

St. Joseph's Catholic Church



392 Palace Road, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4T3 Tel. 613-547-5004
Email: stjoseph.kingston@archkingston.ca Parish Website: www.stjosephskingston.ca
Rev. Cosmas Ajawara, Pastor ~ Mr. Robert Wojcik, Deacon ~ In Residence: Rev. Charles Ogbuagu

Mission Statement

Grounded in the gospel of Jesus Christ through liturgy, Eucharistic worship and outreach, St. Joseph's Parish calls the faithful to an active involvement in parish life and responsible participation in extending Christ – like values to the wider community.

Liturgy Schedule

Weekend

Saturday: 5:15 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Weekday

Monday 5:15 p.m.
Tuesday 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m.
Friday 5:15 p.m.

Holy Hour and Divine Mercy Prayers

Monday and Friday 4:00 p.m.

Sacraments

Baptism

Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. Mass – Registration required, please contact the Parish.

Confession

Monday, Friday & Saturday 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Marriage

Six months' notice is required, as well as a Marriage Preparation Course. Please contact the Parish.

Anointing

Please contact the Parish.

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (closed 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)

Parish Organizations

Parish Finance Committee
Parish Pastoral Council
Catholic Women's League

Knights of Columbus, 11670
Lectors
Eucharistic Ministers
Ministry to Sick & Homebound

Ministry to Seniors (Cards)
Ministry at Extendingcare
Ushers
Sacristans
Culture of Life
Social Justice & Outreach
Funeral Choir
Junior Liturgy
Sacramental Preparation
Altar Servers
Youth Group
Music Ministry

Rev. Cosmas Ajawara
Sandra Fragoso
Kathi Colwell & Susan
Conway Williamson
Patrick Greenwood
Carol Kavanaugh
Carol Kavanaugh
Chris Jones & Monna
Splinter
Judy Saunders
Mary Clancy
Ian Stewart
Fran Price
Ben Krasna
Stephen Ottenhof
Dorothy Stanley
Sandra Fragoso
Alison Bogle
Deacon Robert Wojcik

Shirley Kelliher,
Theresa Whalen-Witjes

Parish Schools

St. Thomas More Catholic School
Sandra Fragoso, Principal
234 Norman Rogers Dr., Kingston, ON K7M 2R4
613-542-1575
St. Paul's Catholic School
Louise Trudeau, Principal
266 McMahon Ave., Kingston, ON K7M 3H2
613-542-6101

Second Sunday of Advent - December 10, 2023

Introduction

Every year on the second Sunday of Advent, the Church asks us to ponder the words and deeds of St. John the Baptist. John reminds us of the need to prepare for the coming of Christ with self-reflection and repentance.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

We hear a call to "prepare a way for the Lord".

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter suggests there will be a new creation "where righteousness will be at home".

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist baptizes in water, anticipating the coming of the Messiah, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.

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PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

You are asked to remember in prayer those recently deceased.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Please remember in your prayers the following: Marcus Hacault; Brenda Camp; Joanne Senlon; Donna and Joe V.; Sheila Allard; Mary Jackson.

If there are members of your family or friends who are ill or recently died, and for whom you wish prayers, please contact Susan at the parish office at 613-547-5004.

Father Cosmas' Reflection

Preparing our hearts to receive the Savior

Today, through Luke's Gospel, we're reminded of John the Baptist's pivotal role in preparing the path for the arrival of Jesus Christ. John, echoing the words of Isaiah, calls for a leveling of the uneven ground, making rough ways smooth. He speaks not only of physical landscapes but also of our hearts and souls.

The message is clear: Prepare for the Lord's coming. Just as a road needs preparation before a journey, our hearts need preparation to receive the Savior. Let's reflect on the obstacles within us—our doubts, fears, and distractions—and work to clear them away. Let's strive to make room for the profound message of love, hope, and salvation that Jesus brings.

John's call to repentance isn't merely about guilt but about transformation. It's an invitation to turn away from anything that separates us from God and others, and to embrace a life of genuine love, compassion, and righteousness.

As we prepare for the Advent season, may we heed John's call to prepare our hearts, making them ready to receive the transformative love of Christ. Let's embrace this time as an opportunity for reflection, renewal, and readiness, so that when Christ comes, we may greet Him with open hearts, minds, and spirits.

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, 11 December

5:15 p.m. Special Intention – Yeshe Redda

Tuesday, 12 December

9:00 a.m. Mariette Choquette – The Choquette Family

Wednesday, 13 December

9:00 a.m. Grace Neddow – Dorothy Mulrooney

10:30 a.m. Mass at Extendicare

Thursday, 14 December

9:00 a.m. Lorriane Woods – Mary Clancy & Family

Friday, 15 December

10:30 a.m. School Mass

5:15 p.m. Sam Cadamuro – Rika Blacksee

Saturday, 16 December

5:15 p.m. Elisa Giacomello (1st Anniversary) – The Family

Sunday, 17 December

9:00 a.m. Genevieve Vidal – Rose Griffin

11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

To join our online Mass each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. visit www.stjosephskingston.ca.

OUR PARISH

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BASKETS COLLECTION Each year, St. Joseph's provides for over fifty individuals and families in need with a Christmas hamper. If you are in a position to assist those who require extra help, please consider helping with this worthy cause. **Next weekend, December 16-17** we will be collecting food for our hamper campaign. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please mark on an envelope 'Food Basket', include your name and envelope number. This will enable the parish to continue to help others in the spirit of this season. Thank you for your continued generosity. With the elimination of single use plastic bags, we have limited bags available for our Food collection. If you have bags at home please consider using them to support our food drive.

