

St. Joseph's Parish

760 St. David Street North, Fergus, Ontario N1M 2K9

Tel: 519-843-2006 Email: stjosephfergus@hamiltondiocese.com

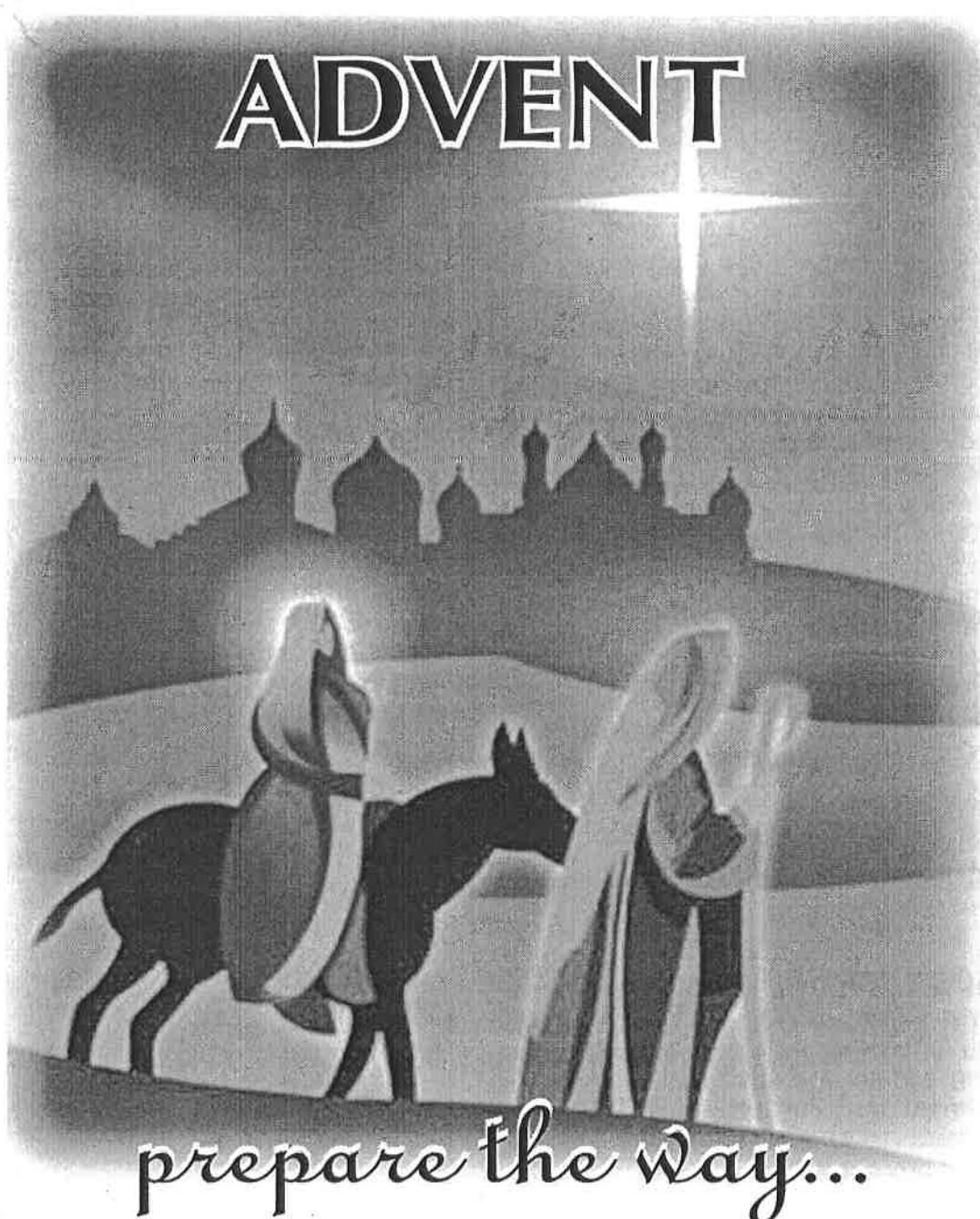
Web Page: www.stjosephfergus.org

PASTOR: Fr. Robert Héту, P.P.

DEACON: Rev. Mr. Trevor Klein

SECRETARY: Mrs. Lori Cipparrone **CUSTODIAN:** Mr. Kevin Shea

SACRISTANS: Brigitte Quinke & Catherine Cyr.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

From the Pastor's Desk

Fr. Robert Héту

Most of us have an intuitive understanding of Advent, based on experience, but what do the Church's official documents say about Advent? Here is part 4 of some basic questions and (official!) answers about Advent. Yes, some of the answers might be surprising!

7. How Are Churches Decorated During Advent?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes: During Advent the floral decoration of the altar should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of this time of year, without expressing in anticipation the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord. During Lent it is forbidden for the altar to be decorated with flowers. Exceptions, however, are Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts. [GIRM 305]

8. How Is Music Performed During Advent? *The*

General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes: In Advent the use of the organ and other musical instruments should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of this time of year, without expressing in anticipation the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord. In Lent the playing of the organ and musical instruments is allowed only in order to support the singing. Exceptions, however, are Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts. [GIRM 313]

9. Is the Gloria Said or Sung During Advent?

Neither. *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* provides: [The Gloria or "Glory to God in the highest"] is sung or said on Sundays outside Advent and Lent, and also on Solemnities and Feasts, and at particular celebrations of a more solemn character. [GIRM 53]

10. What Private Devotions Can We Use to Grow Closer to God During Advent? There are a variety of private devotions that the Church has recognized for use during Advent. The most famous is the Advent Wreath.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "Without love, we are birds with broken wings." ~ Morrie Schwartz

LAUGHTER GOOD FOR THE SOUL: A true story: The nativity play was going as planned and Joseph and Mary were going from house to house knocking on the doors and asking if there was any room for them. As they continued to get 'no room' answers, a little voice called from the back "YOU SHOULD HAVE MADE A RESERVATION!" It brought the house down.



