

Welcome! 1st Sunday of Advent

Mass Schedule for St. John the Baptist Parish, St. Bridget Parish, and Sacred Heart Parish ~ November 30th – December 7th

| Saturday November 29 | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SJ | 5:00pm | For the deceased members of the Knights of Columbus Council #3531 ~ <i>K of C Council #3531</i> |
| Sunday November 30 ~ 1 st Sunday of Advent | | |
| SJ | 9:00am | Ranald Quail ~ <i>Cavalier Family</i> |
| SHP | 9:00am | Melanie Leroux ~ <i>Brian & Pat Molyneaux</i> |
| SB | 11:00am | Harold & Cecilia Merkley ~ Merkley Family |
| SJ | 11:00am | <i>Mass for the People of the Parish</i> |
| Monday December 1 | | |
| SJ | 8:30am | <i>Prayer for the Sick & Suffering</i> |
| Tuesday December 2 | | |
| SB | 9:00am | ~ No Intention Booked ~ |
| SJ | 4:30pm | Noreen Coulter ~ <i>Marilyn Allan</i> |
| Wednesday December 3 ~ St. Francis Xavier | | |
| SJ | 9:00am | Pierrette Poulin ~ <i>Jacques Poulin</i> |
| Thursday December 4 | | |
| SHP | 9:00am | Marie Gayda ~ <i>Her daughters, Kathleen & Vicky</i> |
| SJ | 12:00pm | Kathryn Barnes ~ <i>Elaine Cavalier & Family</i> |
| (FIRST) Friday December 5 | | |
| SJ | 8:30am | <i>Prayer for the Sick & Suffering</i> |
| SJ | 9:00am | The De Francesco Family ~ <i>Bernie De Francesco</i> |
| SJ | 9:30am | <i>Holy Adoration & Benediction</i> |
| (FIRST) Saturday December 6 | | |
| SJ | 9:00am | Sue Kato ~ <i>Cavalier Family</i> |
| SJ | 5:00pm | <i>Mass for the People of the Parish</i> |
| Sunday December 7 ~ 2 nd Sunday of Advent | | |
| SJ | 9:00am | Jayden Dowdall, 2 nd Anniversary ~ <i>Jason, Julie, & Justin Dowdall</i> |
| SHP | 9:00am | Julie Dunnigan ~ <i>Gail & Fred Shepherd</i> |
| SB | 11:00am | ~ No Intention Booked ~ |
| SJ | 11:00am | Jayden Dowdall, 2 nd Anniversary ~ <i>Jason, Julie, & Justin Dowdall</i> |

Thank you for your contributions! Regular Sunday Donation \$3015.



Pope's Prayer Intention for December

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



ARCHDIOCESAN MASS

for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 8th at 10:30am - St. Mary's Cathedral, Kingston. Celebrations for the 200th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Kingston also begin on this day! Everyone welcome!



HOPE

Welcome to the first Sunday of Advent!

"The first candle is purple, the primary colour of Advent and a colour symbolizing royalty. Sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle," the first candle harkens us back to Isaiah's foretelling of the birth of Christ and all of the promises God gave us in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus."

-Advent Candles and Advent Wreaths: The History and Meaning, Colors, Symbolism, Themes, and More. (Hallow.com)

PARISH FEATURE & FOCUS

First Sunday of Advent

My friends, blessings and welcome to Advent, a season that arrives every year like a gentle alarm clock from God. It is not the kind that surprises you with a terrible ringtone, but the kind that whispers, "Wake up! ... something beautiful is coming." St. Paul says it plainly today: "It is now the moment for you to wake from sleep." Advent is God's way of nudging us out of spiritual drowsiness so we can notice His footsteps approaching.

Isaiah gives us a breathtaking vision: all nations streaming toward the mountain of the Lord, trading weapons for plowshares and fear for peace. It is a picture of humanity finally remembering who we are, God's children, children of the light, walking in His light. But Isaiah's vision is not just a lovely prophecy; it is a divine invitation. "Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord." Advent begins with a movement. God is coming toward us, and we are invited to rise and walk toward Him.

Then, Jesus gives us a surprising Gospel: people in Noah's time were eating, drinking, getting married, doing ordinary things, and they missed God's moment. This is not because they were wicked, but because they were distracted with other things and ignored God's invitation. Sometimes, the ordinary becomes the enemy of the essential.

So, Jesus tells us today: "Stay awake." Not anxiously, but attentively. Advent is not about fear; it is about readiness. It is about keeping the lamp of our hearts trimmed and burning so that when Christ comes in the Eucharist, in the poor, in the unexpected moments of grace, we recognize Him.

The gentle humor of Advent is that we spend weeks preparing for Christmas, shopping, baking, decorating, yet the One we are celebrating prefers arriving quietly, humbly, even inconveniently. God rarely knocks loudly; He usually whispers.

So, how do we walk in the light this Advent? Paul tells us: put on Christ. Wrap yourself in compassion instead of impatience. Choose forgiveness over grudges. Offer kindness rather than sarcasm. These are the small but holy ways we stay awake.

May this Advent be a sacred journey from distraction to devotion, from darkness to dawn, from spiritual sleep to joyful expectation. Christ is coming, let us rise and walk in His light.



