

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

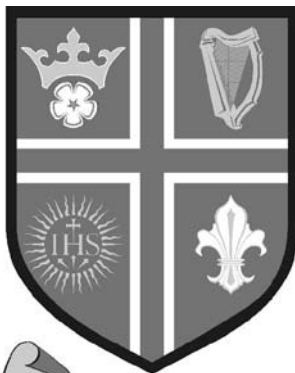
Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

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:

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 He is 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, and to focus on who we are called to be.

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:

***Geralda Savoie,
Madeline Ainsworth,
Olga and Eugene Malysa***



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

***Gallagher, Geberlein, Giliauskas,
Gillan, Gomes, Gouveia***

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.

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Father Mark arranges 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. Applications may be obtained from Father Mark.

Fr. Mark

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (December 18 – December 24)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues. 7:00 p.m.	People of the Holy Land	
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Grace Mendes	Her Parents
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	Indigenous Peoples of Canada	
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	People of Ukraine	
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Helen and Dusan Klemencic	Estate of Helen Klemencic
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Manuel Pereira	Joe and Maria Pereira
11:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Our Parish Family</i>	
Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of the Sick and Infirm of Our Parish</i>	
Christmas Eve Midnight	<i>Intentions of Our Holy Father, Pope Francis</i>	
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Our Holy Father, Pope Francis</i>	

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 – 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 OPPORTUNITIES

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.

RECONCILIATION

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



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT



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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Dr. Jones Chan

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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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