

**Third Sunday of Advent
MASS SCHEDULE
Dec 16, 2023 – Dec. 24, 2023**



*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks
in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for you*

Saturday, December 16, 2023

4:00-5:00 PM Confessions
5:00 PM For the People

Sunday, December 17, 2023

9:00 AM For the Intention of Aiden Bedard
10:15–10:45 AM Advent Confessions
11:00 AM For the Intention of the Monte Family

Monday, December 18, 2023

10:00 AM For Genoveva Barbosa

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

8:30 AM For the Souls of the Deceased
9:00 – 9:20 AM Confessions
5:15 PM For Gerald, Genevieve &
Paul Whalen

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

8:30 AM For Celena Kocher

**Thursday, December 21, 2023 – St Peter
Canisius**

8:30 AM In Thanksgiving
4:30 – 5:00 PM Confessions
5:15 PM For Gary Edwards

Friday, December 22, 2023

10:00 AM For John Couto

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23, 2023

4:00 – 4:30 PM Confessions
5:00 PM For the People

Sunday, December 24, 2023

9:00 AM For Tony Vella
11:00 AM For the People

Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24, 2023 (Christmas Eve)

5:00 PM For Cynthia Ferreira
7:00 PM For the People
9:00 PM Holy Qurbana (Syro Malabar)

Monday, December 25, 2023 (Christmas Day)

10:00 AM For the Deceased members of the
Toledo, Camota Families

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Entrance Antiphon gives its name to this Sunday as it takes up St Paul's words; "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice". (Phil 4: 4-5). It is Saint John the Baptist who gives us the way to be joyful. He declares that he is not the Messiah. He was sent by God. John did not try to be more than he was, and this is an important lesson for us on the way to being joyful. We are not messiahs nor are we gods. We serve One who is. If we do not believe and live this, then our struggle in life becomes a frantic effort to force the world to become a better place on our terms. That brings anger and frustration, not joy, because we won't succeed anyway. It only raises our blood pressure. Some of the most unhappy people in the world are highly idealistic people who think that they have to do it all. But our task is not to do it all, but to point to Jesus as John the Baptist did. That takes a lot of pressure off us. The joy of John the Baptist attracted people because he was obedient to the vocation God had given him, and pointed away from himself .

ST PAUL PRAYER LINE: Our team of *Prayer Warriors* will join with you to intercede for your intentions. Simply call Lucienne (613-634-0375) or Miriam (905-979-1189), or email: StPaulsPrayerLine@gmail.com. "I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God" (Ps 17:6)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Orlando Miguel, Nicole McKechnie, Linda McKechnie, Raymond Koenders, Meghan Bennett, Nellie Rutten, Stephen Noonan, Ursula Connell, Alex Dermott, Lynn Bales, Silvia Peter Mawalla, Mary Jane McCarthy, Rosie Soni, Joan MacLeod. and Aiden Bedard.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE
RECENTLY DIED: Sr Norma Millan, CND**

Sunday and Christmas: Christmas is always a holy day of obligation and this year it falls on a Monday, immediately following the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The two separate obligations to attend Mass (Sunday and one for Christmas) are both important and are met by attending two separate Masses. The Sunday obligation can be fulfilled by attending Mass on Saturday evening or any time on Sunday. The Christmas obligation can be fulfilled at Mass on Sunday evening or any time on Monday. However, the same Mass cannot meet both obligations.



Catholic Updates: Once a month a leaflet called "Catholic Update" will be available in the Gathering Area by the bulletin board. This month's is "Celebrating Advent in your Home."

Parish Envelopes for 2024 are available in the gathering space. Don't see a box in your name, please print clearly, your name, address and telephone number in the book. A box will be provided for you the following week. Please do not use until January 2024. Put your name and address on the new envelopes for the first few weeks.

2024 Calendars are also available in the gathering space courtesy of Gordon F Tompkins Funeral Home.

Volunteers needed to help register and check in candidates for Confirmation on Sunday, January 7 at 12:15 pm and Thursday, January 11 at 6:30 pm. Please see Fr. John or Fr. Michel for details.

The CWL of St Paul the Apostle will meet you in the parking lot following each Mass on the weekend of December 15/16 to accept donations of gently used washable coats. These will be taken to St. Mary's Cathedral to be used in their Drop-In Programme for the Homeless.

2023 Donations St. Paul the Apostle Year-End occurs on 31 December. We ask that all 2023 donations to the parish be received by the parish office by 31 December 2023. Donations received after this date will be recorded in 2024. If you wish to have a donation appear on your 2023 Tax Receipt, please ensure that the office has received it prior to 1 January.

January 1 - New Year's Day - is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and the World Day of Prayer for Peace in the Catholic Church. At both the New Year's Eve and Day Masses, we will have a special form of the Prayer of the Faithful asking our Blessed Lady to intercede for Peace in our world. Please join the Celebration of the Eucharist on this occasion to pray for peace.



***Monthly Meeting for Secular Franciscan Order**

First Thursday of the month 7:00 pm;
St. John the Apostle Parish Hall (88 Patrick Street)

***Evenings of Recollection** to discover God more fully in ordinary life. Newcomers welcome.

FOR WOMEN: Tues. Dec. 19 from 7-9 pm at St. Joseph's Church FOR MEN: Wed. Dec. 20 from 7-9pm at St. James Chapel by the Cathedral.

Come be inspired by the spirit of St. Josemaria, founder of Opus Dei (opusdei.ca).

***Melo's Light in the Dark Musical Light for Winter's Darkness** Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 pm St. John the Apostle Parish, 88 Patrick Street, Kingston. Members of Melos Choir & Period Instruments perform Advent and Christmas music with audience caroling. Free-will offering for St. Vincent de Paul Society. Everyone is welcome!

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Veronica's Veil Overnight Shelter: Men, your help is needed. In order for The Veil to open for the winter we need men to sign up. We need your generosity. We hopefully will **begin in December** and go to the end of April. Shifts run 8:30 pm to 12:30 am, 12:30 am to 4:30 am and 4:30 am to 8:30 am seven days a week. If you could volunteer for one of these shifts one day each week it would be a great help. Training will be provided. Please contact Ann Lyng at veronicasveil@stmaryscathedral.ca to sign up or for more information.

Christmas Novena is prayed nine days before Christmas, perhaps you would like to try the one found below: <https://p.praymorenovenas.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/The-Christmas-Novena.pdf>