



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 16 DECEMBER 2018

**“I baptize you with water;
but one who is more powerful than I is coming;
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”**

(Today's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18)



Announced Mass intentions

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+ Hervé Chabert+ Sylvie Menezes+ 11:15AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
Mon., Dec. 17		NO MASS
Tues., Dec. 18	9:30AM	Mass–Salvino & Maria Castalano+
Wed., Dec. 19	12:15PM	Mass – Intentions of the Spiritual Mothers and their Priest sons
Thurs., Dec. 20	10:00AM	Communion service held at Windsor Park Manor 12:15PM Mass–Eric & Carleen Mysak (lvg)
Fri., Dec. 21	12:15PM	Mass–John & Sue Kennedy (lvg) Gregorio Alfonso+
Sat., Dec. 22	5:00PM	Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
Sun., Dec. 23		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:00AM Mass – Ken Tyler+ 9:30AM Mass – Lillian Rappini+ Yah Christiane Kouakou+ Maria Rodrigues+ 11:15AM Mass – Zimmerling Family+

Events Calendar ...

Sat., Dec. 15	9:30AM	Prayer Group
	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
Tues., Dec. 18	6:30PM	Finance – Rm. A
	8:00PM	A.A. – Hall
Wed., Dec. 19	7:00PM	Choir (9:30) practice – held in meeting room A and Church
	7:30PM	K of C general meeting – Hall
Thurs., Dec, 20	7:00PM	Choir (11:15) practice – Church
Fri., Dec. 21	10:00AM	Jubilee committee mtg. – Library
Sat., Dec. 22	9:00AM	Choir (9:30) practice – Church
	9:30AM	Prayer Group – Rm. A
Sun., Dec. 23	9:30AM	Children's Liturgy

COLLECTION REPORT

09 December 2018 – \$4,402.00 (env) / \$851.10 (loose)

~Thank you for your generosity and support ~

Deacon's Column...

GAUDETE... REJOICE IN THE LORD "ALWAYS"

Frequently during Advent, Saint John the Baptist takes centre stage. John the Baptist is often depicted as an ill-tempered, fire-and-brimstone preacher who scared people into repentance. Yet, there is something wrong with this picture. First, this conception fails to explain how John was able to attract such huge crowds and win over so many hearts. Second, it misses the whole point of his message that "salvation is at hand" and this message is just the opposite of being dark, ominous, and foreboding. In fact, when we truly understand and accept it, it becomes the source of a deeper joy than any other we can experience in this life and is why the third Sunday in Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of joy or rejoicing. In this weekend's readings the word "joy" is mentioned twelve times.

Jesus didn't come to intimidate and oppress us; he came to save us. Salvation, friendship with God, living in the fullness and security of our Creator and Redeemer, eternally in his Kingdom... These are the messages of Christmas, the messages we have been thinking about during these weeks of Advent. We can only rejoice "always" if our joy is based on something deeper than the passing pleasures of this world. What is this deeper thing? Salvation; friendship with God; something that never ends, and something no one can take away from us. This is the source of a Christian's joy, and this is the gift Jesus brings us.

God bless,
Deacon John

Parish News and Community Life...

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 Christmas flowers on the Fourth Sunday (December 23) of Advent to the Church.**



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR: Parents are reminded to bring their children who are participating in the Children's Christmas Choir to the practice on **December 24 from 2 pm to 3 pm in the Church.** The **Christmas Eve Children's Mass** is on **Monday, December 24 at 4 pm.**



The **OTTAWA POLICE CHOIR** will present a **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** this **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. The proceeds from the free-will offering will help to buy Christmas food hampers for Debra Dynes families. Bring your family and friends and get into the spirit of the season by enjoying classic religious music both traditional and contemporary!



Social Justice...

DEBRA DYNES FAMILY HOUSE: Our parish has kindly decided to donate the proceeds from the free-will offering at the concert by the Ottawa Police Choir to help buy Christmas food hampers for Debra Dynes families. This year there is a \$3500 shortfall to cover those in need. Come away feeling the true spirit of Christmas.

THANK YOU to all who have signed the postcard for Development and Peace-Caritas' campaign **Share the Journey.** To date we have collected 220! Please see the bulletin board for more information or go to www.devp.org/act.

Other interests...

POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS AUXILIARY BISHOP FOR ALEXANDRIA-CORNWALL: In a statement made last April, Pope Francis announced that the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall and the Archdiocese of Ottawa were united 'in the person of the bishop' [*in persona episcopi*], Archbishop Prendergast in this case. At that time, he committed to appoint a second Auxiliary Bishop to assist Archbishop Prendergast mainly for the territory of Alexandria-Cornwall. His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed Fr. Guy Desrochers, C.Ss.R, to the position of Auxiliary Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall. (Read full text message on the bulletin board)

DIOCESE OF MOOSONEE UNITED WITH DIOCESE OF HEARST – APPOINTMENT OF MOST REV. ROBERT BOURGON AS BISHOP OF HEARST-MOOSONEE: On December 03, His Holiness Pope Francis united the Diocese of Moosonee with the Diocese of Hearst and appointed the Most Reverend Robert Bourgon Bishop of the new Diocese of Hearst-Moosonee.

NATIVITY SCENE EXHIBIT at the Parish of Saint-François d'Assise: Nativity scenes from around the world, from a private collection owned by Mr. Jean Cloutier, a member of the parish, in the church's museum until Sunday, January 06. Open during Mass hours, Tues. – Sat., 11:00 a.m. and Sun., 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m., at 20 Fairmont Ave. Info: Gilles Leclerc (gilles.leclerc7@sympatico.ca, 613-798-0264) or the parish office (613-728-1983).

"CALLED AND GIFTED" SPIRITUAL GIFTS INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP: At St. Mary's Parish, 100 Young St. Presented by Catherine of Siena Institute. **Saturday, February 23 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.** Cost: \$50 for member of St. Mary's Parish; \$60 for non-member. Info and registration: spiritual.gifts@stmarysottawa.ca or 613-728-9811 x734.



CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

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.

NOTE: Parish Advent Reconciliation Schedules are available online. Please check the Archdiocese's website.

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

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.**

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

