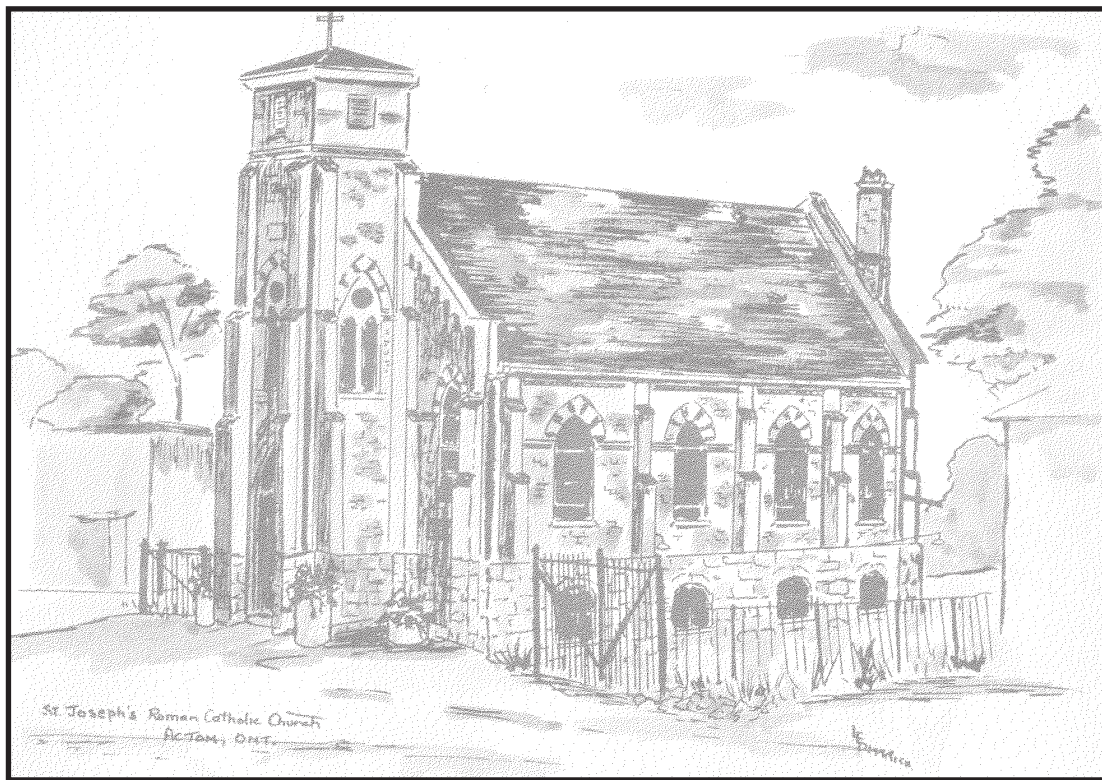


St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

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

Mrs. Eddie MacDonald, Pastoral Minister eddiemacd2@gmail.com cell 905-873-5774
Janet Raats, Administrative Assistant

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

EXPOSITION:

Friday 9:30 am - 10:30 am

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

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



FIAT VOLUNTAS TUA

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:

The Third Sunday of Advent is called 'Gaudete Sunday' which means 'to rejoice'. We light the third, rose-coloured candle of our Advent wreath and the priest may wear rose coloured vestments to celebrate the Mass. This Sunday reminds us that we are at the halfway point of the Advent Season. One's mindset should be not that the Lord is coming but rather that His here so let us rejoice.

The Gospel of this Third Sunday poses the question: "Who are you?" It is a question rightfully asked by anyone who would come and be with us.

When asked who we are, our usual response is to offer our name: "I am..." but today's question posed to John by the leaders, is asking for more. It is asking for the essence of who we are. It is asking us to reveal the foundation of our identity. It can be an uncomfortable query.

This Third Sunday of Advent we are being reminded that the first and best answer is "I am a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ." We can be strengthened and encouraged in our response by looking at John the Baptist. He was an individual who had a clear sense of who he was. His sense of self was rooted in his belief that his identity was bound intimately with who God is, and John saw everything he did as somehow being an outward expression of his Faith. Many were brought to a new understanding of their Faith because of his clearly defined sense of self.

The Season of Advent calls us to ask: "Who am I?" It is a question we may struggle with but if we are honest with ourselves, then we can overcome any challenges and be strengthened by the gift of Advent. It can help us to remember who we are.

