

St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON

Office

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Fr. Mark Sullivan, Pastor

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Janet Raats, Office Administrator

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



Feast of the Holy Family

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you, the Parishioners of St. Joseph, Christmas Blessing at this time. These blessing also extend to your families as well.

Obviously, this has been a very difficult year for us, both as a parish community and as part of the general population. Still, we have much for which to be thankful and we need to remind ourselves of the joy and hope for our lives which the birth of our Saviour can bring.

Still, many are fearful of what this world can present to us. The real meaning of this feast is about giving up our fears. Most especially, this is a feast that helps us to free ourselves from the fear of striving to be fully human. If we are honest with ourselves, we will admit that we are not good risk takers. However, we are made in the image and likeness of God, and our humanity must somehow come to resemble God.

In becoming one of us, Jesus taught us many things, and among them, He taught us how to be human the way God had intended us to be. He taught us that we did not have to see God as a strange and terrifying creature. We can see God as a Being of love, mercy, and forgiveness, a Being of warmth and shelter.

When we read or hear the Nativity story, we see the shepherds in the fields, and “the Angel of the Lord appeared to them and the Glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear.” However, God assured them that they were the first to hear of the birth of Our Saviour. These were individuals not seen as kindly pastoral men. They were considered to be among the lowest in society, not to be trusted, and in many cases, feared for being unscrupulous and thieving. Their humanity was anything but what God had intended when He created us. But it was to just such as these that the message of God entering our world as one of us was first proclaimed.

On this Christmas Day, let us pray that our fears will subside and that we can be enveloped by Light. We must see that we are wrapped in God’s love. With Jesus becoming one of us, we can be unafraid of following Him into the warmth of the Light.

Fr. Mark

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

“Once in our world, a Stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.”

- C.S. Lewis “The Last Battle”

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

**Marie Zions, Laura Kupferschmidt,
Susan McGilloway Robson**

Bulletins are available online at:

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

Collection Envelopes – New envelopes have been prepared for 2022 and some number assignments may have changed. **It is important that 2022 envelopes are not used before January** in order that funds are correctly credited to your profile and tax receipts are accurate. Envelopes may be picked up from the church hall.

Office Closure – The office will be closed from December 23th to January 4th for Christmas and to prepare year-end reporting. All donations received **in the collection by December 31st** will be included in 2021 receipts. Tax receipts are issued for annual donations of \$25.00 or more.

Message from the Serra Club

By Baptism we are God’s holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained, or consecrated person. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact

Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988).

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com or visit the

website: www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

From the Diocese: The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis and the Liturgy Office have prepared the attached link to the diocese website with a beautiful resource for families to share and pray together in celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family.

In particular, as we face new concerns with COVID-19 and in-person celebrations, many families may find this helpful in guiding their devotions at home.

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/holyfamily2021/>

*Our God has appeared on the earth,
and lived among us.*

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (December 27 – January 2)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues	No Mass	
Wed	No Mass	
Thurs.	No Mass	
New Year's Eve 5:00 p.m.	New Years Intentions of Pope Francis	
New Year's Day 9:00 a.m.	New Year's Intentions of St. Joseph Parish	
11:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Manuel Pereira	The Pereira Family
10:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
11:30 a.m.	Pro populo	



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.



This week we pray especially for the following families:

***Campbell, Cantwell, Carney,
 Cassar, Caswell, Catarino***



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

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 may be obtained from Father Mark.






Knights of Columbus
 St. Joseph's Council #8050
 Sean Saunders, Grand Knight
 Decio Ramalho
519-856-2753



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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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