



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – CHRISTMAS – HOLY FAMILY 2018 – EPIPHANY 2019

*“Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb...”*

*Let us go to Bethlehem...they went with haste and found
Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.”*



Announced Mass intentions

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+

Mon., Dec. 24 **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
Christmas Eve 4 :00PM Mass – Garry Brown+
6:00PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
8:00PM Mass – Roger & Gerta Patry+
William & Mary-Ann Labadie+
Dennis Prendergast+
10:30PM Mass – Joanne Leury+

Tues., Dec. 25 **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
Christmas Day 9:30AM Mass – Sharon Ladouceur+
11:15AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Wed., Dec. 26 12:15PM **NO MASS**

Thur., Dec. 27 10:00AM Communion Service held at
Windsor Park Manor
12:15PM Mass – Christina Chung (lvg)

Fri., Dec. 28 12:15PM Mass – Barbara Costanza (lvg)
Fanny Arria+

Sat., Dec. 29 5:00PM Mass

Sun., Dec. 30 **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
AND JOSEPH**
8:00AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
9:30AM Mass – Nancy Adje+
Maria Rodrigues+
11:15AM Mass – Meliane Rosemond+

Mon., Dec. 31 **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**
New Year's Eve 6:30PM **ADORATION**
7:30PM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

Tues., Jan. 01 **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**
New Year's Day 9:30AM Mass – Garry Brown+
11:15AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners
12:15PM Mass

Wed., Jan 02 12:15PM Mass

Thurs., Jan. 03 10:00AM Communion Service held at
Windsor Park Manor
12:15PM Mass

Fri., Jan. 04 11:00AM **ADORATION** until 12 noon
12:15PM Mass – Roger Patry+

Sat., Jan. 05 5:00PM Mass – Guy Germain+

Sun., Jan. 06 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
8:00AM Mass – Roger Cotter+

Sun., Jan. 06 9:30AM Mass – Gerry Charron+
Bill & Anna Brown+
Belanger Family+
11:15AM Mass – Holy Cross Parishioners

† Our Condolences and Prayers: For the departed soul of
Rosamma Raphel+ (mother of Fr. James Raphel CMF)

Pastor's column...



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

At Christmas, we wish one another the joy and peace of the Holy Family. In truth, this is the hallmark of a Christian. Pope Francis highlights this powerful message through one of his reflections:

“The Christian is a man or woman of joy. This is what Jesus is teaching us, what the Church is teaching us at this time in a special way. What is it, this joy? Is it having fun? No, it is not the same thing. Having fun is good, enjoying ourselves is good. But joy is something more, it is something else. It is something that does not come from temporary conditions, from the conditions of the moment; it is something more profound. It is a gift. If we try to have fun all the time, it becomes frivolous, superficial, and it also deprives us of Christian wisdom; it makes us a bit stupid and naive, doesn't it? Everything is fun...No. Joy is something else. Joy is a gift of the Lord. It fills us up inside. It is like an anointing of the Spirit. And this joy is in the confidence that Jesus is with us and with the Father.” – Pope Francis

I gratefully remember all of you who have opened the door of your hearts to the needs of our parish in various ways. Joseph and Mary were forced to look for a manger because they could not find room in an inn. Many refused to open their doors and welcome them.

A parish is an inn which opens its doors to the spiritually as well as materially poor and powerless. The Church is a place where everyone should welcome one another with Christian fellowship. We have so many reasons to rejoice and be glad, reflecting on the various projects we accomplished in the year 2018 as part of our Jubilee celebrations. We look forward to the conclusion of our Jubilee celebration in April 2019.

The staff, Deacon John, Frs. Anthoni, Eslin Pereira, and I (Claretian Community) wish you the Joy and Peace of Christmas and Blessings for the New Year 2019.

Fr. Lukose Kochupurackal CMF

THANK YOU to the Ottawa Police Choir for performing a wonderful Christmas Concert last on Sunday, December 16 in the afternoon. It was so nice to hear how the audience enjoyed the way the Director Geoff Linklater conducted the programme by engaging with the people. We would like to also thank Carol Gurofsky, the accompanist, and Bruce Peterkin, the president, and other choir members for bringing the Christmas cheer to Holy Cross Parish. Check our website for photos of the concert.

