FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 27 NOVEMBER 2016

“As the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man... Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour”

(27 November Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44)

Adoration/Confession: One hour before all weekday Masses

Announced Mass intentions

Sat., Nov. 26  5:00PM Mass – Michele Dionne+

Sun., Nov. 27  FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
               8:00AM Mass – George Szilvasi+
               9:30AM Mass – Cam Johnson+
               Hung Ting+
               Power Family+
               11:15AM Mass – Don Lanos+

Mon., Nov. 28  9:30AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Tues., Nov. 29  9:30AM Mass – In Thanksgiving to St. Jude

Wed., Nov. 30  12:15PM Mass – Apie Lucie Adje+

Thurs., Dec. 01  10:00AM Communion Service held at
               Windsor Park Manor
               12:15PM Mass- Michele Dionne+
               12:15PM Mass – George Sinn+
               George Thoms+
               Nelly Badani+

Sat., Dec. 03  5:00PM Mass – Florence Dickie+

Sun., Dec. 04  SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
               8:00AM Mass – Peter Sedlar+
               9:30AM Mass – Gerta Patry+
               Ray Gibbons+
               Members of Hospitality (lvg)
               11:15AM Mass – Apie Lucie Adje+

Events Calendar ...

Sat., Nov. 26  9:00AM Baptism – Church
               9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A

Sun., Nov. 27  9:30AM NO Children’s Liturgy
               Baptism during the 9:30am Mass
               10:30AM Children’s Pageant Practice –
               held in the parish hall
               Commissioning of Liturgical Ministers at all the Masses
               2:00PM K of C Installation of Officers

Mon., Nov. 28  12:30PM Potato Peelers

Tues., Nov. 29  7:30PM Hospitality – Library
               8:00PM A.A.- Hall

Wed., Nov. 30  7:00PM Choir (9:30) practice– held in
               meeting room A and the Church

Thurs., Dec. 01  10:00AM Club 55+ meeting – Library
               7:00PM Choir (11:15) practice – Church

Fri., Dec. 02  7:00PM Christmas Concert Fundraiser
               in support of St. Vincent de Paul - Church

Sat., Dec. 03  9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A

Sun., Dec. 04  9:30AM Children’s Liturgy

Christmas Craft/Bake Sale after all morning Masses

Please pray for our brothers & sisters who are sick...
-Our parishioners—Ron Black, Fr. Peter Cody, Bob Haughton, Alice Johnson, Brigitte Komocki, John Levasseur, Charlotte McCarthy Jean N’da, Santa Sedlar, Joe & Hazel Tonin, Gerry Vuillings, Fessahah Weri
-Immediate family members—Karen Crichlow, Joann Egan (sister of Aileen Halls), Theo Flansberry (brother of Ray), Harry Ganley (brother of Jean), Stephen Herlihey (son of Paul & Marlene), Eric Polspoel (husband of Jacinthe Bourdeau), Kathy Radcliffe (sister of Bill Daub), James Silva (son of Barbara & Enrique)

†Our Condolences and Prayers: For the departed soul of Lillian Kutarna (aunt of Joe Goski)

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Deacon’s Column...

WELCOME TO ADVENT

Another Advent is upon us. Why does the Church lead us along the same path every year, repeating the same seasons, even the same readings? To understand this, we need to learn the strategy of a good coach. A good coach isn't always trying to reinvent the fundamentals of the sport. A good coach makes sure the players never lose sight of the fundamentals, makes sure the players keep practicing the fundamentals. Spiritual life is like this.

God wants us to grow, to experience wisdom, happiness, and fruitfulness, and to do so, he constantly leads us back to the fundamentals of our faith. The liturgical seasons are like a spiritual gymnasium, where we can always go back to exercise and strengthen our awareness of the basic truths that Jesus has revealed to us. These truths are the building blocks of holiness and happiness.

In Advent, we focus on the truth of Christ's coming. In Bethlehem two thousand years ago he was born once, so that we could be born twice. In every generation, he is constantly being born through the Eucharist so that we can have the strength and grace to become grown-up Christians, and at the end of time, he will give birth to a new heaven and a new earth, so that we can live forever with him in everlasting, abundant, adventurous happiness.

God is our coach, and Advent is one of his training camps. Let's give it our best effort.

God bless.
Deacon John

Parish News and Community Life...

