

The Third Sunday of Advent

Masses this Week

Tuesday, December 19

- 5:00 p.m. + Teresa Moniz - *The Vonderlinden Family*
- + Aldolfo Serpa - *The Family*
- + Bernice Blake - *The Hawco Sisters*
- + Kevin Pendegast - *The Corbett Family*

Wednesday, December 20

- 8:00 a.m. + Antonio Machado - *Emilia Machado*

Thursday, December 21

- 5:00 p.m. + Erich Stangl - *Michelle D'Souza*

Friday, December 22

- 8:00 a.m. - Antonio Moura - *Emilia Moura*

Saturday, December 23

- 5:00 p.m. - Sung Mass
- + Teresa Moniz - *Antonio Moniz*
- + Patrick Reidy - *Cindy & Pat*
- + Vicente Moniz - *Goretti Moniz*
- + Luiza DaCosta - *John & Maria DaCosta*
- + Norberto & Odilia Branco - *Maria Branco*

Sunday, December 24 – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 10:00 a.m. - Sung Mass - *Pro populo*

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24

- 5:00 p.m. - *preceded by Nativity Play*
- 7:00 p.m.
- 10:00 p.m. - *(Incense will be used)*

Christmas Day: Monday, December 25

- 10:00 a.m. - *(Incense will be used) - Pro populo*

This Week In Our Parish

Monday, December 18

- 7:30 p.m. - Knights of Columbus Meeting (Parish Hall)

Tuesday, December 19

- 5:30 p.m. - Holy Spirit Prayer Community (Church)
- 7:00 p.m. - Communal Penance Celebration (Church)

Wednesday, December 20

- 8:30 a.m. – Confessions, *immed. following mass until finished* (Church)

Thursday, December 21

- 4 - 4:45 p.m. - Confessions (Church)

Friday, December 22

- 8:30 a.m. - Adoration (Benediction 9:30 a.m.)

Preparing For Next Week

2 Samuel 7 : 1 - 5, 8b - 12, 14a - 16 ; Psalm 89;
Romans 16: 25 - 27 ; Luke 1: 26 - 38

Lit. Ministers - December 23 & 24 (Advent 4)

	5:00 p.m.	10:00 a.m.	
Greeters	T. Nearing H. Nearing	R. France H. France	
Lectors L1 L2	N. Applebee M. Applebee	C. Cabral J. Frias	
Communion	B. Seguin W. Koluk T. Derks	T. Cabral B. Sousa A. Sousa	



If you are visiting today,

St. Patrick's Parish welcomes you.

*Please observe a reverent silence -
talk to God before Mass and to each other after Mass -
and please ensure that all mobile devices are switched off or silenced
to avoid distracting others in prayer.*



Advent Reconciliation

Our Advent Penance Celebration will take place this **Tuesday, December 19 at 7p.m.** in the church. Several priests will be on hand to hear confessions and to celebrate this sacrament in English, Portuguese, French and Italian . Confessions are heard every Saturday at St. Patrick's Parish from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings following the 8 a.m. mass until finished; however, additional confessions will be heard this Advent on Thursday, December 21 from 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.

Christmas Overflow Parking

Overflow parking for Christmas Masses is available in the parking lot at the corner of Wellington and Main Streets, behind City Hall off of Cambridge Street and across from the David Durward Centre (Beverly and Dixon Streets).

Children's Nativity Play

Before the beginning of the 5 pm Christmas Eve Mass, the children of St. Patrick's Parish will be presenting the Nativity Play. Children ages 3 to 7 years of age will be asked to come to the front of the church and listen to the Christmas Story which will be narrated by children in the parish. Parents, please encourage your children to come forward when the announcement is made.

Using the Door by the Choir

It's gonna be a long, cold winter... In consideration of our musicians and choir, please do not exit by the choir door if you are leaving mass before the end of the final hymn. Should you find it necessary to leave the church before the final hymn has concluded, please exit through the main doors of the church. *Many thanks.*



Gaudete Sunday

On the third Sunday of Advent, the penitential purple of the season changes to rose and we celebrate "Gaudete" or "Rejoice" Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. It comes from the first word of the Entrance antiphon on Sunday. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, "The Lord is near." This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose colored, and the rose colored vestments often used at the Eucharist.

The second part of Advent begins on December 17th each year - this year, in 2017, it is Sunday of the Third Week of Advent. For the last eight days before Christmas, the plan of the readings changes. The first readings are still from the prophecies, but now the gospels are from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. We read the stories of faithful women and men who prepared the way for our salvation. We enter into the story of how Jesus' life began. These stories are filled with hints of what his life will mean for us. Faith and generosity overcome impossibility. Poverty and persecution reveal glory.

Our celebration of the coming of our Saviour into history is opening us up to experience his coming to us this year, and preparing us to await his coming in glory.

Televised Christmas Midnight Mass

His Excellency Bishop Douglas Crosby will celebrate Midnight Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. The Mass will be preceded by carols from the Cathedral beginning at 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 24th. The carol service and Midnight Mass will be televised on Salt + Light, Canada's Catholic broadcaster.



2018 Offering Envelopes

2018 offering envelopes are now available in the parish hall. Please be sure to take yours home with you. If you do not have offering envelopes and would like a set, please contact the parish office at 519-623-3773. You may also choose the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) donation option. EFT forms are located in the narthex of the church.



Christmas Flower Donations

Donations are invited towards the flowers that will decorate our church and sanctuary during the Christmas season. Special envelopes are available at all three church doors. Donations may be placed in the collection basket during the weekend Masses. All donations must be received by this **Sunday, December 17** in order that a list of memorial and thank offerings may be included in the Christmas bulletin.

Holy Days of Obligation

In Canada, the holy days of obligation are the following: **every Sunday, Christmas Day (December 25) and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1).**

On holy days of obligation, the faithful gather to express the fact that the Church is not self-generated but is always called to worship by God. On that occasion, we come to hear the Word of God, take part in the Eucharist and give thanks to the Lord for having been incorporated into Christ. Therefore, one must take part in the celebration of Mass either on the same day or at the vigil Mass on the previous evening.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23 at **5 pm**

Sunday, December 24 at **10 am only**

Please note that these Masses fulfill the Sunday obligation only.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve - Sunday, Dec. 24

5 pm (preceded by the Nativity play)

7 pm

10 pm (Incense will be used)

Christmas Day - Monday, Dec. 25

10 am - only (Incense will be used)

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH

Saturday, December 30 at **5 pm**

Sunday, December 31

8 am - Said Mass at the Lady Altar

9 & 11 am - Sung Mass

Please note that these Masses fulfill the Sunday obligation only.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

New Year's Eve - Sunday, Dec. 31 at **5 pm**

New Year's Day - Monday, Jan. 1 at **10 am**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 6 at **5 pm** (Incense will be used)

Sunday, January 7

8 am - Said Mass at the Lady Altar

9 am - Sung Mass

11 am - Sung Mass (Incense will be used)

"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God."
~ C.S. Lewis, "Mere Christianity"