

2nd Sunday of Advent – December 8, 2019

Saturday, Dec. 7	5:00 pm	St. Carthagh's	Terry Meeks
Sunday, Dec. 8 (2 nd Sunday of Advent – Year A)	9:00 am 11:00 am	St. Edmund's St. Carthagh's	Members of the Parish Norman Champagne
Monday, Dec. 9 (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception)	9:00 am 7:30 pm	St. Carthagh's St. Mary's Cathedral	No Intention Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Tuesday, Dec. 10	9:00 am	St. Carthagh's	Mary Ellen Keane
Wednesday, Dec. 11	10:30 am	Moirra Place	No Intention
Thursday, Dec. 12	9:00 am	St. Carthagh's	No Intention
Friday, Dec. 13	9:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	St. Carthagh's St. Carthagh's St. Carthagh's	School Mass Penitential Service Individual Confessions
Saturday, Dec. 14	5:00 pm	St. Carthagh's	Ray Rivers
Sunday, Dec. 15 (3 rd Sunday of Advent – Year A)	9:00 am 11:00 am	St. Edmund's St. Carthagh's	Jacob & Margaret Kvas Members of the Parish

Please Remember in Your Prayers: All those who are sick, including: F. Boomhour, Paul Hulsman, Neive Alderson, Norene Ruffilli, Amanda Lake, Ginger Kehoe, Margaret Dupuis-Ives, Leonard Kehoe, Terry Horrigan, Elinor McKenzie, Catherine Liggon, Debbie LaCroix, Presley Noble, Rob Montgomery, Germaine Wannamaker, Margaret-Rose Wood, Jack Tweedy, Janice Tracey, Michelle Fobert, Mary Stafford Cassidy, Ben Paul, Sharon Butler, Irene Newman, and Pat Kirkey.

Please let us know at the office if you would like to add to or remove a name from the list of the sick.

Offertory Collections:

St. Carthagh's	Nov. 30 & Dec. 1	Regular Sunday	\$2,870
St. Edmund's	December 1	Regular Sunday	\$714

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING TO OUR CHURCHES

	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION</u>	<u>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</u>
St. Carthagh's	W = WELCOME		
Saturday, Dec. 14	W – Karen LaVallée Arthur Allore	Sheila Toner, Joan McTaggart, Arthur Allore	
Sunday, Dec. 15	W – Dan Dafoe Olivia Dafoe	Sheila Scott, Dan Dafoe, Shirley Kehoe, Don Kirkey	Marian Dolan
St. Edmund's	LECTORS	USHERS	
Sunday, Dec. 15	Bill Nash Donna Broek	Vince Cassidy Jerry Cassidy	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

There will be Bible Study on Tuesday, December 10 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

On Dec. 15 we shall have the visit of Mr. David DeSantis, Director of Education for the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board. Following the **9:00 am** Mass at Stoco and the **11:00 am** Mass at Tweed he will briefly address the congregation.

Christmas Flower Donations for St. Carthagh & St. Edmund's Churches: St. Carthagh's CWL members will be at the back of St. Carthagh's Church following Mass on Dec. 8th, and St. Edmund's CWL members will be at the back of St. Edmund's Church on Dec. 15th to receive your kind donations for Christmas Flower decorations. Any personal donations of a Christmas floral is certainly welcome as well. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The following clergy appointment has been announced: Rev. George Okoye SMMM is appointed Administrator of the parish of St. Gregory the Great in Picton.

As we look forward to our community Advent Confessions, Dec. 12 for the school and **Dec. 13** for the parish, in the Gospel of this weekend, John the Baptist already pre-empts us with his eloquent call to conversion: "Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matthew 3:3). Clear, simple and direct message. How did people respond to his call to conversion to Christ? First, the ordinary people took his message to heart and repented. They confessed their sins and asked to be baptized.

The Pharisees and Sadducees also accepted John's call in theory to prepare themselves for the Kingdom but in practice were unwilling to change their lives. This led John to castigate them in strong language: "Brood of vipers."

As we allow the Holy Spirit to search our hearts in readiness for the Sacrament of reconciliation this week, we have the good example of the ordinary people: "The people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him (John the Baptist), and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins." In other words, the people turned out in their numbers and they came from nearly every sector. As a community, they perceived John as God's offer of grace, love, reconciliation and peace. The favourable response of the people to John's call to repentance should inspire us to give attention to the importance of Advent confession in our preparation for Christmas. Further, we need to be cautious of the attitude of the Pharisees and Sadducees who neglected to translate repentance into behaviour, relationship and character. Repentance, it must be stressed has to be reflected in our lifestyle. The portrait of the simplicity and modesty of John the Baptist, burning with zeal to prepare the hearts of people for the Lord shows more clearly the connection between repentance and lifestyle.

Years ago, a man was shocked to read his own obituary in the morning paper. His death was mistakenly reported! What shocked him most was how the obituary described him as someone who devoted his life to making weapons of war. That morning he resolved to turn his energies in a new direction; working for world peace and human betterment. That man was **Alfred Nobel**, founder of the Nobel Peace Prize. This weekend, John's warning to turn from our sins, and Nobel's decision to turn his energies in a new direction challenge us to reflect and reassess our personal goals in life.

Advent Confessions Schedule:

School: Thursday, **Dec. 12**, at 9:45 am (At the school)

Parish: Friday, **Dec. 13**, starting at 6:30 pm (Penitential Service) followed by individual confessions at 7:00pm. There will be 3 priests.

Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program: Adopt-A-Family information is now available on the table at the entrance of the church. Due to the renovations at the old Salvation Army Church and lack of space available, they have decided to provide PC gift cards in lieu of food donations this year. Please sign up to donate a clothing/gift item or leave a monetary donation toward a gift card. Please remember to take the corresponding tag and return it with your donated gift. Also, we are requested NOT to wrap the children's gifts. Please have your donations delivered to the church on or before **Sunday, December 15th**. Thank you once again for your generosity.

St. Carthagh's & St. Edmund's Collection Envelopes for 2020 are available at the back of our churches. Please pick up your box. If you did not get a box of envelopes and would like one, please contact the church office.

Tweed Community Dinner: Be our guest on **Tues., Dec. 17**, 5 – 6 pm at the White Building. This is a 'pay what you can' dinner, with this month's receipts going to pay for next month's dinner. December's main course is Chicken Pot Pie, prepared by the Anglican Church team. Reserve your place by calling Lynda at [613-478-3181](tel:613-478-3181), leaving your name, phone #, and the number attending. Cut-off date for **reservations is Dec. 10**, or 100 reservations, whichever comes first. These dinners are sponsored by the Tweed Area Churches and THAS.

Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

<i>Dec. 24</i>	St. Carthagh's	5:00 pm
<i>Dec. 24</i>	<i>St. Edmund's</i>	7:30 pm
<i>Dec. 25</i>	St. Carthagh's	10:00 am
<i>Dec. 31</i>	<i>St. Edmund's</i>	5:00 pm
<i>Jan. 1</i>	St. Carthagh's	10:00 am