COLLECTION REPORT
20 November 2016 – $4,597.00 (env) / $809.30 (loose)
  ~ Thank you for your generosity and support ~
2017 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available for pick up at the back of the church. Choose the next available box and fill out the slip of paper and place it in the basket. Please note that these envelopes are not to be used until January 2017. We would like to take this time to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2016.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Special envelopes may be found in the pews for donations towards our Christmas flowers in “Memory of a loved one”. To ensure your loved ones’ name is in the insert for our Christmas bulletin, the deadline for receiving envelopes will be on December 11.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The Youth Group is organizing a Children’s Pageant at the 4 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. If your child is interested in participating, please join them in the parish hall after the 9:30 a.m. Mass (no practice on December 04). For information contact Natasha Randing at holycrossparishyouth2016@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Join us on Friday, December 02 at 7 p.m. here at Holy Cross as the choirs from St. Bernard, Resurrection of our Lord, St. Peters Parish, along with Holy Cross’ own choir members join together to help raise money to support Ottawa South St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Admission to the concert is free but donations will be greatly welcomed. Special envelopes will be available. Bring your family and friends to listen to beautiful Christmas music and let us together help those in great need!

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & BAKE SALE will be held after all Masses next Sunday, December 04. There will be a wonderful assortment of crafts & baking, including homemade pies. Jewellery, African Angels, and special ‘treasures’ are not to be missed. Be sure to stop by Café Noéll where you can purchase a warm food item and a drink. Donations for the Bake Table would be greatly appreciated. Please bring your item to the parish hall next Sunday before any Mass.

CLUB 55+ will host a table at the annual parish Christmas Craft/Bake Sale, with table proceeds in support of the Youth Group. Your donations of previously enjoyed treasures may be placed in the box provided under the MPD table in the Church until Nov. 27. Info: Myrnah Vullings at 613-737-0755.

DEBRA-DYNES FAMILY HOUSE--DDFH staff are looking to Holy Cross for some help this Advent season: donations of small Christmas gifts that the children can give their parents, and gifts for children ages 8-12 would be very appreciated. Also, it would relieve staff greatly if parishioners could help to make sandwiches for needy school children (materials provided) in our parish hall on Wed., Nov. 30 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Call Geri Laird to volunteer 613-731-4304.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
The Knights will be selling fruit cakes made by the Cistercian Monks at the Christmas Craft/Bake after all Sunday Masses only. There is one size only this year; 2 lb. loaf at $15. Also, gift baskets with 2 boxes of 6 premium chocolates (maple & caramel filled), a mini fruitcake and a jar of Okaramel Maple Spread (all natural products) will be available in limited quantity at $25. Proceeds go to Campaign Life Coalition.

PASTORAL CARE
PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEMBERS are available to visit and/or bring Holy Communion to the sick, house-bound, lonely, or bereaved. Call Sue Kennedy at 613-523-4748.

Social Action...
MISSION, PEACE, AND DEVELOPMENT
50 years of solidarity and action, D&P has been active in worldwide movements to address injustice and create change in the Global South. At the Heart of the Action highlights some of its campaigns over the years. Included are two testimonials from our partners in Indonesia and Paraguay that deal with ecological justice (www.devp.org/campaign).

CARE FOR GOD’S CREATION--ADVENT: Are we prepared to celebrate an ecological Christmas? Extreme consumerism can be a problem during Advent. Do we reflect on how our lifestyles impact on those in the world who are held back from receiving God’s gifts, including enough food and water? This Advent let us plan to celebrate an ecological Christmas.

Other interests...
Anne Hurley & Kathy McGee are offering a series titled ‘Advent in Word, Silence and Song’. Sessions will be offered Monday mornings (Nov 28, Dec 5, 12 & 19) at 35 Appleford (off Blair Rd. N) or Monday evenings at St Elizabeth Church. Suggested donation: $40/full series or $10/per session. For information, contact Anne at 613-739-1259 or annehurleymusic@yahoo.ca.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
Parish Reconciliation Service – Tuesday, December 13 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24 4:00 p.m. Mass (Christmas Pageant) 6:00 p.m. Mass (Youth Choir) 8:00 p.m. Mass (9:30 Choir) 11:00 p.m. Mass (11:15 Choir)
Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25 8:00 a.m. NO MASS 9:30 a.m. Mass (9:30 Choir) 11:15 a.m. Mass (11:15 Choir)
New Year’s Eve – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Saturday, December 31 4:00 p.m. Silent Adoration (until 4:45 p.m.) 5:00 p.m. Mass
New Year’s Day – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Sunday, January 01 8:00 a.m. Mass 9:30 a.m. Mass 11:15 a.m. Mass
Christmas and New Years (Solemnity of Mary) are Holy Days of Obligation.

PLEASE NOTE: OUR CHRISTMAS BULLETIN will cover a two week period beginning on December 25. Deadline for submissions is on Tuesday, December 20 by 12 noon. Our regular weekly bulletin will resume on January 08 and deadline for submission is on Tuesday, January 03 by 12 noon.