

St. Joseph's Catholic Church



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

"She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people."

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 noon – 1:00 p.m.)
Susan Lett, Parish Secretary

Parish Organizations

Catholic Women's League

Kathi Colwell & Susan
Conway Williamson
Patrick Greenwood

Knights of Columbus, 11670

Parish Ministries

Finance Committee

Rev. Cosmas Ajawara

Parish Pastoral Council

Ben Krasna

Lectors

Carol Kavanaugh

Eucharistic Ministers

Carol Kavanaugh

Ministry to Sick & Homebound

Chris Jones & Monna

Splinter

Ministry to Seniors (Cards)

Judy Saunders

Ministry at Extending Care

Mary Clancy

Ushers

Ian Stewart

Sacristans

Fran Price

Culture of Life

Ben Krasna

Parish Engagement

Mary Clancy

Funeral Choir

Shirley Kelliher

Junior Liturgy

Kelly Canning

Sacramental Preparation

Altar Servers

Kelly Canning

Music Ministry

Theresa Whalen-Witjes

Youth Choir

Sheila Fowler

Parish Schools

St. Thomas More Catholic School - Sandra Fragosso, Principal
234 Norman Rogers Dr., Kingston, ON K7M 2R4
613-542-1575

St. Paul's Catholic School - Chantal Courneyea, Principal
266 McMahon Ave., Kingston, ON K7M 3H2
613-542-6101

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent **December 21, 2025**

Introduction

We gather today to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ at Christmas, giving thanks for all that we have received, and committing ourselves to pass on the gospel message to all we meet.

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

The birth of Jesus is prophesied in Old Testament: a child will be born to a young woman, and he will be called Emmanuel.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul tells us that Jesus is both a son of David and a Son of God. He is God incarnate, God made man..

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

Joseph decides to take Mary home as his wife and the angel tells him that Mary will give birth to a son through the action of the Holy Spirit, and he will be called Emmanuel – “God is with us”.

Copyright Liguori Publications Ligouri.org – Used with permission, all rights reserved.

MASSSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, 22 December

5:15 p.m. Trinity McDonald – Lenna Sonneveld

Tuesday, 23 December

9:00 a.m. Amado Marcial – Georia Correa & Family

Wednesday, 24 December

5:15 p.m. Ken Stewart – Kay Stewart

8:00 p.m. Joseph Sammon – The Family

Thursday, 25 December

9:00 a.m. People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Friday, 26 December

5:15 p.m. Anne Garrett – Leon Garrett

Saturday, 27 December

5:15 p.m. Teresinha, Antonio & Herminio Medeiros –
Lisetta Medeiros

Sunday, 28 December

9:00 a.m. Amado Marcial – Marietta Marcial

11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

Join our online Mass Sunday at 11:00 a.m. visit
www.stjosephskingston.ca.

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: Donna V.; Rob Hearst; Barbara Anne Caron; Doreen Saunders; Brian Begbie; Richard Devette; Kent Hawley; Bruce Johnson; Joan Bryan; Margaret Kennedy; Carol McKeown; Ecarterina Sandu; Gregory Holmes; Mel Kane; Dee Morey; Dee Simpson; Carol White; Olivo Sivilotti.

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.

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve 5:15 p.m. Children's Mass with the Pageant

Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m. Mass

Christmas Day 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve 5:15 p.m. Mass

New Year's Day 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Mass

Fr. Cosmas Reflection

God is with Us

Advent is almost over. The road has narrowed, the waiting has deepened, and today the Church places before us not a manger, not angels, not shepherds—but a man standing quietly at the edge of a mystery too big for words. His name is Joseph.

Joseph is not the center of attention, yet the entire story could collapse without him. He stands between promise and scandal, between God's plan and human misunderstanding. He is engaged to Mary, and suddenly everything changes. She is with child, and the child is not his. No explanation could make this easy. No theology could remove the ache. Joseph is righteous, Scripture tells us—not rigid, not loud, not cruel, but righteous. And righteousness, in this case, looks like compassion. He chooses not to expose Mary to shame. He chooses mercy over self-justification. He chooses silence over spectacle.

