

Welcome! The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

December 28, 2025

Mass Schedule for St. John the Baptist Parish, St. Bridget Parish, and Sacred Heart Parish ~ December 28th-January 4th

Saturday December 27 ~ St. John		
SJ	5:00pm	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday December 28 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph		
SJ	9:00am	In thanks to St. Jude ~ Bernie De Francesco
SHP	9:00am	Louis & Roseleen Weatherdon ~ Gail & Fred Shepherd
SB	11:00am	~ No intention booked ~
SJ	11:00am	Karen Thibeau ~ Howard & Anne Pledge
Monday December 29		
SJ	8:30am	Prayer for the Sick & Suffering
Tuesday December 30		
SB	9:00am	Mass Cancelled
SJ	4:30pm	Margaret Secco ~ Diana Troup
Wednesday December 31		
SJ	9:00am	Mass Cancelled
SJ	5:00pm	For the Peple of the Parish
Thursday January 1 ~ Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)		
SHP	9:00am	For the People of the Parish
SJ	9:00am	For the People of the Parish
SJ	11:00am	For the People of the Parish
SB	11:00am	For the People of the Parish
SJ	12:00pm	Mass Cancelled
(FIRST) Friday January 2 ~ St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen		
SJ	8:30am	Prayer for the Sick & Suffering
SJ	9:00am	Elaine Moore ~ Ken & Lucille Crawford
SJ	9:30am	Holy Adoration & Benediction
(FIRST) Saturday January 3		
SJ	9:00am	Bill Publow ~ Publow Family
SJ	5:00pm	Lee Family ~ Gerald Lee
Sunday January 4 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord		
SJ	9:00am	Mass for the People of the Parish
SHP	9:00am	Special Intention ~ Pat Molyneaux
SB	11:00am	Jack & Mabel Noonan ~ Mark & Gina Noonan
SJ	11:00am	Greg Whalen ~ Cynthia Scott
Thank you for your contributions! Regular Sunday Donation \$2930. Monthly PAD Donation \$7378.		

We extend our prayers and best wishes to Fr. Charles for a safe and restful vacation as he travels home to Nigeria next week. May his time away be filled with peace, joy, and safe travels!



PARISH FEATURE & FOCUS

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

On the Feast of the Holy Family, we are invited to contemplate what may be the most comforting, and perhaps surprising, truth of our faith: that God chose to enter the world not as an abstract idea, but as a child in a family. Not in a palace, not among the powerful, but in an ordinary home with ordinary pressures, ordinary joys, and very real challenges.

It is tempting to imagine the Holy Family as flawless, Mary serenely peaceful, Joseph endlessly patient, Jesus quietly obedient. But the Gospels give us something more human and more hopeful. This family knew uncertainty. They faced misunderstanding, sudden relocation, financial strain, and even the fear of losing their child. If there were a "how-to manual" for perfect family life, Nazareth did not follow it. Instead, they lived by something deeper: trust in God, daily fidelity, and love expressed in small, consistent acts.

Joseph teaches us that holiness often looks like showing up. He speaks not a single word in Scripture, yet his life speaks volumes. He listens, he protects, he provides, and he trusts God even when the plan disrupts his own.

Mary teaches us that faith is not passive acceptance but courageous cooperation. Her "yes" unfolds not in ease, but in perseverance, pondering, praying, and holding God's promises even when she does not fully understand them.

And Jesus, who is God, chooses to learn how to walk, speak, pray, and work within a family. Think of that: the Savior of the world learns obedience at a kitchen table, learns prayer from his mother, and learns responsibility from his foster father. That alone should give hope to every parent who wonders whether their daily efforts matter. They do.

The Holy Family reminds us that holiness is not built in dramatic moments alone, but in shared meals, patient listening, forgiveness after misunderstanding, and love renewed again and again. Family life is not about perfection; it is about presence.

