

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

(followed by Novena to St. Anthony)

5:00 pm

- + John & Luiza da Costa
- + Gloria Sousa Ferreira
- + Lloyd, Veronica & Yvonne Sudden
- Intentions of Eric Vaz

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

(ST. ANDREW)

8:00 am

- + John Sousa

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

5:00 pm

(followed by Miraculous Medal Novena)

- + Bernadette Stark

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 am (8:30 - 9:30 am adoration & recitation of Divine Mercy Novena)

- + Fernando & Manuel Moniz Martins

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

5:00 pm

- + Mario Resendes
- + David Borges & Antonio Vicente
- + José Mendonca & Maria Silva
- + Michael Pauze
- Intentions of the Vaz Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

9:00 am

- + Mario Simas

11:00 am - for the People - *pro populo*

“Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”

Psalm 122



If you are visiting today,

St. Patrick Parish welcomes you.

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 18** in order that a list of memorial and thank offerings may be included in the Christmas bulletin.



ADVENT STUDY SERIES

Please plan now to join us on four separate occasions during Advent as we present two pivoting Advent-themed talks. All talks will take place in the parish hall. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome!

Mary Ann Costa & Dawn Wylie

Thursday, December 1 from 10:30 - 11:30 am:

“Present to Presence”

Mary Ann Costa & Dawn Wylie

Tuesday, December 6 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm:

“Present to Presence (Take 2)”

Deacon Terry Osmar

Thursday, December 15 from 10:30 - 11:30 am:

“Shopping Through Advent”

Deacon Terry Osmar

Tuesday, December 20 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm:

“Shopping Through Advent (Take 2)”

SUNDAY MISSALS

2022 - 2023 Sunday Missals 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.

2023 Offering Envelopes

2023 offering envelopes will be available in the parish hall on the weekend of **December 10 & 11**. Please be sure to free up storage space and take your envelopes home with you as soon as possible.

OFFERTORY

NOVEMBER 20, 2022

Envelope Contributions	\$1,991.00
Loose Collection	\$ 384.60
EFT Donations	\$1,099.75
Total Collection – Thank you	\$3,475.35

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 3 & 4

	5:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Lectors	P. Cooper	J. Meagher	C. Terpstra
Communion	C. Cooper B. Raghubar	S. Braga A. Sousa	R. O'Brien B. O'Brien



SVDP CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will once again be inviting parishioners to take a SVDP Christmas offering tag/envelope from the Giving Tree in the church beginning this weekend **November 26 & 27**. Please note that SVDP **will not** be accepting “unwrapped” gifts this year. You are to return **gift cards or cash/cheque donations (only) with the tag attached** to the church by **Sunday, December 11**. With your continued support, many needy families in our parish district will be able to have a...

“Very Merry Christmas.”

WHAT IS ADVENT?

Beginning the Church’s liturgical year, Advent (from, “ad-venire” in Latin or “to come to”) is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of **preparation** that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus’ promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest will wear violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose is worn (GIRM, no. 316).

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the “O” Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well. Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season (USCCB).

*It is the beautiful task of Advent
to awaken in all of us memories of goodness
and thus to open doors of hope.*

~ Pope Benedict XVI

ESSENTIAL FREEDOM:

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The Ten Commandments contain a privileged expression of the natural law. They are made known to us by divine revelation and by human reason. To transgress one commandment is to infringe the whole law. The Ten Commandments, summarizing the conditions of a life freed from sin, are a description of the *minimum* that love requires. These commandments guide our relationships. The first three are about our relationship with God and the remaining seven commandments guide us in our relationships with others and with ourselves. The Ten Commandments are:

1. I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord’s day.
4. Honour your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbour’s goods.

(CCC # 2075 - 2082)

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.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday	Rev. Sam Restivo, C.R.
Tuesday	Rev. Brendan McGrath
Wednesday	Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ
Thursday	Most Rev. Wayne Lobsinger, V.G., E.V.
Friday	Rev. Romelito Guillen
Saturday	Rev. Grayson Hope

HEARING THE CALL TO A VOCATION TO SERVE THE CHURCH?

Contact Bishop Lobsinger at: gem@hamiltondiocese.com