

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, December 12

No Mass

Tuesday, December 13

7:00 p.m. Serafina Goulart

Wednesday, December 14

8:00 a.m. Intention of David Kreze and Family
Marty Ancio, Donald Valad
Nora and Melville Noonan

Thursday, December 15

8:00 a.m. Ludwig Michaelis

Friday, December 16

8:00 a.m. Stefan Koenig, Donald Valad
Mike Maloney, Ferdinand Polanic
Intention of Revered Louis Lussier

Saturday, December 17

5:00 p.m. Maria and Vincenzo Romano
Josephine Graci, Les Sokolowski
Marie and Waldeman Wagner
Deceased Members of the Kavanaugh and Martin Families

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 11

5:00 p.m. St. Paul Chung Mass

Tuesday, December 13

6:00 p.m. Reconciliation
7:30 p.m. Baptism Preparation

Wednesday, December 14

7:00 p.m. RCIA
7:00 p.m. Contemporary Choir

Thursday, December 15

8:45 to 11:00 a.m. Reconciliation
7:30 p.m. Sunday Choir

Friday, December 16

1:00 p.m. CWL Executive Meeting

Saturday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Cursillo
9:00 a.m. Reconciliation
9:00 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Toy Drive
2:30 p.m. Reconciliation

Sunday, December 18

Children's Liturgy at the 10:30 a.m. Mass
12:30 p.m. Baptisms
5:00 p.m. St. Paul Chung Mass followed by Social

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 10, 11, 2016

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Recently, a parishioner shared with me the story of Sophie, a 22-month-old baby born with Brachio-oto-renal Syndrome. This condition affects the growth of the kidneys during gestation, and has left her in need of 12 hours of dialysis each day. Sophie is gravely in need of a living kidney donor who is both compatible and willing to make this incredible gift of life. The process for living organ donation is a detailed one, but it begins with the completion of a package of forms prepared by the hospital. Anyone interested in exploring this matter in more detail is asked to contact me by phone or email so I can put you in touch with the relevant persons. Of course, we should all be keeping little Sophie and her family in our prayers.

On Friday, December 16th, the parish office will close at 12:00 noon for the remainder of the day to accommodate our staff Christmas party. The office will re-open at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 19th.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

This week we especially pray for:

Monday	Reverend Mariusz Durbajlo
Tuesday	Reverend Michael Downey
Wednesday	Benedictines
Thursday	Reverend Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.
Friday	Reverend Allen Varlaki
Saturday	Reverend Peter Ciallella, C.S.

Eternal Father, we lift up to you these and all the priests, religious and lay ministers of the world. Sanctify them. Heal them; guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Humble me, Lord Jesus, with knowledge that you came for us, even when we were in our sins. Amen.

Dr. Joel Heck

In the Incarnation, God the Son takes the body and human soul of Jesus, and through that, the whole environment of Nature, all the creaturely predicament, into his own being (*Letters to Malcolm, 96*).

The Bible clearly distinguishes between the Creator and the created. The problem is that the creature is constantly attempting to climb upward and displace the Creator, as Satan tried to do, even though the distance between God and us is too great. We need someone who will climb down to us since we can't climb up to him.

This distinction between the Creator and the created includes not only God and man, but also the uncreated God and the created nature. Lewis suggests a connection between those two pairs. In the Incarnation, God took on a created human body. In the creation at the beginning of time, God demonstrated his power as well as his love for beauty and variety and intricate complexity. We see evidence of God in both places. And in one sense, the person of Jesus, the human nature of Jesus, is part of the created world—separate and distinct, personal and powerful, but still part of the created world.

Since the fall of Adam and Eve, the created world has been the fallen world. That means that the most important evidence of God that we need is the incarnate Son who came to our “creaturely predicament.” Since we can't climb up to God, he came to us. Since our efforts were feeble and flawed, he who knew no sin came to us, came for us and died for us. Thank God that he didn't wait for us to approach him. If he had, he would still be waiting.



