

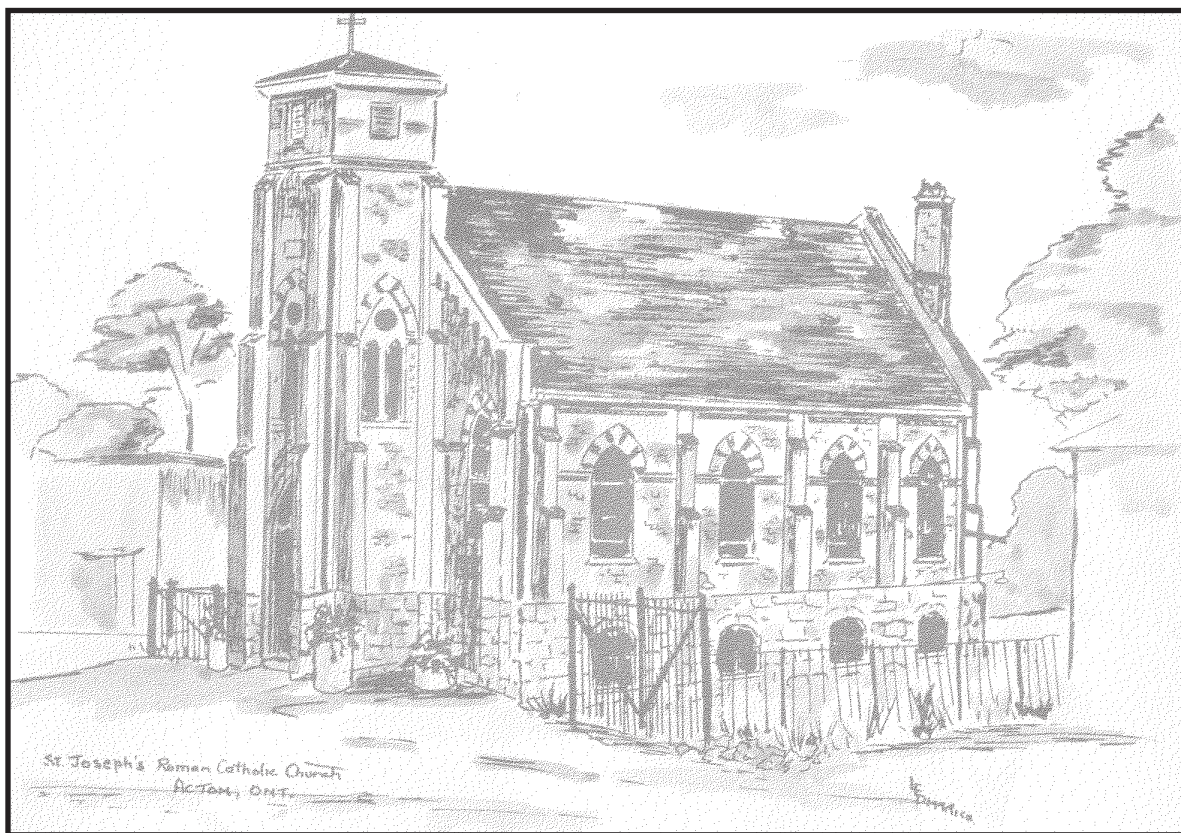
St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON

Office

39 John St. S. Acton, ON, L7J 2A8 Tel: 519-853-0784 Fax: 519-853-5941

e-mail: stjoseph.church@bellnet.ca



Fr. Mark Sullivan, Pastor
Janet Raats, Office Administrator

Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am
11:00 am

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus
St. Vincent Charities



BAPTISMS:

By arrangement with the pastor.

MARRIAGES:

By arrangement one year in advance.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 pm
or by appointment.

SCHOOLS:

St. Joseph 519-853-3730
Christ the King 905-702-8838

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

We invite you to register in our parish community
by filling in a blue registration form.

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

On this, the Second Sunday of Advent, the Church traditionally introduces the image of John the Baptist in the Gospel passage. This year we read from the Gospel of Mark of the appearance of John in the desert. Unlike the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, Mark forgoes any information of the birth of Christ, the author goes directly to the image of the Baptist.

Many of us admire someone who has the courage to start over again in their lives. Someone may return to school to earn a degree. Perhaps they were someone who put their lives or dreams on the 'backburner' to allow others to achieve their careers, dreams, or goals.

Everyday some of us dream of starting over, but most never do, saying things such as, 'but I'm too old to start over,' or "starting over would be great, but it is too risky." Advent is a time of grace because it is a time that presents us with an opportunity to begin again in a spiritual sense.

