advent and Christmas; or it could be our time and talent given as a gift for God, through our parish.

Let me wind up this column by quoting what a mother wrote in the December edition of U.S. Catholic (pg. 17). *“We as parents need to keep the true meaning of Christmas alive in our children. We are the ones who decide what we buy to*

celebrate Christmas. We should teach our children from birth that the celebration of Christmas is at Church, not at the mall or on vacation."

God bless you,  
Fr. James Raphael CMF  
Pastor

### *Parish News and Community Life...*

**DECEMBER 18 IS SENIORS' DAY AT HOLY CROSS.** The Pastoral Team invites all seniors (no age limit) to this event. Mass will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by coffee and goodies. The school children from Holy Cross School will join us for Mass. Santa has promised to take time off his busy schedule to spend time with us. Let's all join together in prayers, singing, and be merry on this festive occasion. For more information call Hub Deveau at 613-523-6631.

**ADVENT MASS:** Holy Family School invites all the parishioners to join them for their **Advent Mass on Thursday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. held at Holy Cross Parish.** A reception will follow after the Mass in the hall. Please come celebrate with the school and join with them in the spirit of Christmas.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

A reminder to all council members that Wednesday, December 19 is our last meeting in 2007. Come and be informed of all the worthy events that are planned and enjoy camaraderie after the meeting.

#### PASTORAL CARE

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

From our sister community in Nicaragua: "*Dear friends; Greetings from Proyecto Generando Vida (Generating Life) where we are full of life, hard work and life's daily struggles. We are sending you some photos of each of our programs so that we continue to be in contact with great energy and life. Recently we welcomed Drs. Carmen (Spain) and Ayzar (England) who gave a three-week long workshop in the visual health program, training a new group of women for the program. We send you our greetings with much love, as you are always very present to us. With much care, Sister Maria Luisa Castillo.*" The photos, in Power Point format on CD, are of the programs such as the eye clinic, tutoring, micro credit, food bank and so on.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP – Tip of the Week**

We are called to be stewards of creation. Jesus, after miraculously feeding loaves and fishes to the crowd of 5000 said to his disciples, "*Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.*" Trees likewise are a precious resource that cannot be wasted. Yet we continue to clear-cut our irreplaceable ancient forests at an alarming rate when alternatives are possible. We contribute to this tragedy by purchasing paper that is not made from recycled materials. **The tip:** Gather and recycle the paper that is left over. Always purchase products made from recycled paper. Let nothing be wasted.

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## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### **Parish Reconciliation Service – Monday, December 17**

7:00 p.m.

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent – Sunday, December 23**

5:00 p.m. Mass (Saturday, December 22)

8:00 a.m. Mass

9:30 a.m. Mass

11:15 a.m. Mass

7:30 p.m. **NO Mass**

### **Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24**

4:00 p.m. Mass

6:00 p.m. Mass

8:00 p.m. Mass

11:00 p.m. Mass

### **Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25**

9:30 a.m. Mass

11:15 a.m. Mass

### **Holy Family – Sunday, December 30**

5:00 p.m. Mass (Saturday, December 29)

8:00 a.m. Mass

9:30 a.m. Mass

11:15 a.m. Mass

7:30 p.m. **NO Mass**

### **New Year's Eve – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Monday, December 31**

7:00 p.m. Adoration/Mass

### **New Year's Day – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Tuesday, January 01**

9:30 a.m. Mass

11:15 a.m. Mass

**Christmas and New Years (Solemnity of Mary) are Holy Days of Obligation in Canada.**

**NOTE:** There will be **NO 12:15 Mass** on **December 26** and **27**.

**PLEASE NOTE: OUR CHRISTMAS BULLETIN** will cover the period of December 23 until December 30. Deadline for submissions is on **Wednesday, December 19 by 12 noon**. Our **regular weekly bulletin** will resume on **January 06**.

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## **SAINT OF THE WEEK**

### **ST. LUCY**

#### **Feast Day – December 13**

Have you taken your Vitamin See today? No, not your Vitamin C, your *Vitamin See*. Just as we all need Vitamin C to stay well and healthy, we also need a daily dose of Vitamin See.

What is Vitamin See? Vitamin See is the ability to view things, not just with our earthly eyes, but with heavenly insight. Vitamin See is the capability of looking beyond the mundane and ordinary to see the divine light infusing all of us every day.

Because her name means light, St. Lucy is the patron of those with eye trouble, but she could be the patron of Vitamin See as well. Determined to remain a virgin, St. Lucy refused marriage. Her suitor had her banished to a brothel, but even there she remained steadfast. Finally, tradition tells us she was tortured and stabbed to death.

Often we get so caught up in the hustle and bustle of life we forget that we, too, should have our eyes focused on heaven. That's when we need a dose of Vitamin See.

But Vitamin See can't be purchased in any store. We have to manufacture it for ourselves through spiritual reading, prayer, and quiet times alone with God.

*Have you had your dose of Vitamin See today?*

(Taken from 365 Saints by Woodeene Koenig-Bricker)