

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 (ST. AMBROSE)

5:00 pm

+ Joan Bedford
Intentions of Perry Alain

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 (THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION)

8:00 am

+ Norberto & Odilia Branco

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

5:00 pm (followed by Divine Mercy Novena)

José dos Santos Ferreira

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00 am (8:30 - 9:30 am adoration)

+ Dragica Sopcic
Intentions of Patricia

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

5:00 pm

+ Theodore Mendiola
+ René & Celine Ireland
+ Raymond Whalen

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

9:00 am

+ Vincente Moniz & Francisco Melo

11:00 am

Mass for the People - *pro populo*



If you are visiting today,

St. Patrick's Parish welcomes you.



WELCOME REV. FR. CHRISTOPHER THIÊN - Ý HUYNH

A warm welcome to Rev. Fr. Christopher Thiên - Ý Huynh, as he celebrates Mass with us this Saturday, December 4 at 5 pm. Fr. Christopher was ordained on November 6, 2021, by Archbishop Thomas Cardinal Collins, in the Archdiocese of Toronto, to the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Thus the hope of those who belong to the living Christ is a hope rooted in what has already occurred, even if the total fullness of this event has not yet been revealed. Thus the Christian community, wherever it emerges, marks a new world in the midst of the old, of light in the midst of darkness (Henri Nouwen, Peacework, 108)."

Hope is the touchstone of patience. We can be patient because we live in hope. And we have hope because we know Christ and the power of his love. Advent is a time when hope is renewed within us.

Today, we light another candle on our Advent wreaths. As the light gets brighter, our hearts open a bit wider to all that God has promised. As the candle flickers, we see the movement of our own lives within the flame. May we never walk in the darkness of hopelessness, but may we always hold fast to the fire of hope, the light of Jesus Christ. (Taken from "The Fullness of Time, Amy Ekeh)

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

| | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Monday | Rev. Lajos Angyal |
| Tuesday | Rev. Joseph Durkacz |
| Wednesday | Order of Preachers (O.P.) |
| Thursday | Rev. Emmanuel Azike, O.P. |
| Friday | Rev. Thomas Manninezhath, C.M.I. |
| Saturday | Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski |

HEARING THE CALL TO A VOCATION TO SERVE THE CHURCH?

Contact Bishop Lobsinger at:
vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 11 & 12

| | 5:00 p.m. | 9:00 a.m. | 11:00 a.m. |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Lectors | P. Cooper | B. Sousa | J. Kelly |
| Communion | C. Cooper C. McArthur | A. Sousa J. Bui | T. Cabral V. Umolac |

OFFERTORY

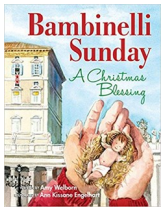
| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Envelope Contributions Last Week | \$3,434.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$ 166.50 |
| EFT | \$1,129.25 |
| Total Collection – Thank you | \$4,729.75 |

DECEMBER 5, 2021

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the 'Bambinelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy.

All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on Saturday, December 11 @ 5 pm or on Sunday, December 12 at 9 or 11 am to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day and as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.



BAMBINELLI SUNDAY - A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

There is a story book entitled *Bambinelli Sunday - A Christmas Blessing* and it tells the story of a little boy named Alessandro and the lessons he learns about family, faith and love on this special day. If you are interested in the story you can order it on Amazon.

ENCYCLICAL LETTER FRATELLI TUTTI

OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON FRATERNITY & SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP

"FRATELLI TUTTI". With these words, Saint Francis of Assisi addressed his brothers and sisters and proposed to them a way of life marked by the flavour of the Gospel. Of the counsels Francis offered, I would like to select the one in which he calls for a love that transcends the barriers of geography and distance, and declares blessed all those who love their brother "as much when he is far away from him as when he is with him". In his simple and direct way, Saint Francis expressed the essence of a fraternal openness that allows us to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person, regardless of physical proximity, regardless of where he or she was born or lives (*to be continued*).

SAINT AMBROSE OF MILAN FEAST DAY - DECEMBER 7

"When we speak of wisdom, we are speaking about Christ. When we speak about virtue, we are speaking about Christ. When we speak about justice, we are speaking about Christ. When we are speaking about truth and life and redemption, we are speaking about Christ." So wrote Ambrose, bishop of Milan, biblical exegete, political theorist, master of Latin eloquence, musician, doctor of the Church and teacher; in all these roles, he was speaking about Christ.



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 **Sunday, December 12** in order that a list of memorial and thank offerings may be included in the Christmas bulletin.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2022 offering envelopes are now available for pick up in the parish hall. Space in the parish hall is limited, so please be sure to take yours home with you after Mass today. Many thanks!

SUNDAY MISSALS & CALENDARS

2021 - 2022 Sunday Missals as well as 2022 monthly calendars are available for purchase at \$5 each in the narthex of the church while supplies last. Place your donation in the box. Please bring exact change. Thank you.



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception teaches that, by a special gift of grace, the Blessed Virgin Mary was kept free from Original Sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. Fr. John Hardon, S.J., in his *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, notes that "Neither the Greek nor Latin Fathers explicitly taught the Immaculate Conception, but they professed it implicitly." It would take many centuries, though, for the Catholic Church to recognize the Immaculate Conception as a doctrine, and many more before Pope Pius IX, on December 8, 1854, would declare it a dogma. In the Apostolic Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*, Pope Pius IX wrote that "We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful." As Father Hardon writes, the Blessed Virgin's "freedom from sin was an unmerited gift of God or special grace, and an exception to the law, or privilege, which no other created person has received." All are welcome to join us at the Lady Altar on **Wednesday, December 8 @ 8 am** as we celebrate this special feast day.

While sin divides, separating us from one another, Mary's purity makes her infinitely close to our hearts, attentive to each of us and desirous of our true good.

~ Pope Benedict XVI