Advent challenges us to look at our lives in a fresh way. On one hand, we are called to prepare for Christmas by once again focussing on the meaning of the birth of Christ. On the other hand, Advent is not just about getting ready to celebrate the first coming of Jesus. It is also a period which reminds us to prepare for Jesus' second coming.

We must also see that not only does Advent occur in the context of Christmas, but it also signals the start of a new liturgical year which brings us new opportunities and new possibilities. Perhaps instead of starting resolutions on New Year's Day, we can make resolutions now, during Advent, which will enable us to start over.

This is the hope of Advent. God is coming even though we may not think so. Advent is a time to ponder a new relationship with God in the light of a new year. The past can be forgotten for the sake of preparing for the coming of the Lord and a new life with Him.

The reason most people do not start over is because they have no patience and no faith that God will help. They are not willing to prepare for a different life or way of living. The Gospel this Sunday reminds us that the Lord will answer our many prayers, but we cannot sit idly by while we are waiting. We must prepare for God's arrival.

Our lives must not be based on 'if-only' or excuses that begin with 'but' as in, "but I can't". Advent is a season that reminds us that we should always begin again.

Fr. Mark

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

"Into this world, this demented inn in which there is absolutely no room for him at all, Christ comes uninvited.
- Thomas Merton.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

***Stephanie Lampkin,
Colleen Decarlis, Lisa Fuller***



This week we pray especially for the following families of our parish:

***Ferlito, Fernandes, Foster,
Fowler, Fuller, Gajda***

The **CWL Christmas Dinner** (hosted by the Knights) will be on **Tuesday, December 12**. That day, Mass will be at 6:00 and dinner will begin at 6:30 in the church hall. Tickets will be \$30 and sold at Masses the weekends of November 25-6 and December 2-3.

From the Parish Office – Envelopes for 2024 will be available soon for pickup in the Parish Hall after Masses. Please do not use the New Ones before January 1.

All contributions received by Sunday December 31 will be tax receipted for 2023.

The Parish Office will be **closed from December 20 at 12:30 p.m. until January 2 at 9:30 a.m.** to prepare for year end.

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (December 11 – December 17)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues. 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Geralda Savoie</i>	Janine Milton
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Trevor Xavier Castelino	Gomes Family
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	Maria and Giuseppe Querques	Querques and Spehar Families
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	Pascal D'Sa	Gomes Family
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Cassie and Emily Raats	Raats Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
11:00 a.m.	Wilfred and Jo Ann Duval	Their Children

Bulletins are available online at:
<http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/097>



CONTACT PERSONS for CWL and K of C

Anyone interested in learning more about our parish Catholic Women's League or Knights of Columbus is invited to call the appropriate contact person:

CWL: Christie deSouza: 519-400-6012 cwl@lartist.com
 K of C: Ian Nolan: grand.knight.8050@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS MASSES – Christmas and New Years Day fall on Mondays this year, Masses for Christmas Eve and New Years Eve and our regular Sunday Masses will be on the same days. Please note **there is one Mass on Christmas morning.**

Christmas Eve: 9:00 a.m. Regular Mass
 11:00 a.m. Regular Mass
 4:00 p.m. Christmas Mass
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Mass
 Midnight Christmas Mass

Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m.

New Years Eve: 9:00 a.m. Regular Mass
 11:00 a.m. Regular Mass
 5:00 p.m. New Year

New Years Day: 9:00 a.m. New Year
 11:00 a.m. New Year

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday **December 14** 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
 Tuesday **December 19** 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
 Thursday **December 21** 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
 Saturday **December 23** 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Advent Prayer Night for Youth Ministers and

Volunteers - All adults who minister to young people in the Diocese of Hamilton are invited to an evening of prayer and fellowship. Join us on Wednesday, December 13th at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Freelon for our Advent gathering. For more information and registration, email youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com

VOCATIONS MASS AND YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT – JANUARY 5TH – HAMILTON

The Serra Club of Hamilton invites all parishioners to attend a Mass for vocations at 6:00pm. Following the Mass, Fr. Mark Morley invites young adults to attend a night of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in celebration of the Christmas Season. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:30pm), praise night and vocations talk (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Friday, January 5th at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Rd W, Hamilton, ON L9C 2V2). Co-sponsored by the Serra Club of Hamilton and the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com





Knights of Columbus

St. Joseph's Council #8050
Ilan Nolan, Grand Knight
Decio Ramalho
519-856-2753



Manulife Securities
Daniel Varanelli, CFP, CGA
Certified Financial Planner
273 Queen St. 519-853-4855
daniel.varanelli@manulifesecurities.ca

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Catholic Women's League



of St. Joseph's invites the ladies of the Parish to our regular meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

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