Joseph teaches us that faith is not always about understanding. Sometimes faith is simply deciding not to walk away when things no longer make sense.

How many of us are standing where Joseph stood—caught between what we planned and what is happening? How many are quietly wrestling with disappointment, unanswered questions, or a future that feels unclear? Advent does not promise clarity. It promises presence. Emmanuel. God with us—not after everything is resolved, but right in the middle of it.

As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, Joseph invites us to make room—not just in our homes, but in our hearts. Room for a God who comes quietly. Room for a plan that may not match ours. Room for grace that enters through obedience.

Advent ends with a man who says yes without speaking, and a God who comes close without forcing his way in. This is how salvation begins. This is how Emmanuel still comes.

May we, like Joseph, not be afraid to welcome God into the unexpected places of our lives.

2026 – OUR PARISH YEAR OF THE FAMILY It is with great joy that the Pastoral Council of our parish has declared the upcoming year as the *Parish Year of the Family*. This decision flows from our shared desire to deepen our life as a parish community and to strengthen the family as the heart of the Church and of society. The family as the Domestic Church is a response to the Church's synodal journey. As the Synod on Synodality reminds us, the Church grows stronger when faith is lived relationally, accompanied with care and rooted in real life. When families live their faith at home, the parish becomes more alive, more welcoming, and more missionary. We will invite God into our homes and cultivate families as a miniature domestic church, using the Knights of Columbus “Family Fully Alive” program with monthly themes, scripture Readings, and other parish activities, as our guide. Copies of the Family Fully Alive booklet will be available after Mass next weekend. Also a small booklet containing the Year of the Family program and Activities will be made available to us.

FATHER COSMAS will be away visiting family in Nigeria from December 30, 2025 to January 29, 2026.

This week's bulletin is
sponsored by:





St. Joseph's Parish Jubilee Year 2025

December – Month of the Family

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY. The parish Year of the Family will commence with the consecration of our families on the weekend of December 27/28, 2025 (The Feast of the Holy Family)

As we joyfully enter this special year, we are reminded that the parish is not just a place we attend but a family to which we belong. Rooted in the love of Christ and nourished by the Eucharist, our parish is called to be a home where every person is known, welcomed, and loved.

2025 DONATIONS St. Joseph's Parish Year-End occurs on 31 December; therefore, we ask that all 2025 donations be forwarded to the parish office by 31 December 2025. Donations received after this date will need to be recorded in 2026. If you wish to have a donation appear on your 2025 Tax Receipt, please ensure that the office has received it prior to 1 January. All special collections for 2025 have been forwarded to the Archdiocese for distribution to the various charities.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS As we approach the miracle and wonder of Jesus' birth on Christmas Day, we want to say thank you to our CWL membership and parishioners for supporting so many of our initiatives over the 2025 year. Your kindness and generosity has enabled us to donate to a number of our local organizations during this season of giving and receiving. We know that our gifts will help the following organizations continue to let their light shine in our communities: Feed the People; St. Vincent de Paul Society of Kingston; St. Mary's Drop-in Centre(St. Mary's Cathedral); Partners in Mission Food Bank; Almost Home; Interval House; Birthright; AB Smith Homestead House Hospice. • Our 2026 CWL Membership Drive will occur on the weekends of January 3/4 and 10/26, 2026. Please join us again to help continue our focus on Faith, Service and Social Ecological Justice, in our Parish and local communities and charities. • May your blessings, be plentiful, as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with the birth of our Saviour.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPE PACKAGES for 2026 will be available for pickup at the main entrance of the church this weekend. If you notice that your address is wrong or you are missing your package, please fill out your information on the sheet beside the packages.

OPTIONS FOR DONATING TO ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

We have enlisted the help of a donation platform called Pllenty to help us make it easier for parishioners and visitors to donate whether it is for Sunday Offertory or to our Gather & Grow Parish Hall campaign. It is as easy as scanning the QR code or visiting a website to donate. There are small flyers at the entrances with the QR code or to take home and learn more about how it works. If you have any questions, call the Parish office during office hours for help

COMMUNITY

GENTLEMEN, WE NEED YOUR HELP! Veronica's Veil Overnight Winter Shelter for Homeless Men is preparing to open for the season —but we cannot do it without more volunteers. Coverage needed: **January 1st – April 30th**. Could you give just four hours once a week? Shifts: **8 pm–12 am, 12 am–4 am, 4 am–8 am**. There is a list of shift we are looking for coverage posted at the main entrance bulletin board. If you are willing to volunteer or would like more information, please contact Ann Lyng at veronicasveil@stmarys.ca.

