



# *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*December 18,  
2016*

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: DEC. 17 TO DEC. 25**

(L) indicates a living intention

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
4:30 pm	Marino Argentin		Mary & Guy Taillon
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dec. 18</b>		
9:00 am	Anthony & Lira D'Souza		Atwell D'Souza & family
11:00 am	Our Parishioners		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Dec. 19</b>		
8:30 am	Coney & Joan D'Souza		Atwell D'Souza & family
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Dec. 20</b>		
8:30 am	Maria Pulice & family		Rina Reda & family
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dec. 21</b>		
8:30 am	Jack Scimone		Mary Scimone
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dec. 22</b>		
8:30 am	George & Jane D'Lima		Atwell D'Souza & family
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Dec. 23</b>		
8:30 am	Mark Julius Coelho		Pat & Donny
<b>Christmas – The Nativity of the Lord</b>			
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dec. 24</b>		
4:00 pm	Susan De Souza		Edward D'Souza & family
4:00 pm (Hall)	Ken Doran		Kathleen & Tom
6:00 pm	Maria Rosario & Maria Aurora Soler		Robertson family
8:00 pm	Garry & Terry Hayes		Claire Hayes & family
10:00 pm	Sean Richardson		Gerry, Dawn & family
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dec. 25</b>		
9:00 am	Raymond & Marjorie (L)		
11:00 am	Our Parishioners		

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

**Week of:**

Dec. 18: Alson & Jean Mack, requested by the Weller family.

Dec. 25: Rufina Pineda & Madeline Obregon requested by family.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DEC. 10 & 11:**

**Offerings:** \$5, 427.00

**Religious Education:** \$ 1, 366.00

**A MORNING PRAYER:** Thank you, Lord, for bringing me safely through the night to another new day. Help me not to say or do anything that will offend you this day.

## FAITH FIRST

### FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT: LOVE

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let our love transform every aspect of our life and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** - there will be NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY weekends of Dec. 24/25, 31/01 and Jan 07/08 - We will resume Jan 14/15 We need 2 more adult volunteers to keep the Saturday 4:30 session going - please call Sophia 514-694-4758 after 6pm on weekdays to sign up

**ONLINE DONATIONS AND ENVELOPE BOXES:** There have been some questions posed as a result of changing donation methods. Those parishioners who have opted for recurring monthly donations will note that their boxes are no longer available. The idea was to save costs and become more green in a small way. There are white envelopes in the pews, which are always available for your convenience should you wish to use these. The only info to be recorded is your name and address and dollar amount. A numbered envelope is not necessary. On the Canada Helps website, you will notice that any secondary collection is always noted in the drop-down box, where you choose the fund to which you wish to contribute. You also have the option to instruct us in the comment section of your donation. Unfortunately because of the many varied recipients of our second collections, it is not possible to make these recurring. We trust this has helped to clarify any grey areas. For more information, please contact our bookkeeper Elizabeth Barroso at 514-626-4111 ext. 223.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL:** Help us make our sanctuary beautiful for Christmas. We invite you to make a donation towards our Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. Include your donation in an envelope that is clearly marked "Christmas flower donations". Write on the envelope: name of your loved one (memorial) along with your name (donor). Please include your parish envelope number if applicable. Drop your envelope in the Christmas flower donation box at the church doors. Names of loved ones will be included in upcoming holiday bulletins.

**2017 DINNER-DANCE:** Usher in the New Year with family and friends at the St. Thomas à Becket Annual New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance on **Sat. Dec. 31, at 6:30 pm.** Hosted by the Becket Social Club. Enjoy a gourmet catered meal, Chicken Masala or Grouper, great music & dancing. Tickets available until **Dec 27.** \$40.00 pp. Meal choice can be ordered at time of ticket purchase. 13 & older, BYOBeverage. Info or tickets: Gord 514-421-8699 or Guy 514-887-4898.

**MEET THE KNITPICKERS** We invite you to visit the parish website and take a peek under "Parish Groups" to see a photo taken at our Christmas reunion. We take this opportunity to thank you for your support and send you abundant blessings for this Christmas and coming New Year.

**TOOL DRIVE:** Becket is a big building that requires much maintenance. We are in short supply of tools and would greatly appreciate any donations. We need both hand and power tools for wood, metal and masonry to accomplish work inside and outside the church. Following are some suggestions: circular saw (7 ¼ inch), hand saws – various sizes, socket sets – metric and standard, wrenches of various sizes – opened and closed end – metric and standard, drill bits for wood, metal and masonry, driver bits, sanders, screwdrivers, levers, wood & masonry chisels, crescent wrenches, small & large, hammers, nuts, bolts & screws, gardening tools, angle grinder.

## *Christmas at Becket 2016*

*Christmas Eve Masses*

**Sat. Dec 24: 4, 6, 8 & 10 p.m.**

*Christmas Day Masses*

**Sun. Dec. 25: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.**

*Holy Hour of Prayer for God's Peace in the World*

**Sat. Dec. 31: 3:15 p.m.**

*Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (New Year's)*

**Sat. Dec. 31: 4:30 p.m.**

**Sun. Jan. 01: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**

*Epiphany of the Lord*

**Sat. Jan. 07: 4:30 p.m.**

**Sun. Jan. 08: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Our Christian faith is characterized by God's nearness to us. When the Apostle Paul tells us, 'The Lord is near,' this truth resounds constantly throughout our lives. God is near because He has revealed Himself to man. He has spoken through the prophets and, in this final age, He has spoken through His Son (Heb 1:1-2).

God is near because in this Son, in the eternal Word, He has become Man. Born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary, Jesus of Nazareth 'has worked with a man's hands, has thought with a man's mind, has loved with a man's heart'—as we read in a document of the Second Vatican Council: "He has really become one of us, like us in all things except sin". He even became poor, obedient unto death. He was condemned to death on the Cross. In His act of drawing near to us, He has overcome every limit.

Moreover, as God draws near He takes on the form of bread and wine in the Eucharist. He has become food for our souls. Once more, through this way of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, He has overcome every limit that man could ever imagine.

*~ Pope John Paul II, "Lift Up Your Hearts"*

### **HERE'S A QUESTION**



Do we know the year Jesus Christ was born? We do not know in what year Jesus Christ was born. Scholars use known dates to build a bracket within which Our Lord's birth must have occurred. Jesus Christ must have been born either before 4 B.C. (when Herod the Great died) or in 6 A.D., when the census of Quirinius was begun. He was baptized by John the Baptist during John's ministry which, according to Luke 3:1-2, began in the 15th year of Tiberius. This would have been around 28/29 A.D. Jesus was executed by Pontius Pilate, procurator (or governor) of Judaea. The date of Our Lord's death would lie somewhere between 28 A.D., when Pilate was appointed governor, and 36 A.D., when he was replaced by another. In the sixth century, a monk named Dionysius Exiguus proposed establishing the calendar on the basis of Jesus' birth. We know now he miscalculated the date of Herod's death. By the 10th century the dating of years A.D. (Anno Domini, "in the year of the Lord") and B.C. (now commonly taken to mean Before Christ) was well established.

*~ Fr. Ray Ryland, Ph.D., J.D.*