



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 09 DECEMBER 2018

“...proclaiming a baptism of repentance...
‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight’...”

(Today’s Readings: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6)



Announced Mass intentions

- Sat., Dec. 08 9:00AM **MASS**-celebrating the **Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary**
5:00PM Mass – Dionne Family+
- Sun., Dec. 09 **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
9:30AM Mass – Fesseha Fre+
Apie Lucie Adje+
Brian Gibbons+
11:15AM Mass–Armand & Jeannette Lavigne+
- Mon., Dec. 10 **NO MASS**
- Tues., Dec. 11 9:30AM Mass – Souls in Purgatory
- Wed., Dec. 12 12:15PM Mass – Roger Patry+
- Thurs., Dec. 13 9:00AM Communion service held at Billings Lodge
9:30AM Advent Mass for Holy Family School – held in the Church
12:15PM Mass – Mark Mysak (lvg)
- Fri., Dec. 14 12:15PM Mass – Magdalena Yager (lvg)
Tony Costanza+
- Sat., Dec. 15 5:00PM **YOUTH MASS**
Souls in Purgatory
- Sun., Dec. 16 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
8:00AM Mass – Michel Sparer+
9:30AM Mass – Ray Gibbons+
Herve Chabert+
Sylvie Menezes+
11:15AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Events Calendar ...

- Sat., Dec. 08 9:30AM NO Prayer Group
9:30AM Parish Ultreya/Cursillo – Hall
2:00PM Children’s Choir practice- Church
- Sun., Dec. 09 9:30AM Children’s Liturgy
9:30AM **Welcoming Ceremony (Enrolment) for the Sacrament of Confirmation**
- Mon., Dec. 10 12:30PM Potato Peelers
- Tues., Dec. 11 7:00PM **PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE**
8:00PM A.A. – Hall
- Wed., Dec. 12 7:00PM Choir (9:30) practice – held in meeting room A and Church
- Thurs., Dec. 13 12:45PM Club 55 - Hall
7:00PM Choir (11:15) practice – Church
- Fri., Dec. 12 10:00AM Jubilee committee mtg. – Library
- Sat., Dec. 15 9:30AM Prayer Group – Rm. A
2:00PM Children’s Choir practice- Church
6:00PM Youth Group Christmas Party

- Sun., Dec. 16 9:30AM Children’s Liturgy
10:30AM Children’s Pageant practice -Hall
2:00PM **POLICE CHRISTMAS CONCERT**
– a reception to follow in parish hall
K of C distributing crèche figurines for children at all Masses

†**Our Condolences and Prayers:** For the departed souls of Jean-Jacques Boyer+, Marie Rodrigues+ (mother of Caje Rodrigues)

COLLECTION REPORT

02 December 2018 – \$5,125.00 (env) / \$563.80 (loose)

~Thank you for your generosity and support ~

Deacon’s Column...

THE VIRTUE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we are given the person of St. John the Baptist to ponder. What a gift he is! Jesus Himself stated that “among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist” (*Matthew 11:11*). What a compliment! What is it that made John so great? We can point to two things. The first has to do with his calling and the second has to do with his virtue. First, John was great because he was the transition from the Old Testament Prophets to the New Testament. He was the bridge that prepared for the new life to come. His unique mission makes him truly great. But John was great not only because of his unique calling, he was also great because of the virtue he had in his life. It is this gift that is worth pondering for our own inspiration more than any other.

The virtue that John had was that of humility. He saw himself as nothing other than a “voice of one crying out in the desert.” And the Word he spoke was Jesus. John acknowledged that he was not even worthy to stoop down and untie the sandal straps of Jesus (*Mark 1:7*). He was praised by many and followed by many and yet he continuously said of Jesus that “He must increase, and I must decrease” (*John 3:30*). John was not in it for praise and honour; rather, his mission was to point everyone to the Saviour of the world. He could have sought the honour and praise of many and he would have certainly received it. But John was more than willing to fulfil his mission and submit himself to the cruel sword of his executioner. His humility was such that he was focused only on Jesus and desired only to point to Him.

