

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*"The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will
cover you with its shadow. And so, the
child born of you will be holy and will
be called Son of God."*

December 24, 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 ~ Rev. 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
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

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 24, 2023

Introduction

Today the weeks and months of preparing for Christmas are almost over, Christmas Day is just around the corner. Another 24 hours and our Christmas celebrations will be under way. But it's still not too late to capture the true spirit of the feast. Who better to guide us in our quest than Mary, who is at the very heart of the Christmas story?

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16

Although Samuel is a "big man" in his day, he's also sensitive enough to see that it isn't right for him to be dwelling in a spacious house while God dwells "in a tent", and he is determined to do something about it.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Paul rejoices in Jesus, whose strength enables us to live out the Good News so that, reaching to the ends of the earth, it draws all people to become Jesus' disciples. Glory is to be given to the Father through Jesus Christ forever.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Luke retells the glorious story of the incarnation. Through Mary's unconditional acceptance of the angel's message, Jesus has come into our world as one of us and is like us in all things, apart from sin.

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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.; 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.

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, 25 December

9:00 a.m. People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Tuesday, 26 December

9:00 a.m. Kevin Mulrooney – Joe Corrigan

Wednesday, 27 December

9:00 a.m. Sam Cadamuro – Shawn Hopkins

Thursday, 28 December

9:00 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving for Amado Marcial – Marietta Marcial

Friday, 29 December

5:15 p.m. Bill Bruder (7th Anniversary) – Karen Bruder

Saturday, 30 December

5:15 p.m. Herminio Medeiros – Lisetta Medeiros

Sunday, 31 December

9:00 a.m. Anne Garrett – Leon Garrett

11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

5:15 p.m.

Antonio Agostinelli – Maria Agostinelli

Sunday, December 31 at 11:00 a.m. will be live streamed.

Father Cosmas' Reflection

Journeying towards Christmas with Unwavering Faith

The fourth week of Advent in Year B provides a beautiful opportunity for reflection on the culmination of anticipation and hope. It's a time to ponder the immense love encapsulated in the imminent arrival of Jesus Christ, the embodiment of God's love for humanity.

Reflecting on the journey of Mary and Joseph, one can draw inspiration from their unwavering faith and obedience to their divine calling. Their humble circumstances reveal the unexpected ways in which God's love manifests itself in our lives.

This week invites us to consider how we prepare for Christ's coming not just in celebration but in our hearts. It's a reminder to nurture the spirit of love, compassion, and kindness within ourselves, extending these virtues to others as we await the birth of the Savior.

As we conclude this Advent journey and stand on the brink of Christmas, may we embrace the love that Christ brings, carrying it forward into our interactions, our communities, and the world around us.

OUR PARISH

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BASKETS COLLECTION Each year, St. Joseph's provides for over fifty individuals and families in need with a Christmas hamper. I would like to express my gratitude to the many volunteers who contribute to the success of this program for those in need. Thank you to the parishioners who continue to amaze me with your generosity.

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.

This week's bulletin is sponsored by:



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

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 Day at 9:00 a.m. Mass will be live streamed.

NEW YEARS MASSES

Sunday, December 31 – 5:15 p.m.

Monday, January 1 – 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

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.

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.

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

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 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.

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 have been remitted to the Archdiocese to be forwarded to the various organizations.

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY Sign-up sheets are at each entrance. Booklets outlining the 7-day Preparation for Family Consecration will be available after masses on December 30/31st (Feast of the Holy Family) for those who have registered. For more information contact the parish office.

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

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers
Saturday 30 Dec. 5:15 p.m.	B. McIver	G. Concalves	I. Stewart D. Mazzolin R. Lachance S. Harrigan
Sunday 31 Dec. 9:00 a.m.	M. Marcial P. Croxford	A. MacKinnon L. Bickerstaffe	I. Stewart F. Cuvelier R. Audet S. Eves
Sunday 31 Dec. 11:00a.m.	R. McLaren M. MacVicar	C. Kavanaugh P. Rosales	B. Krasna J. Ferreira L. Garrett I. MacKenzie
Sunday 31 Dec. 5:15 p.m.	S. Ottenhof C. Jones	F. Levesque J. Kane	I. Stewart R. Lachance S. Harrigan
Monday	D. Balemba	G. Concalves	I. Stewart

1 Jan. 9:00 a.m.	S. Balemba		
Monday 1 Jan.	R. McLaren B. McIver	L. Carfa C. Kavanaugh	I. Stewart L. Garrett

11:00 a.m.			
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