RETROUVAILLE: A LIFELINE FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGE

This program is designed to support marriages in crisis and can be of assistance to couples who have separated, but are willing to work on their relationship to help repair the difficulties that exist. Further information can be found on the main entrance bulletin board.

Upcoming in-person weekends:

- Toronto Community - English weekend **Jan 30 to Feb 1 2026** (Mississauga)
- Hamilton Community - English weekend **Mar 13 to Mar 15 2026** (Niagara Falls)
- Toronto Community - Spanish weekend **Mar 20 to Mar 22 2026** (Mississauga)

Schedule for the weekends of December 24-25, 2025

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers	Music
Wed. 24 Dec 5:15pm	Children	C. Purcell D. Lomboy	R. Lachance A. Kelly	Youth Choir
Wed. 24 Dec 8:00pm	C. Jones P. Scott	M. Tudin T. Donoghue	S. Harrigan K. Chabot D. Mazzolin	Choir
Thurs. 25 Dec 9:00am	J. Watts P. Evaristo	M. Marcial A. MacKinnon	F. Cuvelier	Theresa, Annette, Abby, Akeisha, Jane
Thurs. 25 Dec 11:00am	B. McIver C. Kavanaugh	K. Colwell D. Lomboy	F. Asuncion L. Garrett	Choir
Streaming of 9:00 a.m. Mass: S. Lett				
Junior Liturgy: Will return in the New Year				



KNIGHTS CORNER: Your Knights Council is excited at the prospect of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, which marks the final week of waiting before Christmas, symbolizing Love, the nearness of Jesus' birth, and God's faithfulness, with readings focusing on prophecies of the Messiah and Mary's visit to Elizabeth, culminating in lighting the final purple candle on the Advent wreath to welcome the coming of Christ. We celebrate God's immense love for the world and keeping His promise in sending His Son, Jesus, for salvation. As we make final preparations for Christ's arrival, bringing light to the darkness, may we come "full circle" like the Advent wreath and enjoy a peaceful Christmas. Your Knights are also looking forward to being a bit of that light, by delivering the Christmas Baskets this weekend.



Follow us on Facebook at St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus Council 11670, Kingston.