Deacon's Column...

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

From our family to yours we pray that Jesus will clutter your Christmas celebrations with his many blessings.

Deacon John

Parish News and Community Life...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS as we will be presenting another exciting topic to mark our Jubilee Year celebrations, **"THEOLOGY OF THE BODY"** beginning on **Monday, January 14**. More details will follow in upcoming bulletins.

CHICKEN SOUP FOR YOUR SOUL: Go to Holy Cross' website and sign-up for **FREE** access to **'FORMED'**, a new Catholic resource. Through **FORMED On Demand**, you have access to a vast library of great movies, talks, ebooks, Biblical Catechism for kids and youth, and so much more, all of which will enrich your faith. **FORMED** cards are available for pick up on the table at the entrance of the Church.

2019 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are still available for pick up on the table at the back of the church. Starting in January when you begin using your **Initial 2019 Offertory Envelopes** please put your name and address on the back of the envelope to help us keep information up to date for tax receipts. **We would like to take this time to thank all our Parishioners for their generosity throughout 2018.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents whose children are registered for the Sacrament, we invite you and your child to the **WELCOMING CEREMONY (Enrolment) on Sunday, January 06 OR on Sunday, January 13 at the 9:30 a.m.** Mass. Please attend one of these Masses and arrive **20 minutes before Mass begins** to sign-in your child's name at the entrance of the Church.



CURSILLO/ULTREYA will be held on **Saturday, January 12 at 9 a.m.** Everyone welcome!

Social Justice...

DEBRA DYNES FAMILY HOUSE: The free-will collection from the joyful Christmas concert by the Ottawa Police Chorus came to \$1260. This money has enabled many Debra Dynes families, who were on the waiting list, to buy food for a special Christmas dinner. Also, the number of parishioners' donations of Christmas gifts for parents and youth was the largest and the most carefully chosen ever—all

signs of true Advent spirit! *"The spirit of the Lord is upon me, to bring good news to the poor."* (Luke 4.18).

Other interests...

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE from Archbishop Prendergast can be found on the bulletin board at the entrance of the Church or go to the Archdiocese website.

ANNUAL HOMELANDS' MASS: At Notre Dame Cathedral, Sunday, January 13 at 2:30 p.m. There will be a reception following the Mass. All are welcome!

Direct Your **United Way Contributions** to Holy Cross Parish: Simply mark the appropriate section on the reverse of your form to direct your monies to Holy Cross Parish, 685 Walkley Rd., Ottawa, ON K1V 6R8. You not only give to United Way but you help your church as well. Charity Name: Holy Cross Parish/Registration Number: 12896 7353 RR0012

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



The **Parish office** will be **closed** on **Wednesday, December 26** and there will be **NO 12:15 p.m. noon Mass.**

OUR CHRISTMAS BULLETIN will cover a two week period beginning on December 23. Our **regular weekly bulletin** will resume on **Jan. 06**. Deadline for submissions is on **Wed., Jan. 02 by 12 noon.**

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: Additional parking over the Christmas and New Year's Season is available at Holy Cross School.

NO SCENT is good scent! Please refrain from using perfumes as it causes allergy reactions for some.

NO food, beverages or chewing gum is allowed in the Church.

Please remember to put your cell phones on **MUTE**. This is a time to listen to God's voice.

Food For Thought †

"The world is a Bethlehem where all the inns have no room for the Christ Child. The canyons of modern cities are caveless; the skyscrapers have locked entrances. The music of the donkey's hoofs that carried Mary to Bethlehem is lost in the swoosh of our endless traffic...Pause, and then hasten! Make warm the caves of your souls so that the Holy Anointed One may be born in them." "Let this Christmas be for us a turning point... Let us become small enough to kneel at the crib and big enough just to reach the level of the Baby's eyes. Let us look into them—and catch sight of Love Incarnate! Then we shall be made whole again, and our hunger will be filled." (Moments of Grace from the writings of Catherine Doherty)

Unto us a Child is born