Christmas gift cards are now being collected. Please consider donating gift cards, of any amount, to assist those who are struggling within our community. There is a box in the Narthex to collect your donations.

ADVENT PARISH MISSION!

Together, St. John the Baptist, Sacred Heart, and St. Bridget's Churches welcome Fr. George Okoye (SMMM) to lead this years' Advent Misson! Join us at St. John's Church on Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, **December 3rd – 5th**, during regular Mass times, for this joyous occasion. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



UPCOMING EVENTS

✠ **FINAL WEEKEND! SHOP WHILE YOU CAN! Foy Hall Garage Sale:** The Garage Sale is **open this Friday and Saturday (10am–2:30pm)**, after which it will close until Spring. As a special treat, it will also be open **this Sunday right after Mass for parishioners only**. There is an organ for sale...please spread the word! Clothing is \$5 a bag, and almost everything else is half price! The children's corner items are free! *We'd love to see you there!*

✠ **FINAL WEEKEND! St. John LifeMATTERS group presents... FRUIT CAKES FOR LIFE!** This is the final weekend to order! In collaboration with Campaign Life Coalition, St. John's lifeMATTERS Group is taking orders in the Narthex **until November 30th**. For details, see posters in the church or call Elaine at 613-264-4071.

✠ **St John's CWL Christmas Bake Sale: December 6th and 7th, after each Mass**, in the Narthex. Festive and delicious homemade baking and preserves(etc.) will be available for cash purchase. Donations for our charity fundraisers will also be gratefully received. Anyone wishing to provide baking for our sale would be very much appreciated and may be dropped off before each Mass. Thank you in advance for your generous support." ...and thank YOU ladies!

✠ **CWL Christmas Dinner:** Please come celebrate the season, at our CWL Christmas Dinner at Michaels Table! Monday, December 8th at 6pm. No meeting, just good food and socializing! Contact Colleen by December 2nd if you can attend. Thank you!



SACRAMENTS

Baptismal Congratulations!

This weekend, we welcome two children into the Catholic Church through Baptism this weekend! Congratulations and welcome to **Cayden Kirkham & Adrian McKiver-Saumure**! We congratulate their parents and commend them for their commitment to raising their children in the Catholic faith. May God bless their families abundantly!

PRAYERS

Please remember the sick in your prayers, including Maureen Czap, Jeannette Olivier, Marjorie Facette, Demetrie Laming, Deborah LaRiccia, Barbara Morrison, Edith Lepine & Doris Quinn. Please remember those who have recently died in your prayers. Jesus, I trust in You. **In need of prayer?** Connect with our strong prayer warriors, Father Charles, Father Anthony, or one of our

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Parish Prayer teams through the Parish Office (for St John's Pastoral Care, CWL, or KOC Prayer group). Jesus, I trust in You.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are collecting donations of gifts for children (up to age 16) to give to family members. Ideas include books, games, accessories, small household items, and other family-appropriate gifts. Wrapping paper, tape, and gift bags are also



needed. We are grateful for last year's generosity and hope to continue that spirit this season. Please contact the Parish office or Doris Quinn to arrange your donation. God Bless!

St. John Elementary School: Seeking Lunch Supervisors.

This role is great for anyone with about an hour a day to help support students and earn extra money. Lunch supervisors assist during recess and lunchtime. To learn more or express interest, please call St. John Elementary School at (613) 267-2865.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

- Wednesday, December 3rd @ 6:30pm: St. Mary's Church, Carleton Place
- Friday, December 5th @ 6:00pm: St. Ann Church, Merrickville
- Sunday, December 7th @ 3:30pm: St. Francis de Sales Church, Smiths Falls
- Thursday, December 11th @ 6:00pm: St. Laurence O'Toole, Spencerville
- Tuesday, December 16th @ 6:00pm: St. Edward's Church, Westport
- Sunday, December 21st @ 3:00pm: St. John the Baptist Church, Perth



UPCOMING MEETINGS

[St John Parish Meeting Place, 15 Church St, Perth]

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CWL Monthly Meeting | 2 nd Monday of each Month @ 7pm |
| Monday Bible Study Group – Contact Jenny Salte for details. | Mondays @ 10am |
| Parish Council Monthly Meeting | 2 nd Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm. Tuesday, December 9th @ 6:30pm |
| Life Matters Monthly Meeting | 2 nd Wednesday of each month @ 10am |
| Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting | 2 nd Wednesday of each month @ 7pm |
| Pastoral Care Committee Meeting | TBD |
| Wednesday Bible Study Group – Contact Jenny Salte for details. | Wednesdays @ 7pm |
| St. John's Holy Face Group Monthly Meeting | Last Thursday of each month, after the noon Mass |
| Thursday Bible Study Group – Contact Evelyn Goodfellow for details. | Thursdays @ 1pm |
| Sunday Mass 11am Choir | Thursdays @ 7pm & Sundays @ 10:15am |
| St. John's Movie Club | TBD |
| Life Matters Men's Group – Contact Dave Lapointe for details. | 3 rd Saturday of each month |
| Saturday Mass 5:00pm Choir | Saturdays @ 4:45pm |

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