 <p>DAVID J. Cupido CONSTRUCTION LTD.</p> <p>General Contractor Construction Management Custom Millwork</p>	<p>ABLE AUTO Sales & Leasing 613-542-2253 641 Princess Street Quality Used Cars & Trucks</p> 	<p>Patrick Greenwood Broker, SRES® Parishioner & Grand Knight 613.561.6300</p> <p>Residential. Commercial. Land Development</p>  <p>EXECUTIVES, BROKERAGE - INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED</p>
<p>CARACO caracogroup.ca GROUP OF COMPANIES</p>	<p>Frank & Henry's Service Ltd. Over 50+ Years Complete Service ALL MAKES & MODELS TIRES • BRAKES • TUNE-UPS 613-544-5233 195 Concession St., Kingston frankandhenrys@caracogroup.ca</p> <p>A/C Specialists We also DOIT! Short & Long Haul!</p> 	<p>Bela Jr. Painting and Home Improvements lazaro.cabaling@yahoo.ca 613-539-3069 Experienced. Hard Work. Dedication Est. 2017</p> <p>LEVAC Industrial • Construction • Safety Supplies & Equipment Health & Safety • Training • Consulting www.levacsupply.com</p>
 <p>MULROONEY TRUCKING CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATES Est. 1953</p> <p>Trucking Construction Aggregates 1280 McAdoo's Lane, Kingston ON 613-548-4427</p>	<p>AME ENVIRONMENTAL</p> <p>Waste disposal & bin rental (613) 548-4558</p> <p>Sousa Ready Mix Inc. Concrete Contractors 1351 McAdoo's Lane 613-547-3675</p>	 <p>CATARAQUI CABINETS ESTABLISHED 1979 cataraquicabinets.ca</p>  <p>BREAD-MAN of Kingston Specializing in a variety of breads & buns 296 Bath Rd 613-549-7644</p>
 <p>Countrywide KITCHENS 1407 John Counter Blvd, Kingston ON 613-549-8650</p>	<p>Exclusive Cooling Ltd. RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL HVAC SERVICES 613-389-9250 • info@exclusivecooling.ca</p>	<p>ST. LAWRENCE POOLS</p>
<p>Proud to support the community.</p>	<p> Gordon F. Tompkins Funeral Home - Central Chapel Gordon F. Tompkins Funeral Home - Township Chapel by Arbor Memorial 49 Colborne St., P.O. Box 1206, Kingston, ON • 613-546-5454 435 Davis Drive, Kingston, ON • 613-546-5150</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Arbor Memorial Inc.</p>	
 <p>St. Mary's Cemetery serving our catholic community since 1856 613-548-4343 718 Division St. Kingston, ON www.stmaryscemetery.ca</p>	<p>JOHN GOWSELL THOMSON & GOWSELL Barristers and Solicitors General Practice 1309 Princess Street www.thomsongowsell.ca 613-546-3286</p>	<p>James Reid's professional and dedicated staff provide services that help families heal. In the same family since 1854, we are Kingston's James Reid Funeral Home, Crematorium and Reception Centre at 1900 John Counter Blvd, part of your community.</p>  <p>JAMES REID FUNERAL HOME Independently Owned & Family Run for 165 years JamesReidFuneralHome.com 1900 John Counter Blvd 613.544.3411</p>
<p>Carlo De Longhi ELECTRIC LTD. Lic. ECRA/ESA 7000710 Quality Work/Reasonable Rates 613-546-4779</p>	<p>KINGSTON LIGHTING Visit us for all your lighting needs at 1407 John Counter Blvd, Kingston ON 613-548-8397 or online at kingstonlighting.ca</p>	<p>NEIL'S FLOWERS Est. 1981 Where Quality Grows 1622 Sydenham Rd, Kingston 613-542-9929 neilsflowers.com</p>
<p>SWISS CHALET Join us today! Order online swisschalet.com 1-866-439-0439 613-542-4432 1330 Bath Rd.</p>	<p>Herman's Auto 825 Portsmouth Ave. 613-542-7690</p>	
<p>Bridget Walker-Payne, Agent 1335 Princess St. 613-544-1335 bridgetwalker-payne.com Desjardins Insurance</p>	<p>ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!</p>	
<p>VOLVO VAN HERPT VOLVO CARS KINGSTON www.vanherptvolvo.com 613-542-2284</p> 	<p>Lemmon & SON (1973 LTD.) PLUMBING HEATING COOLING 613-546-9161</p>	<p>ALEX MCCOY CONTACT US FOR YOUR RESIDENTIAL HVAC NEED: • Furnaces & Air Conditioners • Boilers • Cold Climate Heat Pumps • Cast Iron Radiators • Indoor Air Quality Products • Maintenance Package amph.ca 613-546-6946 COMMITTED TO A PROMPT RESPONSE TO YOUR CALL Free Estimates!</p>
<p>Mercedes-Benz Kingston www.mercedes-benz-kingston.ca 613-548-8600</p> 	<p>CATARAQUI GRANITE COMPANY (613) 389-3998 info@cataraquigranite.com</p>	<p>DENNEE OUR FAMILY. YOUR FUTURE Sales Representatives DON (613) 328-3333 JUDY (613) 329-9333 NICOLE (613) 536-8001</p> <p>ROYAL LEPAGE ProAlliance Realty 80 Queen St. Kingston, On K7L 6W7 613-544-4141</p> <p>don@dennee.com judy@dennee.com nicole@dennee.com www.dennee.com</p>

Our bulletin is sponsored by Knights of Columbus St. Joseph's Council #11670. For advertising contact the parish office.