

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019



MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: DECEMBER 14 TO DECEMBER 22

(L) indicates a living intention

Saturday	Dec 14	
4:30 pm	Margaret Linton	The Linton Family
Sunday	Dec 15	Third Sunday of Advent
9:00 am	Julita Angeline Houx	The Family
11:00 am	Our Parishioners	
Monday	Dec 16	
8:30 am	Coney & Joan D'Souza	Atwell & family
Tuesday	Dec 17	
8:30 am	Greg Geukjian & George Dziarmaja	Maciejka Voss
Wednesday	Dec 18	
8:30 am	Mark Julius Coelho	Pat & Donny
Thursday	Dec 19	
8:30 am	Coney & Joan D'Souza	Atwell & family
Friday	Dec 20	
8:30 am	Maddalena Nitti Saluzzi	The Family
Saturday	Dec 21	
4:30 pm	Margaret Million	Kathleen Rush and Tom Heald
Sunday	Dec 22	Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:00 am	Rosina Gaudio	Maria Caputo & family
11:00 am	Our Parishioners	

SANCTUARY LAMP (Week)

Dec. 15: Salvatore Battaglia & Provvidenza Infantino Battaglia, requested by Josie & Nancy Battaglia.

Dec. 22: Dominic Mancini, requested by his family.

LORD, GRANT MERCY AND LASTING PEACE to those who died recently, and strength and comfort to those who mourn them: *Hector Perez*, grandfather of Kimberley Ricafort; *Thea Eckhardt*, cousin of Rina Callard.

Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Nov. 30/Dec. 1: Offerings: \$5, 570.90

Dec 7/8: Offerings: \$6, 156.75 Religious Education: \$1, 674.00

Next Special collection: December 29 – Building Maintenance Fund

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE



The joyful Sunday in Advent (known as "Gaudete") is represented by rose (or pink) instead of the penitential purple color. Each night during the third week the mother of the family lights the pink, as well as the two previously burned purple candles, after the following prayer has been said.

Leader: *O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thine ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Christ our Lord.*

All: *Amen.*

The three candles are allowed to burn during the evening meals of the third week.

COME CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. THOMAS à BECKET on the 850th anniversary of his death, December 29, at 2 pm, as we present the 1964 feature film "BECKET" starring Peter O'Toole, and Richard Burton. All welcome.

COME AND SEE EVENING - for the Call to the Priesthood

The next 'Come and See' Evening will be taking place on **Friday, December 20, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** These gatherings are intended for men who are discerning a **vocation** to follow Jesus as a priest. These evenings are an excellent opportunity for those who are discerning a call to the **priesthood** to share in fellowship and to explore their **call** together. Gatherings take place at **Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish**. For information or to reserve a spot, please contact **Fr. Robert Clark at 514-903-6200** or mtlvocations@hotmail.com.

HEALING SERVICE: We invite you to join us on Monday, December 16 at 7:30 pm. Our evening includes Eucharistic Adoration, prayerful music, scripture, and reflection. The sacrament of Reconciliation is available as are our Prayer Teams.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our Parish 50/50. We raised \$266.00. Proceeds will go to the needs of the parish. Congratulations to Steve Barillaro who was our lucky winner and who generously donated a portion back to the parish. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW?

In Canada, there are only two Holy Days of Obligation, meaning that attendance at Mass is required (besides every Sunday, of course): Christmas and New Year's (Mary, Mother of God)

PSYCHICS FOR CATHOLICS? NOT!

Pope Francis recently scolded people who consider themselves practicing Christians, but who turn to fortunetelling, psychic readings and tarot cards. True faith means abandoning oneself to God "who makes himself known not through occult practices but through revelation and with gratuitous love," the pope said Dec. 4 during his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square. The pope called out Christians who seek reassurance from practitioners of magic. "How is it possible, if you believe in Jesus Christ, you go to a sorcerer, a fortuneteller, these types of people?" he asked. "Magic is not Christian! These things that are done to predict the future or predict many things or change situations in life are not Christian. The grace of Christ can bring you everything! Pray and trust in the Lord."

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Gaudete (Joyful) Sunday

“The awareness that in difficulties we can always turn to the Lord, and that he never rejects our invocations, is a great reason for joy. Shout with joy, rejoice, rejoice: this is the invitation of this Sunday. No worries, no fear, will ever take away the serenity that does not come from human things, from human consolations, no, the serenity that comes from God, from knowing that God lovingly guides our life, and always does. It is at the Annunciation, that in a remote village in Galilee, in the heart of a young woman unknown to the world, God ignites the spark of happiness for the whole world. The same message the Angel Gabriel gave to Mary on that day is also addressed to the entire Church, he stated: ‘Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you.’

So, how does one welcome the Lord’s invitation to joy? By asking, like the people who listened to the preaching of John the Baptist: ‘what must we do?’ This question is the first step in the conversion that we are invited to take in this Advent time. Each of us asks ourselves: what should I do? May the Virgin Mary help us to open our hearts to the God who is coming, because he floods our whole life with joy.”
~ *Pope Francis*

AN ADVENT PRAYER

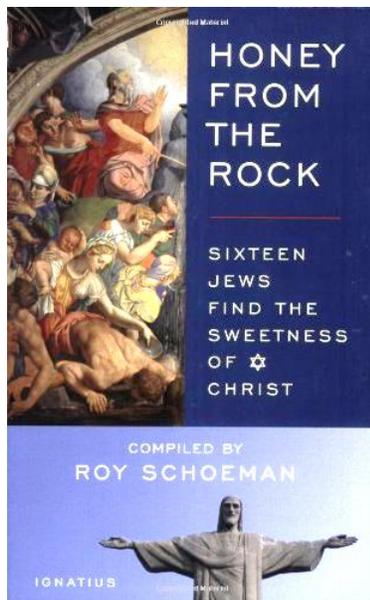
“Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one. Dream that the more you struggle, the more you prove the love that you bear your God, and the more you will rejoice one day with your Beloved, in a happiness and rapture that can never end.”
(St. Teresa of Avila, † 1582)

WELCOME JESUS WITH A PURE HEART

Consider a good confession a basic part of your Christmas preparation. Our priests are available before or after every Mass, seven days a week, or upon request at the office. St. Joseph’s Oratory offers confessions most days from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (514-733-8211) or www.saint-joseph.org/

WORTHWHILE READING

Honey from the Rock: Sixteen Jews Find the Sweetness of Christ, by Roy Schoeman



Roy Schoeman, a Jewish convert to Catholicism, and best-selling author of *Salvation Is From The Jews*, once again shows the clear links between Judaism and Catholicism in these inspiring stories of sixteen Jews who became "fulfilled Jews", as Schoeman says, through their spiritual journeys to the Catholic Church.

The sixteen people whose stories are told here are a variety of Jews, including some who came from secularized, liberal or even atheistic backgrounds, while others came from Orthodox Judaism. Some were well trained Jews, others unschooled in Judaism; some rich and wildly successful, others down and out. But their common link was they all had a profound longing for God that gave them no peace until they found God Himself in the Catholic Church.

Some of these converts are famous people like Edith Stein, Alphonse Ratisbonne, Karl Stern, and Rabbi Zollig, while others are less well known, but all have powerful stories of life-changing spiritual transformations.