



MASSES OF THE WEEK

Monday, December 2 – Ferial: Weekday

7:30a.m. – Bruna Girardi, Maxima Lerit, Intentions of Sean & Kelly McCarthy

Tuesday, December 3 – Feast: St. Francis Xavier

6:30p.m. – Don Forester & Deceased Members of the Forester Family, Nicoletta Ferrantone

Wednesday, December 4 – Ferial: Weekday

7:30a.m. – George Henderson, Intentions of Judy Spence

Thursday, December 5 – Ferial: Weekday

7:30a.m. – Stuart Crease, Sean Farrelly

Friday, December 6 – Ferial: Weekday

7:30a.m. – Peter Marchese, Ed Turow

Saturday, December 7 – Feast: St. Ambrose

9:00a.m. – Special Intentions

5:15p.m. – Celestina Cabling, W.M. Loretta & Matthew Hanson, Santhosh George, Jake White & Deceased Members of the White Family

Sunday, December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent

9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.

Stewardship of Treasure:

Thank you for your gift of \$10,352.40 in support of your parish community in gratitude for God's blessings.

+We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family of George Corbett. May he and all our deceased loved ones rest in peace with our Lord.

PARISH NEWS

MEMORIAL BOOK

Our Memorial Book may be found in the Seasonal Shrine and you are invited to write the names of your deceased loved ones in the Book of Life and they will be remembered at daily Mass.

2019-2020 SUNDAY MISSALS

The Missals for the coming liturgical year are now available on the Information Desk at a cost of \$4. An envelope may be found in the missals and can be placed in the offertory collection or dropped to the Parish Office.

ADVENT 2019

Mass on Saturday Morning

During the Season of Advent, and the Octave of Christmas, there will be Mass celebrated at 9:00a.m. on Saturday mornings. Mass will be preceded by a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 8:00a.m. and Morning Prayer at 8:40a.m.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 9th at 7:00p.m.

7:30a.m. Low Mass for the Immaculate Conception
8:00a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Noon
12:00p.m. Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00p.m. Solemn Mass for the Immaculate Conception

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate the Solemn Mass at 7:00p.m. During this Mass the Bishop will declare the Basilica to be the official Shrine of Our Lady for the Hamilton Diocese. There will be refreshments in the Parish Hall after Mass.

In preparation for our Feast Day we will pray a Novena to the Immaculate Conception after all Masses on November 30th.

Bambinelli Sunday

Sunday, December 15th, 2019

On the Third Sunday of Advent you are invited to bring the Baby Jesus statues from your home nativity set(s). The images will be blessed at all of the Masses on "Bambinelli Sunday" before you place them in your Nativity.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation During Advent

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be celebrated:

Tuesday, December 3 rd	5:00p.m.- 6:00p.m.
Sunday, December 7 th	4:00p.m.- 5:00p.m.
Tuesday, December 10 th	5:00p.m.- 6:00p.m.
Saturday, December 14 th	4:00p.m.- 5:00p.m.
Tuesday, December 17 th	5:00p.m.- 6:00p.m.
Saturday, December 21 st	9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. 3:00p.m.- 5:00p.m.

Please note that there will be no confessions heard during the Octave of Christmas from December 24th to January 1st inclusive.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament During Advent

All Tuesdays of Advent 1:00p.m.- 6:00p.m.

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Monday, December 9th, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after Morning Mass until noon, with Rosary and Benediction at 12:00noon.

On Saturdays of Advent there will be a Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 8:00a.m., ending with Mass at 9:00a.m. Morning Prayer will be prayed at 8:40a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

If you have a child in JK to Grade 4 who would like to play a role in our Christmas Eve Pageant, please contact Laura Del Rosario at coolpageant@gmail.com or sign up at <http://bit.ly/coolpageant>. If you have a child in Grade 5-8 who would be interested in narrating or reading scriptures, please email Laura at coolpageant@gmail.com. Rehearsals following the 11a.m. Mass will be held on Sunday, December 8th, Sunday, December 15th and Sunday, December 22nd.

ADVENT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

The weeks before Christmas are usually a hurried time of shopping, preparations and card writing. For Christians, however, these weeks should be marked by prayerful preparation for the Feast of Christmas. Please plan to attend our first **Advent Service of Lessons and Carols**, as a way to begin this season in prayer and recollection. This service, to be held on the First Sunday of Advent **Sunday, December 1st at 7:00p.m.**, will be a reflection on the Season of Advent through Scripture, song and Christian fellowship. We are extending an invitation to the clergy and faithful of the other churches in Guelph. Seasonal refreshments will be served after the service. Please come and bring a friend!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

DONATIONS: During December and January, we are collecting toques, gloves, scarves and underwear in all sizes for the homeless men and women in our community. Please put your donations into the bins provided.

