



# FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT – 03 DECEMBER 2017

**“And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”**

(Today's Readings: Isaiah 63:16b-17; 64:1, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37)

## *Announced Mass intentions*

- Sat., Dec. 02 5:00PM Mass – Sheila Aucion+
- Sun., Dec. 03 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners  
 9 :30AM Mass – Gerta Patry+  
 Cam Johnson+  
 Fesseha Fre+  
 11:15AM Mass – Souls in Purgatory  
**NO MASS**
- Mon., Dec. 04
- Tues., Dec. 05 9:30AM Mass – Roger Patry+
- Wed., Dec. 06 12:15PM Mass – Charlotte McCarthy+
- Thurs., Dec. 07 10:00AM Communion Service held at  
 Windsor Park Manor  
 12:15PM Mass
- Fri., Dec. 08 12:15PM Mass – Roger & Gerta Patry+  
 Dionne Family+
- Sat., Dec. 09 5:00PM Mass – Molly Bacchiachi+  
 Tony Goveas+
- Sun., Dec. 10 **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 8:00AM Mass – Mary Anne Labadie+  
 Holy Cross Parishioners  
 9:30AM Mass – Fresseha Fre+  
 Apie Lucie Adje+  
 Charlotte McCarthy+  
 11:15AM Mass – Fr. Bill Ryan+  
 Gerald Doucet+

## *Events Calendar ...*

- Sat., Dec. 02 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A  
 2:00PM Wedding – Tribonus Adjodha  
 and Suzanna James – Church  
 6:00PM Parent & young adults planning  
 meeting for relaunching Holy Cross' Youth Group – Library
- Sun., Dec. 03 9:30AM Children's Liturgy  
**Welcoming Ceremony (Enrolment)**  
**for the Sacrament of Confirmation** at the 9:30am Mass  
**Christmas Craft & Bake Sale** after all morning Masses
- Mon., Dec. 04 12:30PM Potato Peelers – Hall
- Tues., Dec. 05 8:00PM A.A. – Hall
- Wed., Dec. 06 10:00AM Pastoral Care meeting – Library  
 7:00PM Choir (9:30) practice – Church  
 7:00PM K of C executive meeting
- Thurs., Dec. 07 1:00PM Club 55+ - Hall  
 7:00PM Choir (11:15) practice – Rm. A
- Fri., Dec. 08 9:30AM Pain Management Workshop #6
- Sat., Dec. 09 9:00AM Parish Ultreya – Church/Hall  
 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A
- Sun., Dec. 10 9:30AM Children's Liturgy

Sun., Dec. 10 **Welcoming Ceremony (Enrolment)**  
**for the Sacrament of Confirmation** at the 9:30am Mass

**Please pray for our brothers & sisters who are sick...**  
**—Our parishioners—**Valtazar Almeida, Ron Black, Denyse Baizana, Emile Chartrand, Fr. Peter Cody, Dorothy Daub, Hurb Durand, Patricia Joseph, Edwina Laturnus, Thérèse Lavoie

(The names of the immediate family members have been placed in our *Book of Intentions* at the back of the Church).

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## *Pastor's Message...*

### **THANK YOU**

Thanks to Deacon John Kennedy and Knights of Columbus for building up the new crèche and a special thanks to Thomas and Sheila Shields for sponsoring the beautiful nativity figures. You already brought the spirit of Christmas for Holy Cross Church! God bless you all.

Happy Advent season!  
Fr. Lukose

### **CHRISTIAN HOPE REQUIRES HUMILITY**

At the time of the first Christmas, God's Chosen People were in serious trouble. The Jews of Palestine were living under military occupation by the Roman Empire; they did not enjoy political and civil freedom. The Romans not only clamped down on Jewish freedom in the political arena, but also in the religious arena. The Bible tells us about the violent, gruesome persecution engineered by Hellenistic rulers. And before that, the Jews had been violently relocated; forced out of Palestine and into exile. Add to that the depressing fact that God had not sent a prophet in 300 years, and you have a situation in which God's Chosen People might have been tempted to give up hope. Yet, at the time of Jesus' birth, the Jews were full of expectation; their eagerness for the arrival of the promised Messiah was greater than ever. There is a paradox here, a paradox we Christians need to learn from. Precisely when the Jewish nation had no human solutions to their many problems, they became most open to God's divine solutions. And that's when God sent the Messiah. The incomparable power of Christian hope can only flow through humility. It is only when we truly acknowledge our need for God that he can act freely in our lives. When we forget about him and try to manufacture our own happiness without him, like the sleepy servants in today's gospel parable, we cut off the flow of God's grace. Advent is a season of hope, but to feel hope's power, we first must stir up our humility.