Fr. Mark

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?"
– Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

***Karin Brozic, Fran Walters,
Danielle Little***

Bulletins are available online at:

<http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/097>

CHRISTMAS MASSES – Christmas Mass times will be changed this year and as per regulations we will be restricted to 30% capacity, under mask mandate and following physical distancing protocols. Seating will be assigned by ushers so that we can make best use of the limited space. To follow guidelines from the Diocese and in line with current public health rules, we will require booking for all Masses. Mass will also be streamed.

Masses will be celebrated as follows:

Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. Fully Booked
6:00 p.m.
8:00 p.m.
Midnight Fully Booked
Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Book your spot via our website:

www.stjosephprayforus.ca or book via the Parish office at: 519-853-0784.

Confessions for Christmas (in the Church)

Tues Dec 15 6:00-6:30 p.m.
Thurs Dec 17 6:00-6:30 p.m.
Sat Dec 19 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Tues Dec 22 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Personal appointments can be made by speaking directly to Father Mark.

To assist you as you prepare for the coming of our Lord, register for daily Advent messages with **FORMED.org**. A truly informative and peace-filled journey awaits.

Update on Acton Christmas Hamper Programme - Much has changed this year, but the need to support our community has not. The Acton Christmas Hamper committee has developed a system to ensure those that need support this Christmas season will receive it, by providing families with grocery cards. The safety of our volunteers, who make this programme possible, was essential in the decision, and with schools not permitted to have food drives, and the significant protocols that would have to be in place, physical hampers were just not possible this year. But with the generous support of the St. Joseph Parish we are able to help those in need in our community at Christmas and throughout the year. Acton Foodshare continues to provide food and can receive donations at Acton No Frills, Sobeys and Giant Tiger. For more information, please visit their website
<https://www.actonfoodshare.com/>

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (December 14-December 20)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues 7:00 p.m.	<i>Advent Intentions of Our Parish</i>	
Wed 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Lukas Jakubiec</i>	Kwiatkowski Family
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Kaz Kusmierczak</i>	Podsada Family
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Parish</i>	
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Tony and Mary Gorjup	Gorjup Family
Sun. 8:30 a.m.	Pro populo	
Sun. 10:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
Sun. 11:30 a.m.	Emily and Cassie Raats	Raats Family



Only Lectors are serving until further notice. There may be a Sunday which has no Lector assigned. If you are a Lector and can fill in, it would be most appreciated.

Sat. 5:00 p.m.
 Sun. 8:30 a.m.
 10:00 a.m.
 11:30 a.m.



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: cwl@lartist.com
 K of C: Sean Saunders: grand.knight.8050@gmail.com

MEETINGS

Currently Suspended



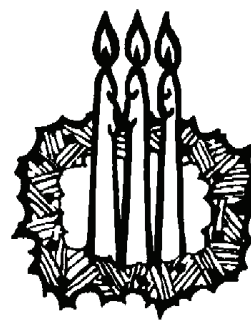
This week we pray especially for the following families:

*Pupo, Quackenbush, Querques,
 Raats, Ramalho, Redford*

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Father Mark arranges all Baptisms and Marriages personally, by appointment. Please see Father after Mass to set a time for an interview. Marriages must be arranged one year in advance. Completion of a marriage preparation course is required. Application forms can be obtained from Father Mark.

From the Pastoral Minister - We may be unable to celebrate the gift of giving through our Jesse Tree this year, but the need remains! Please assist our low-income individuals and families by purchasing gift cards to Shoppers Drug Mart and Giant Tiger in particular. These two stores offer a variety (clothing, over the counter medication and personal needs etc.). Any amount is appreciated. Please drop your gift cards into the collection over Advent. God bless your generosity!



THIRD SUNDAY OF

ADVENT



Knights of Columbus
St. Joseph's Council #8050
Sean Saunders, Grand Knight
705-427-3970

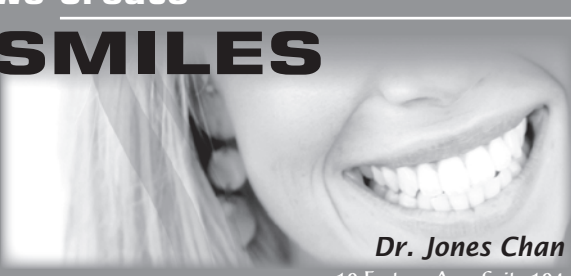


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Catholic Women's League
of St. Joseph's invites the ladies of the Parish to our regular meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

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