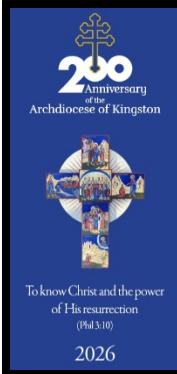
As we honor the Holy Family today, we ask not for perfect homes, but for faithful hearts. May our families, like the home of Nazareth, become places where God is welcomed, prayer is learned, and love is practiced in ordinary, daily ways. When family life feels strained, imperfect, or unfinished, may we remember that this is precisely the soil where grace takes root.

The Holy Family assures us that God works not despite our human fragility, but through it. And so, we go forth with hope, trusting that God is quietly shaping holiness in our homes, one faithful moment at a time.

Merry Christmas and New Year Blessings!

2026 Donation Envelopes

Donation envelopes for 2026 are now available in our churches. Please remember **not** to use these envelopes until **January 1st**. **As always, for the first month or so of the new year, we kindly ask that you write your name and address on each envelope to help us keep our records accurate and organized. Thank you!**



200th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Kingston

The Jubilee Year Begins!

We began our celebrations for the 200th Anniversary Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Kingston on Monday, December 8th! Jubilee celebrations will take place throughout the year at the Parish, Deanery, and Archdiocesan levels. Keep an eye on the bulletin & Flocknote for parish and deanery events to come! Archdiocesan events can be found in the Fall edition of Journey, which can be found in your church today!

SACRAMENTS

Sacramental Preparation Classes!

First Communion & Reconciliation Candidates:

The next class is **January 11th**, and begins with the 11am mass, followed by class in the Narthex.

Confirmation Candidates:

The next class is **January 18th**, and begins with the 11am mass, followed by class in the Narthex

Congratulations!

Lochlen Farquharson & Monique Power are to be married this weekend at Sacred Heart Church. We ask God's blessing upon them for a lifetime of joy together!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT DONATIONS FROM BIRTHRIGHT

The St. Johns lifeMATTERS group continues to collect donations for the Pregnancy Resource Centre Birthright and for local crisis pregnancies **until Dec 28th**. There is a crib at the entrance to the church for your donations of baby and maternity gear and clothes. Items particularly needed are Baby Shampoo, Soap, Lotion & Wash, Diaper Rash Cream, Diapers size 3, 4, 5 & 6, and maternity clothes. Monetary donations are also accepted. Thank you for your generosity!

Important Notice

All users of the St. John's Meeting Place (15 Church Street) are kindly reminded to turn down the thermostat when leaving the building. Our hydro costs in November and December were **significantly higher** than this time last year, and your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Important Notice

Our St. John's Church neighbours have been affected by vehicles blocking their driveways during Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. **Please take care when parking to ensure driveways remain accessible.**

PRAYERS

Please remember the sick in your prayers, including Maureen Czop, Jeannette Olivier, Marjorie Facette, Demetrie Laming, Deborah LaRiccia, Barbara Morrison, Edith Lepine, Doris Quinn, Claudette Timmerman, Mary Rorwick, & Stephen Tysick. **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 Parish Prayer teams through the Parish Office (for St John's Pastoral Care, CWL, or KOC Prayer group). Jesus, I trust in You.



Christmas gift cards continue to be 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.

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.
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	Friday, January 9th @ 7pm
Life Matters Men's Group – Contact Dave Lapointe for details.	3 rd Saturday of each month
Saturday Mass 5:00pm Choir	Saturdays @ 4:45pm



The Saint John's Movie Club will be holding its next meeting on Friday, January 9th at 7:00pm, at 15 Church St. We will watch a short film, followed by a group discussion. For more information, contact Anthony: adellazzera@gmail.com.

THANK YOU & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We extend our sincere gratitude to Rick Burke, who faithfully served as custodian and groundskeeper at St. John's Church for many years.

With his recent retirement, we thank Rick for his dedication, care, and quiet service to our parish, and we wish him and his family every blessing as they begin this new chapter.

As we move forward during this time of transition, **we are grateful to the volunteers who have generously stepped up to assist with church cleaning.** Their help has been a true blessing. However, this important work cannot be carried by a few alone, and we are seeking additional volunteers to join them. Even one hour a week can make a meaningful difference.

If you are able to help, please contact the parish office. Thank you once again to Rick, and to all who continue to serve our parish with such generosity and care.