How humble are we? Do we tend to point to our self or to Jesus? Do we seek the praise of others or do we humbly point all praise and glory to God? Humility is the path that St. John the Baptist took and it’s the path we must strive for each day.

God bless,
Deacon John

Parish News and Community Life...

A REMINDER: Our **PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE** will be held this coming **Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.**

JUBILEE UPDATE: The Jubilee Coordinating Committee invites you to visit our "Liturgical Year (2018) Christmas tree", in the narthex, commemorating the Weddings, Baptisms, and RCIA candidates, celebrated this past year.

MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S MASSES NEEDED—In preparation for the Christmas season, **current** 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.

2019 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available for pick up on the table at the back of the church. The offertory envelopes are in alphabetical order with your original envelope number. For parishioners who would like offertory envelopes, please fill out the slip of paper provided and place the paper in the basket provided and an envelope will be assigned to you the following week. **We would like to take this time to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2018.**

ATTENTION: If you own a business or know of a business in the area that would benefit from advertising on the back of our bulletin, please contact the parish office at 613-731-7834. We depend on our advertisers to allow us to continue the publication of the bulletin.



DONATIONS TOWARDS CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Special envelopes are available in the pews and at the entrance of the Church for donations towards Christmas flowers. Donations of \$20 or more will be issued a tax receipt if you enclose your information and envelope number. You are also **welcomed to bring flowers on the Fourth Sunday of Advent to the Church.**



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR: Parents whose children would like to be a part of the Children's Christmas Choir are asked to bring them to the practices: **Saturdays on December 15 & 24 from 2 pm to 3 pm held in the Church.** We humbly request that you do not miss any of the practises. The **Christmas Eve Children's Mass** is on **Monday, December 24 at 4 pm.**



The **OTTAWA POLICE CHOIR** will present a **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** on **Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m.** in the Church. All parishioners and visitors are welcome. There is no charge for admission – a free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. A reception in the hall will follow the concert. Spread the news



and bring your family and friends and get into the spirit of the season by enjoying classic religious music both traditional and contemporary. We hope to see you there!

PARISH SCAM ALERT!

There was an e-mail scam circulating around November 29, allegedly from our pastor, Fr. Lukose, requesting funds to purchase iTunes cards. **Please be advised that this is definitely a scam.** Our instructions from the Ottawa Police are to notify the community, delete the e-mail and run a virus scan.

PLEASE NOTE: There is extra parking for parishioners at Holy Cross School.

Social Justice...

DEBRA DYNES FAMILY HOUSE: Last week, the \$438 that our parish's children and youth groups collected at the 9:30 Mass on November 25 was delivered to DDFH to make Christmas gifts possible for many youth who would otherwise go without. The staff at DDFH were very gratefully to have received this unexpected and generous gift and were impressed by this sign of love and support for those in need. We will continue to collect small gifts for parents and youth 10-16 in the DDFH box until December 16.

Other interests...

VESPERS—An evening Advent prayer service with Sisters of Queenship of Mary, 3rd Sunday of Advent, December 16 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Augustine Church, 1060 Baseline Rd. Advent is the time for beautiful evening liturgies, light, waiting, anticipation, expectation (note: incense will be used). For more information call 613-225-7388.

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Parish Reconciliation Service – Tuesday, December 11
7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24
4:00 p.m. Mass (Children's pageant)
6:00 p.m. Mass (11:15 Choir)
8:00 p.m. Mass (9:30 Choir)
10:30 p.m. Mass (11:15 Choir)

Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25
9:30 a.m. Mass
11:15 a.m. Mass

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

PLEASE NOTE: OUR CHRISTMAS BULLETIN will cover a two week period beginning on December 23. Deadline for submissions is on Tuesday, December 18 by 12 noon. Our **regular weekly bulletin** will resume on **January 06.**

NOTE: The Parish office will be **CLOSED** on Dec. 26 and there will be **NO** 12:15 noon Mass.