God bless,  
Deacon John

**COLLECTION REPORT**

26 November 2017 – 3,431.80 (env) / \$786.30 (loose)

Claretian Missions Appeal - \$3,548.00

*~ Thank you for your generosity and support ~*

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**A REMINDER – LECTORS WORKSHOP:** To help maintain the solemnity and sacredness of the Mass, the formation and renewal of your understanding and commitment are very important. For this reason, we are holding a refresher workshop on **Monday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.** to prepare and develop each person who assists at Mass. Please mark your calendars as we look forward to seeing you there.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** Parents whose children are registered for the sacrament of Confirmation are reminded that our **WELCOMING CEREMONY (Enrolment)** will be on **Sunday, December 10 at the 9:30 a.m. Mass.** Please attend **one** of these Masses and sign-in your child's name at the entrance of the Church **20 minutes before Mass**

**DO YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?** We are looking for people to assist us at our Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m. Mass. We have a music minister who has volunteered to lead the music at this Mass. It would be wonderful to have others who sing and/or play an instrument, especially the piano, join her. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Lee Whelly at [leewhelly@gmail.com](mailto:leewhelly@gmail.com).

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** will lead the congregation in a song called "Magic Penny" on Sunday, December 17 during the 9:30 a.m. Mass to raise money to sponsor a child through Chalice. Everyone, please bring your spare change to help us teach the children that giving even a little bit of love generates so much more. Your coins are needed to make this song work!

**2018 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are available for pick up on the table at the Springland exit at the back of the church. The offertory envelopes are in alphabetical order with your original envelope number. For parishioners who do not have envelopes and would like a box, you are asked to take a box that has a slip of paper in it; complete the paper with your information and place it in the basket. **We would like to take this time to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2017.**

The **OTTAWA POLICE CHOIR** will present a Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 17 at 2 p.m.** in the Church. All parishioners and visitors are welcome. Admission is free—a free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. A reception in the hall will follow the concert. Bring your family and friends and get into the spirit of the season by enjoying classic religious music both traditional and contemporary.

**DONATIONS TOWARDS CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** There will be special envelopes in the pews beginning next weekend for donations towards Christmas flowers. Donations of \$20 or more will be issued a tax receipt if you enclose your name and address or envelope number. You are also welcomed to bring flowers on the Fourth Sunday of Advent to the Church.

**CLUB 55:** The next session of Club 55+ will be held **next Thursday, December 07** in the parish hall following the 12:15 pm Mass. Bring along your favourite sandwich to go with treats and drinks that will be provided (\$3 pp). Our gathering will feature a Spiritual Reflection led by Deacon John. We encourage you to invite a friend or someone you know who is new to the Parish. There will also be a time for cards, crafts and board games, followed by cards, crafts and board games.

**CURSILLO/ULTREYA:** Saturday, December 09 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Church. All are welcome.



**BOTTLE TAPS:** Please be advised that Holy Cross will no longer be collecting bottle taps. We would ask that you do not leave them on the tables in the Church. We thank you for your cooperation.

*Social Justice...*

**DEBRA DYNES FAMILY HOUSE**—Donations of small items that the DD children could give their parents for Christmas, and gifts for children aged 8-12, can be dropped off in the DDFH box until Sunday, December 17. Calendars for 2018, warm hats and mitts are also appreciated.

**DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE - CARITAS CANADA:** Thank you! Last weekend 213 postcards in support of D&P's May Peace Be with Her campaign were signed. Please consider signing the card at the Social Justice table, and putting it in the D&P container.

**CARE FOR CREATION - ADVENT RESOURCE:** Global Catholic Climate Movement has a resource for Advent that reflects on and celebrates creation. Included are an Advent calendar, 4 colouring pages for kids, prayers, and ways to green your Christmas: <http://bit.ly/advent-creation>

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**CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

**Parish Reconciliation Service – Tuesday, December 12**  
7:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24**  
4:00 p.m. Mass (Children's pageant)  
6:00 p.m. Mass (Choir)  
8:00 p.m. Mass (9:30 Choir)  
11:00 p.m. Mass (11:15 Choir)

**Christmas Day – Monday, December 25**  
11:15 a.m. Mass

**New Year's Eve – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**Saturday, December 31**  
6:30 p.m. ADORATION  
7:30 p.m. Mass

**New Year's Day – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**Monday, January 01**  
9:30 a.m. Mass  
11:15 a.m. Mass



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

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