Welcome to St. Joseph's Parish

We extend a warm welcome to all.
We pray that you feel at home.
Please introduce yourself and
Consider becoming a member of
Our family of faith.

Prayer Intentions

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

7:00pm Lino Pigozzo – Theresa Pigozzo & Family

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

8:30am Ted Idzik – Jane Idzik

Thursday, December 22, 2022

8:30am Don Wellstead – Terri Wellstead & Family

Friday, December 23, 2022

8:30am Intentions of Stasia Brohman – Joanne Brohman

9:20am St. Joseph School Mass

Saturday, December 24, 2022

5:00pm Christmas Eve. Mass

8:00pm Christmas Eve. Mass

Sunday December 25, 2022

Midnight Mass

10:00am Christmas Day Mass

Diocesan Prayer Calendar

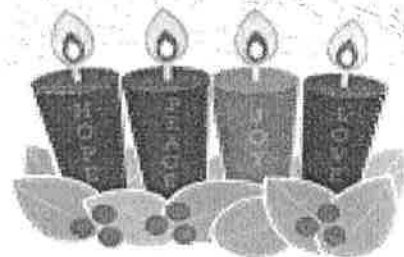
December 19	Rev. Msgr. Ivan Vuksic
December 20	Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.
December 21	Voluntas Dei Institute
December 22	Rev. Louis DeVaugelas, L.C.
December 23	Rev. Jerek Scherber, L.C.
December 24	Rev. Adam Zettel, L.C.
December 25	Christmas Day – Nativity of the Lord

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 18, 2022

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or a consecrated virgin, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Happy 4th week of Advent!





At the Shrine of the Blessed Virgin, one candle burns for the Intentions of the Nunes Family. The second candle at the Shrine burns for the intentions

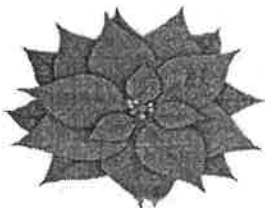
At the Shrine of St. Joseph, one candle burns for the Intentions of the Nunes Family.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Any time is a good time to invite family, friends, and neighbours to attend Mass. Especially so during the beautiful Christmas season. What better gift can we give a loved one who is away from the Church than a warm invitation to Come Home for Christmas? Whether they have been away for a short time or a long time, we want all Catholics to know that they are warmly welcomed back to our Parish community. Please consider extending this invitation to loved ones, neighbours, and colleagues – for more information, visit <http://hamiltondiocese.com>

Canadian Food for Children

Thanks again to everyone for your ongoing donations for CFFC. Please help provide the less fortunate with much needed basic necessities. For this Christmas season, we are focusing on food items as such as rice, pasta, cooking oils, canned meat, canned fish, tomato sauces and salt. Also, candy and chocolate are very much appreciated as they can encourage starving children to start eating again, as well as comfort a child when they need to seek medical help. Wishing you all a wonderful, blessed Christmas.



Last Chance to Order Christmas Floral Tributes

All requests for Christmas Floral Tributes must be received no later than **Wednesday, December 21st**.

Looking For A Last Minute Gift?

A variety of stained-glass angels, ornaments, Nativity Scenes, etc. are available in the Church Office waiting room. They are quite lovely and reasonably priced. All proceeds will be donated to the St. Joseph Building Fund. Stop in and have a look.

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Schedule for 2023

The 2023 Schedule for Eucharistic Ministers has been emailed to everyone who has an email address. If you do not have email, your copy is available in the Narthex. If you have not received your copy, please contact the Church office at 519-843-2006

Parenting Tip Of The Month

Christmas is an exciting and busy time of year, a time when it is vital for parents to counter the secular side of the holiday, so heavily promoted, by helping their children understand the real 'reason for the season'. Ensuring you have a nativity set and Advent wreath in your home are important reminders that it is Christ we celebrate. Attending Mass, placing Jesus in the manger before opening presents on Christmas morning, giving to charity and reminding your children Baptism calls all of you to do so, are ways to give a place of importance to the birth of Jesus. If Christmas becomes only about Santa, it is a real loss for your children and their faith.

Marriage Tip Of The Month

As we move toward the end of the year, take some time as a couple to reflect on your last twelve months together. Ask yourselves what you did well and what you might do better, both for each other and for your marriage. Check in to see if you spent enough time together, if you remembered to compliment each other, showed gratitude for the gifts your spouse brings to your life and whether you felt joy more often than not. If your relationship needs strengthening, commit to finding the help you need to make it strong; if you feel good after your assessment, celebrate your love and thank God for his never-ending support.

Upcoming Parish Events

Dec. 21	St. Joseph School Concert 1:30pm & 6:30pm
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Masses – 5pm, and 8pm
Dec. 25	Midnight Christmas Day – 10am
Dec. 26-30	No Weekday Masses
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Mass 5:00pm
Jan. 1, 2023	New Year's Day Masses, 9am and 11am
Jan 7	Baptismal Prep Class 9:00 to 11:00am



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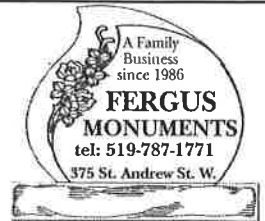


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