DECEMBER MEETING: On Tuesday, December 10th at our General Meeting & Potluck Matthew Simone, from Canadian Food for Children, will be our guest speaker. We welcome donations of packages of rice, beans and jars of peanut butter for Canadian Food for Children.

MEMBERSHIP: We are now collecting our annual membership dues for 2020. Membership to the League is \$25 and is for every woman over the age of 16. Dues can be placed in the pink offertory envelope or your own envelope addressed to the Catholic Women's League.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the "Bambinelli" – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on Sunday, December 15th at the 9a.m. & 11a.m. Masses to be blessed, as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your "Bambinelli" home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day – as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

JOHN MILLER ADVENT CONCERT

John Miller and Friends will perform their annual Advent Concert at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate on Wednesday, December 11th at 7p.m. Plan to attend as we listen to seasonal traditional and contemporary music in a prayerful way. A goodwill donation of \$10 is appreciated.

OTHER NEWS**IGNATIUS JESUIT CENTRE OPEN HOUSE**

You are invited to a celebration of Advent on Sunday, December 1st from 2-4p.m. with the Jesuit Community. This gathering will be held at Loyola House (Ignatius Jesuit Centre), 5420 Hwy. 6 N., Guelph. Light snacks and beverages will be available. We hope to see you there! For more information call 519-824-1250 or email reception@ignatiusguelph.ca.

DIOCESAN HEALING MASS

Losing a child is a painful and life-altering experience for parents, grandparents and other family members. The feeling of loss, regardless of the amount of time that has passed, is often more profound during the Christmas season. A Diocesan Healing Mass for those that have lost a child of any age, including pre-birth and still birth, will be held on Sunday, Dec. 1st, 2019 at 4p.m. The Mass is meant to bring hope to all those trying to cope with such grief and will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton on the first Sunday in Advent.

GUELPH THEOLOGY ON TAP

We invite you to join us for our 3rd Theology on Tap event of the season on Tuesday, December 10th from 7-9p.m. at the Albion Hotel, Guelph. Come hear about "Science and Religion: A Coalescence of Truth and Reality" with Ted Laxton, 20+ years as Teacher and Former Administrator of the Wellington Catholic School Board. Ted is the author of "A Catholic Teacher's Guide to Answering Questions about Science and Faith." Free finger food will be provided. Special shout out to young adults 19-40. All are welcome. For more information, please visit us on Facebook at "Theology on Tap Guelph" or contact us at Theologyontapguelph@gmail.com.

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

For Catholics, Christmas is about so much more than gifts: it is the promise, through the birth of Jesus, of goodness and light coming into our lives. Do your children know this is the focus of Christmas? Advent and Christmas are perfect times to highlight the "reason for the season". Read stories about the Advent wreath so they understand what each candle symbolizes; read the story of the Nativity (more than once!); be sure the tree is adorned with symbols of the faith; read family Advent reflections daily during Advent; attend Mass and reflect on the readings each week, including Christmas Day. Faith sets a foundation on which to stand and Christmas is a perfect time to bring Christ into your family activities!

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

At Christmas we gather with loved ones to share gifts, eat great food and build joyful memories. Sometimes we get caught up on the glitter and glam of the season and forget to take time as a couple to decide how much money, time and energy we can expend during the season. This year why not sit down in advance and decide how much you can do as a couple/family. Weave into your plans time for the two of you to take a quiet moment with each other. During Advent and Christmas, take time to pray and share important faith moments with each other. Trying these initiatives could make this Christmas your best yet!

GUELPH MEN'S PRAYER GROUP: ADVENT SESSIONS

All men are invited to join us from 7-8a.m. on Saturdays, November 30th to December 21st, at St. John's Church in the meeting room by the Parish Office entrance (between St. James and the Church). Led by his excellency Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki. For more information email terry.grignon@gmail.com or phone 519-766-0808.

ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHRISTMAS DINNER

The St. Teresa of Avila Christmas Dinner is on Friday, December 6th at St. Teresa of Avila Church Hall, 19 Flamingo Drive, Elmira. The meal will begin at 6p.m. Cash Bar will be available. A limited number of tickets can be purchased through the Parish Office., Monday to Friday, 9a.m. to 1p.m. or by calling 519-669-3387. Ticket prices are: Adults \$21.00; Children 6-12 years \$10.00 and Children 5 & under are free. Last chance to purchase tickets is Monday, December 2nd. We will be having our Gift Basket Raffle and our popular 50/50 draw as well. Our very own local band – No Request – will be providing musical entertainment during and after the Christmas Dinner. Please plan to stay and even sneak in a dance or 2! Funds raised from this event will go towards the Building Maintenance Project.