“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister,

contact Father Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email mking@hamiltondiocese.com

www.hamiltonvocations.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



The members of St. Vincent de Paul are thankful

for the many generous parishioners who have donated towards our Christmas Hampers. We at this time will be serving more families than in previous years and we are most grateful to those who took their envelopes home and will return them in the following weeks. Donations can continue by just putting your envelopes in with the normal collection and marked clearly “St. Vincent de Paul”. Thank you again for making this season a special time for these families.

THE JESSE TREE, ADVENT 2016

Third Week of Advent Symbols:



1. **Stone Altar**
2. **The Tongs**
3. **The Crown**
4. **Stalks of Grain**
5. **A Great Fish (whale)**
6. **A Watchtower**

An explanation of the symbols can be found by the Jesse Tree in the PLC foyer.



PEACE LIGHT

The Peace Light is a tradition that was started in Austria in approximately 1988. It is carried out by the boy scouts of Austria. Every year an Austrian child travels with a group to Bethlehem to the Church of the Nativity to enter the birthplace of Christ and gets the flame from there. The flame is then carried from Bethlehem on Austrian Airlines to Vienna. From there the flame is spread all across Europe, much like the Olympic torch is passed.

This year, through the assistance of local people, arrangements were made to have the flame flown to Ontario. We will be receiving this peace light and we will keep this candle lit until the feast of the Epiphany. Now, more than ever, let us pray for peace.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be a Children's Liturgy Program at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 18th. This program allows us to share the Liturgy of the Word with children in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2, at a level easier for them to understand. We are still looking for teachers and assistants to help us with this program. If you are interested, please contact Marta at 519-896-0449 or the parish office.



PLANNING AHEAD FOR AN EMERGENCY: PREPAREDNESS KIT

Put together a home preparedness kit *before* anyone gets sick. When you are sick, you won't want to go out and get groceries or health supplies. Here are some examples of *health and cleaning supplies* you may want to have in your home:

- Thermometer
- Hand soap
- Pain and fever medication (e.g. acetaminophen, for example Tylenol, or ibuprofen, for example, Advil)
- Supply of prescription medications
- Masks (optional)
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Cough suppressants, cough lozenges (not for children under 5 yrs.)
- Laundry detergent
- Garbage bags
- Household cleaning supplies
- Tissues, toilet tissue
- Feminine hygiene products, diapers and wipes.

For more information, go to www.fightflu.ca or call 1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232).

TAX RECEIPTS



Please note that all donations requiring tax receipts for 2016 must be received in the parish office **by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 30th.**

AN ADVENT THOUGHT

You are with us, Emmanuel.
You are with us as a human being,
as a newborn child,
weak and vulnerable,
wrapped in swaddling clothes
and lying in a crib
“because there was no place for them
at the inn.”



Could you ever have done any more than you did
to be our Emmanuel, God with us?

Saint John Paul II



NOVENA - INFANT JESUS

The Sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph will pray for you during the Novena to Infant Jesus, December 16th to December 25th. Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support? You can participate in the Novena to Infant Jesus. Send your prayer intention slip with your name and address to Carmel of Saint Joseph 1127 Carmel-Koch Road, R.R. #1 St. Agatha, ON N0B 2L0.

DURING ADVENT

In this third week of Advent, we are called to respond to the gifts and graces we received in our baptism. We ask, “Does my life today fulfill the expectations and responsibilities of bearing the name of Christian?” What are we doing for the hungry, the oppressed, the sick, the lonely? Do we truly care about the needs of others? Do we accomplish cheerfully all that is expected of us in the work place or the classroom?

Prepare

Prayer

Almighty and loving God, Your Son has taught us the way to live as your children. We were blessed in our baptism with special gifts and graces, and still there are times when we find it hard to be all that we should be. We ask for an increased awareness of the needs of others and for the courage to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. Please, God, help us to live in Your grace so that all who know us will know You and Your love. Amen.