

# Second and Third Sundays of Advent

December 10 & 17  
2023



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## MASS INTENTIONS – DECEMBER 9 TO DECEMBER 24

(L) indicates a living intention

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 9</b>	
4:30 pm	Our Parishioners	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
9:00 am	Remi Perron	Diana Verrucci & Family
11:00 am	Guido Vacchiano	The Family
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 11</b>	
8:30 am	Cecilia & Caterina Mossa & families	Rina Della Rocca
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 12</b>	
8:30 am	Alex Della Rocca	Rosemarie Della Rocca
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 13</b>	
8:30 am	Luciano Della Rocca	Rina Della Rocca
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 14</b>	
8:30 am	Remi Perron	Gloria Della Rocca
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 15</b>	
8:30 am	Remi Perron	Lise Emsley
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 16</b>	
4:30 pm	Robert O'Kane	Marie Kane
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 17</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
9:00 am	Our Parishioners	
11:00 am	Albanese family	Albanese family
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 18</b>	
8:30 am	Souls in Purgatory of Annetta Hanley's family	Annetta Hanley
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 19</b>	
8:30 am	Remi Perron	Robert & Lorraine Plamondon
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 20</b>	
8:30 am	Catherine Heffernan	Joan Hopkirk
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 21</b>	
8:30 am	Dominador Leviste & Germaine Demers	The Demers Family
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 22</b>	
8:30 am	Maria Teresa Rivas Herrera	Teresa Serna and Family
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 23</b>	
4:30 pm	Our Parishioners	

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## THE TRADITION OF THE CHRISTMAS CRÈCHE

by Pope Francis



I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons, and town squares. Great imagination and creativity is always shown in employing the most diverse materials to create small masterpieces of beauty. As children, we learn from our parents and grandparents to carry on this joyful tradition,

which encapsulates a wealth of popular piety. It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived....

Why does the Christmas crèche arouse such wonder and move us so deeply? First, because it shows God’s tender love: the Creator of the universe lowered himself to take up our littleness. The gift of life, in all its mystery, becomes all the more wondrous as we realize that the Son of Mary is the source and sustenance of all life.... He gave us his Son who forgives us and frees us from our sins.

Setting up the Christmas crèche in our homes helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. Naturally, the Gospels remain our source for understanding and reflecting on that event. At the same time, its portrayal in the crèche helps us to imagine the scene...as contemporaries of an event that is living and real.... The Christmas crèche is part of the precious yet demanding process of passing on the faith. Beginning in childhood, and at every stage of our lives, it teaches us to contemplate Jesus, to experience God’s love for us, to feel and believe that God is with us and that we are with him, his children, brothers and sisters all, thanks to that Child who is the Son of God and the Son of the Virgin Mary.

### DID YOU KNOW?



Advent 2023, by count of days, is as short as it can possibly be this year, since Christmas falls on the Monday following the fourth Sunday of Advent. Some people are asking about Mass obligations for Catholics when a major feast like Christmas falls right after a Sunday. Do you have to go to Mass twice? Yes, you do. but there are several options. Will you go for the “Long Weekend,” “Super Sunday,” or the “Double Christmas” option? The choice is yours. Of course, the most important thing

is to actually go to Mass, and to think about not as an obligation, but as the greatest gift the Church has received and has to offer us — Christ truly present, here, for us. As a wise man once noted, that’s what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.

#### **Options:**

1) Saturday 4:30 Mass and then Sunday (Christmas Eve) 4:00 pm or 8:00 pm or Monday at 10:00, with Christmas Day ‘off’.

2) Sunday morning at 10 and then Sunday (Christmas Eve) 4:00 pm or 8:00 pm or Monday at 10:00. With this option, you might end up attending Mass twice in the same day but for different purposes (4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve), and so you can receive Holy Communion Twice on that day.

3) This scenario comes up again the following week, when Saturday 4:30 and Sunday 10:00 are the Feast of the Holy Family, and Sunday evening (the 31st) at 4:30 and Monday morning, January 1, are celebrated as the Solemnity of Holy Mary, Mother of God, which is along with Christmas, a holy day of obligation, when Catholics are expected to attend Mass.

## PARISH INFORMATION

All telephone numbers are in the 514-area code unless otherwise indicated.

### PARISH WARDENS

The Fabrique of the parish administers all parish properties and assets, and consists of the Pastor and six wardens elected by parishioners at an Annual General Meeting.

Janet Arts (2024)	620-6643	Cindy Finn	(2024)	624-0546
Frank Vissani (2025)	998-0311	Michelle Figueredo	(2023)	694-8879
Norman Cousineau (2023)	624-8753	Michael Randall	(2025)	626-9550

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### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Guild:	Anna Donald	620-2258
Altar Servers:	Fr. Peter Sabbath	626-4111
Baptism Preparation Team:	Parish Office	626-4111
Choir Director	Brendan Kelly	944-7220
Eucharistic Ministry Coordinator:	Rosemarie Della Rocca	620-1930
Greeters:	Norma Cook	620-2019
Head Sacristan:	Anna Donald	620-2258
Lectors:	Tobias Koikaran	693-5514
Liturgy Team:	Rosemarie Della Rocca	620-1930
Ushers:	Joe Ojeda	941-7914

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### PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Adult Faith Formation	Elsa Rivera	626-4111
Angels of Mercy	Sarah Sajedi	827-6408
Catholic Women's League:	Yasmin Ramsammy	463-1146
Community Aid	Parish Office	626-4111
Couples for Christ:	Don & Irene Salvanera	620-1319
Helping Others:	Parish Office	626-4111
Knights of Columbus:	Norm Cousineau	624-8753
Legion of Mary:	Juliana Abu	585-9206
Marriage Course:	John & Nathalie Bondyra	695-7896
Pastoral Home Care:	Ailsa Lee Loy	626-7265
Prayer Line:	Christine Charron	694-3958
Responsible Pastoral Ministry:	Rina Callard	626-4111
Social Club:	Rina Callard	695-6995

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### RESOURCES AND SERVICES

A.A.	376-9230
Al-Anon (Families of Alcoholics)	866-9803
Archdiocese, Marriage Tribunal, English Pastoral Services	931-7311
Diocesan Ombudsman – abuse/complaints	752-4683
Episcopal Vicar - Fr. Raymond Lafontaine	931-7311
Quebec Life Coalition: Pregnant? Worried?	344-2686
Spiritual Support Line	1-888-305-0994
Violence S.O.S. Hotline	1-800-363-9010
West Island Women's Shelter	620-4845

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Anointing of the Sick: upon request at the parish office

Baptism: Please contact the office

Marriage: Please contact the office well in advance.

R.C.I.A.: Fr. Peter Sabbath

Sacrament of Reconciliation: (Confession) before all Masses or by request.

Vocations: Please contact Fr. Robert Clark at 903-6200 or one of our priests

**HALL RENTAL: Michael Randall 514-980-5015**