

St. Joseph's Catholic Church



Third Sunday of Advent

*"For as the earth sends up its shoots
and a garden makes seed sprout, so the
Lord makes saving justice and praise
spring up in the sight of all nations."*

December 17, 2023

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 Extencicare
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
Dorathy 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

Third Sunday of Advent - December 17, 2023

Introduction

Today's readings tell us that God's saving power reveals itself as naturally and as inevitably as the changing of the seasons. It unfolds through the faith of human beings who put their whole trust in God's will to redeem us..

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

This radiant song of praise reminds us that our experience of human love is a foretaste of the joy promised to those who open their hearts to God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

We are reminded that we can trust God to be alive and active in our world and in our lives, come what may.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

The story of John the Baptist reminds us that we also are called to give witness to Jesus and prepare a way for him wherever we are.

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PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

You are asked to remember in prayer those recently deceased especially Sr. Norma Millan, CND.

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; Raymond Doyle.

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

Rejoice in the Lord

During the third week of Advent, the theme often revolves around joy. As we approach the celebration of Christ's birth, the anticipation of joy intensifies. The pink candle on the Advent wreath symbolizes this joy.

This season calls us to rejoice in the midst of waiting. The readings prompt us to find joy in the promise of salvation and in the hope that Jesus brings. It's a time to reflect on how we can embody joy in our lives, even amidst challenges and uncertainties.

In today's Gospel (John 1:6-8,19-28), John's humility in recognizing his subordinate role to the divine purpose can teach us about humility and the importance of preparing the way for greater things. His example prompts us to reflect on our own roles in paving the path for goodness and grace in the world.

Just as John the Baptist pointed to the coming of Christ, we are reminded to be heralds of joy in the world, spreading hope and encouragement to those around us. Let's use this time to cultivate a spirit of joy, not just for ourselves but to share it generously, brightening the lives of others and preparing our hearts for the arrival of the Savior.

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, 18 December

5:15 p.m. Sam Cadamuro – Shawn Hopkins

Tuesday, 19 December

9:00 a.m. Eileen Garrah – Frank Forstell

Wednesday, 20 December

9:00 a.m. Grace Neddow – Tom & Mary Miller

Thursday, 21 December

9:00 a.m. Patrick McKeown – Niki & Mark Brant

Friday, 22 December

5:15 p.m. Nigel Bogle – Alison Bogle

Saturday, 23 December

5:15 p.m. Rhonda Nontell – Kate & Jim Hamilton

Sunday, 24 December

9:00 a.m. Audrey Lacey – Estate

11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Christmas Eve Masses

5:15 p.m. Ken Stewart – Kay Stewart

8:00 p.m. Joseph Sammon – The Family

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. **This 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.

PENANCE CELEBRATION The Advent Penance Celebration for St. Joseph's will be held **this 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.

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL! Round-out your celebrations of the Christmas season by singing your favourite sacred carols! Enjoy an **Epiphany Christmas Carol-Sing** led by the Trinitas Singers and Youth Singers under the direction of Jeffrey Moellman. **Saturday, January 6, 2:00-3:30pm, St. Joseph Catholic Church, 392 Palace Road, Kingston.** Monetary and non-perishable/canned food donations will be collected in support of a local charitable organization, and **a festive reception will follow.** www.stjosephskingston.ca, 613.547.5004

JUNIOR LITURGY will not be held on December 24 & 31, and January 7. Junior Liturgy will resume on Sunday, January 14, 2024.

This week's bulletin is sponsored by:
Support our local businesses.



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.

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.

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.

2024 CALENDARS Our church calendars sponsored by Gordon Tompkins Funeral Home are available at the entrances this weekend. This year there is a limited supply, please only take one.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE wishes to thank all who made and donated crafts and backed goods, all who set-up and cleaned up the Hall. And to all parishioners who helped make our event successful. The next General Meeting will take place January 8 at 7:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national organization rooted in Gospel values, calling its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. The Annual Membership Drive will take place January 6-7 and January 13 & 14 here at St. Joseph's. CWL members will be at each of the church entrances. New members, women from age 16 and up, are always welcome! St. Joseph's Parish is very fortunate to have such an active and vibrant Catholic Women's League serving our parish community.

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.

MASS SCHEDULE IN JANUARY On January 10, 17, 18, 24, 25 the time of Mass for these days will be at 4:00 p.m. instead of 9:00 a.m.

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN JOURNEY NEWSLETTER The December issue is now available online. To view this issue visit <https://romancatholic.kingston.on.ca/journey>.

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.

NEXT WEEK – 23 to 25 December, 2023

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers
Saturday 23 Dec. 5:15 p.m.	B. McIver R. McLaren	J. Kane D. Lomboy L. Bickerstaffe	I. Stewart D. Mazzolin R. Lachance S. Harrigan
Sunday 24 Dec. 9:00 a.m.	C. Purcell A. MacKinnon	P. Croxford M. Tudin	I. Stewart F. Cuvelier R. Audet S. Eves
Sunday 24 Dec. 11:00a.m.	L. Carfa B. McIver	C. Kavanaugh M-A. Wojcik	B. Krasna J. Ferreira L. Garrett F. Levesque
Sunday 24 Dec. 5:15 p.m.	Children of our Parish	F. Levesque J. Kane	R. Lachance
Sunday 24 Dec. 8:00 p.m.	C. Jones M. MacVicar	T. Donoghue M-A. Wojcik	S. Harrigan D. Mazzolin
Monday 25 Dec. 9:00 a.m.	P. Croxford M. Tudin	A. MacKinnon M. Marcial	
Monday 25 Dec. 11:00 a.m.	B. McIver R. McLaren	M-A. Wojcik L. Carfa	L. Garrett J. Ferreira

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