

# 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](mailto: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



---

**A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:**

**T**his year, as we come to the end of Advent, we might feel that we are being 'short-changed' in the celebration of this Fourth Sunday of Advent. We basically only have four hours to celebrate this Sunday, then we go right into the Nativity of the Lord.

Even though we only have a few hours to ponder this Sunday, we may come away with a very romantic view of the Annunciation that is based on centuries of art. Perhaps we have seen images of the Annunciation in paintings, in stained glass windows in churches, and maybe even on prayer cards. We envision Mary looking pious and serene toward a warm light of unknown origin, seemingly on the verge of spiritual ecstasy. While we envision this beautiful scene, we tend to forget that the Archangel Gabriel had to tell Mary, "Do not be afraid, Mary."

The great artist Rembrandt pondered the Annunciation and though he never painted the scene, he did make a sketch of his idea for such a painting. In that sketch we see the Archangel Gabriel trying to hold Mary as she falls from a chair. She almost faints after Gabriel's announcement, definitely not a reaction of joy.

Luke begins Gabriel's greeting with the words, "Hail, full of grace. The Lord is with you, you have found favour with God." The word 'Hail' means 'rejoice', but to find 'favour with God' was not always something to rejoice over. Yes, God may have certainly noticed you, but it implied that God had a great task for you, which may have had significant consequences for saying 'yes'.

As we enter our final hours of preparing for Christmas, we should really consider carefully what the announcement of the birth of the Messiah means for us. Does the knowledge of the birth of Jesus Christ make us feel a bit anxious? It should, because His birth ushered in a great change to our world.

This change brought joy, healing, and hope; however, it also brought expectations from God. If we have not pondered these expectations on knowing who Jesus is for us, then we still have prayerful work to do.

Being a Christian brings a huge responsibility. Being a follower of Jesus Christ has tremendous implications for everything we think, say, or do. Mary

realized this truth and the Archangel had to tell her not to be afraid.

The one thing that we should not have to do is to worry about how we will succeed in our Christianity. Just like Mary, all we need to say is 'yes'. We are called to do our best and then leave everything else to God.

A child is given to each of us at Christmas. To accept this child in our lives comes with serious responsibilities; however, what we must never do is to worry. God will always be with us, to help us raise this child which we call faith.

*Fr. Mark*

---

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God."

— C.S.Lewis "Mere Christianity"

---

---

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

This week please pray especially for:

***Pat Haffey, Helen Stroz,  
Stephanie Lampkin***

---



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

***Grabauskas, Graham, Gualtieri,  
Hanlon, Hannah, Hansen***

---

From the Parish Office – Envelopes for 2024 are available 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 25 – December 31)	REQUESTED BY:
<b>Christmas Day</b> 10:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Our Holy Father, Pope Francis</i>	
Tues. <b>No Mass</b>		
Wed. <b>No Mass</b>		
Thurs. <b>No Mass</b>		
Fri. <b>No Mass</b>		
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Marjorie Hutchison	Raats Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Maria Amerelo	Joe and Maria Pereira
11:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
<b>New Year's Eve</b> 5:00 p.m.	<i>New Years Intentions of Our Parish</i>	
<b>New Year's Day</b> 9:00 a.m.	<i>New Years Intentions of Our Parish</i>	
	11:00 a.m. <i>New Years Intentions of Our Parish</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](mailto:cwl@lartist.com)

K of C: Ian Nolan: [grand.knight.8050@gmail.com](mailto:grand.knight.8050@gmail.com)

**NEW YEAR'S MASSES** – New Years Eve and our regular Sunday Masses will be on the same day.

**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

**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.

**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](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

*We await with joyful hope,  
the coming of Our Lord!*





**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

**YOURWAY**  
*Auto Repair Ltd.*  
**262 Main St. N**  
**All makes & models**  
**www.yourwayauto.ca**  
**519-853-0900**

**we create SMILES**



**Dr. Jones Chan**

10 Eastern Ave, Suite 104  
**519-853-1900**

*Separate Entrance, located outside Acton Medical Clinic*

**Footprints**

Physiotherapy  
Clinic

10 Eastern Ave.  
**519-853-1800**

www.FootprintsPhysiotherapy.ca

**Mountainview Residence of Georgetown**

*Multi level lifestyles staffed & ready to provide services that fulfill your intellectual, social & physical needs. Private suites & homestyle meals round out our motto "Family Caring, Caring for Life"*

**For suite & service information**  
**905-877-1800**

www.mountainviewresidence.com



**OUR COMMITMENT TO LOWER PRICES IS BANANAS.**



Luciano & Sarah's No Frills **NOFRILLS**

**Holy Redeemer Catholic Cemetery**

12337 17th Side Road, Georgetown  
905-877-8500

www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca



**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.

**HIDE HOUSE**

Leather Fashions and Fine Leather Furniture

*It's Worth the drive to Acton*  
49 Eastern Ave. 519-853-1031

**MacKinnon**

Family Funeral Home Ltd.



**Laura Vanderleest**  
Managing Director

**55 Mills St. E., Acton**  
**519-853-0350**

MacKinnonFamilyFuneralHome.com



**P & H Milling Group**

*A division of Parrish & Heimbecker, Ltd.*  
Milling Quality Flour In Acton Since 1830  
45 Church St. W. 519-853-2850



Massage • Foot Care  
Custom Orthotics  
Orthopedic Shoes

**Deanna Wilson B.Sc., D.Ch.**  
Chiropodist/Foot Specialist  
**Naomi Bedell RMT**  
Registered Massage Therapist  
**65 Mill St. E. 519-853-8557**  
www.ActonHead2Toe.com

**THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!**



**TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL 1-800-268-2637**

**HearingLife**  
Love your ears

Mention code:  
**MAG-USP-SJPB**

**Book your FREE hearing test today!**

**Acton 31 Mill Street East**  
**1-855-797-4700 HearingLife.ca**