PENANCE CELEBRATION The Advent Penance Celebration for St. Joseph's will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. Following a brief liturgy, all will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A number of visiting clergy will be present for this celebration. All are welcome to attend.

NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY MASS This Sunday, December 10th, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. join us as the Nigerian Catholic Community from around the Archdiocese gather to celebrate Advent with a Mass at St. Joseph's Church. Potluck to follow in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

BUILDING FUND The monthly collection of the Building Fund will take place this weekend, 9-10 December 2023. Your support continues to make a difference. Thank you.

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ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday, 24 December – 5:15 p.m. (Children's Mass)

Sunday, 24 December – 8:00 p.m.

Monday, 25 December – 9:00 a.m.

Monday, 25 December – 11:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT – We are in need of a few more children to help with this year's pageant. If your child is age 4 or older, and would like to participate in this year's Nativity pageant at the 5:15 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass, contact the Parish Office. Practices on December 10 and December 17 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. The pageant is narrated, and therefore the children do not have speaking roles; so even the shiest can participate. Older students are encouraged to take part, as we always need reader for the Narrator, Lector and Prayer of the Faithful. All are welcome!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We are looking for volunteers to help with the following important ministries in our Parish: Flocknote Parish Newsletter Editor; Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator; Adult Faith Formation Coordinator; Baptismal Preparation Team. If you are interested and would like to help with one of these ministries, please speak with Father Cosmas.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT You are invited to an afternoon of Christmas music, featuring the local talent of Chris Murphy, Jon McLurg, Noah St. Amand (of the band, Turpin's Trail) and Jess Wedden in the Church on **Thursday, December 14, 2023**, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Enjoy two hours of music and fellowship. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall; a free-will offering would be gratefully appreciated, proceeds will be for Dawn House. A great way to get in the Christmas spirit! If you are not able to join us in person, our concert will be streamed, visit our website or YouTube page.

2024 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES are available at the main entrance. Please pick up your package before or after Mass. Once the New Year arrives, please do not use the previous year's envelopes as the number may be different. Thank you.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Our Christmas Potluck and Appreciation Dinner was a great success last Monday night. Great food, good conversation and fun had by all. During our evening our newly framed Charter, including a list of our original founders of our CWL at St. Joseph's was unveiled. This will be hanging in the parish hall in the New Year, make sure you stop by and take a look at this wonderful piece of our history.

UPDATE on our donation to the 'Feed the People' program for the Integrated Care HUB. Our donation will be providing a Christmas Eve Lunch with gift bags this month. We have also been invited to participate by volunteering in a number of different ways. To find out how you can help, please contact Michelle Schwarz at 613-770-6333 or email by email at SPC@kingston.net or contact Alice Gazeley at 613-544-0485 or email alicegazeley1@gmail.com.

FATHER COSMAS AJAWARA'S VACATION Father Cosmas will be away from December 26, 2023 to January 26, 2024. He will be going home to celebrate his parents 60th Wedding Anniversary. Please keep Father and his family in your prayers.

2023 LENTEN COLLECTION DISTRIBUTION Visit St. Joseph's website for a letter from the Archbishop regarding this year's distribution of the Lenten Collection in our community.

2023 DONATIONS St. Joseph's Parish Year-End occurs on 31 December; therefore, we ask that all 2023 donations to the parish be received by the parish office by 31 December 2023. Donations received after this date will be recorded in 2024. If you wish to have a donation appear on your 2023 Tax Receipt, please ensure that the office has received it prior to 1 January. All extra envelope donations that need to be forwarded to various organizations need to be in prior to December 15th as they need to be remitted to the Archdiocese by that date. Thank you.

EVENINGS OF RECOLLECTION to discover God more fully in ordinary life. Newcomers welcome.

FOR WOMEN: Tues. Dec. 19 from 7-9 pm at St. Joseph's Church
FOR MEN: Wed. Dec. 20 from 7-9pm at St. James Chapel by the Cathedral.

Come be inspired by the spirit of St. Josemaria, founder of Opus Dei (opusdei.ca).

OUR COMMUNITY

VERONICA'S VEIL OVERNIGHT SHELTER: Men, your help is needed. In order for The Veil to open for the winter we need men to sign up. Without the volunteers signed up for our December opening, the difficult decision was made to postpone the opening of Veronica's Veil until January. Volunteers are needed! Shifts run 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., 12:30 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. seven days a week. Training will be provided. Please contact Ann Lyng at veronicasveil@stmaryscathedral.ca to sign up or for more information.

MONTHLY MEETING FOR SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER First Thursday of the month 7:00 pm; Next meeting December 7) St. John the Apostle Parish Hall (88 Patrick Street, Kingston, ON) The Secular Franciscan Order (OFS) is a branch of the worldwide Franciscan Family. We are single and married women and men. We work, worship, and play in the community where we live. Everyone is invited to join us to share Franciscan spirituality. Usually, we gather on the first Thursday of the month. For more information, please call JC Trottier at 613-531-2708 or Friar Ed at (613)546-6900 ext. 204.

NEXT WEEK – 16 – 17 December, 2023

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 16 Dec. 5:15 p.m.	S. Ottenhof C. Jones	J. Saunders D. Lomboy
Sunday 17 Dec. 9:00 a.m.	M. Addai J. Watts	S. Balemba D. Balemba
Sunday 17 Dec. 11:00a.m.	T. Asuncion S. Broekhoven	K. Colwell P. Rosales
Junior Liturgy: K. Canning		

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