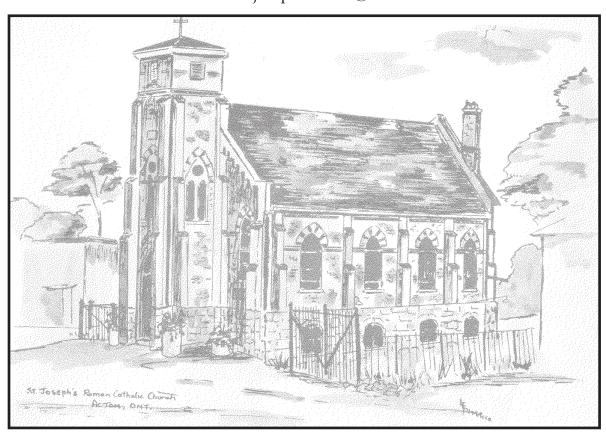
# St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

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:

ith this Sunday, The First Sunday of Advent, we begin a new liturgical year. We also start to read and pray from the Gospel of Mark. This particular Gospel was the first one to be written and it is also the shortest of them.

As we move into our new Church year, and as we begin our anticipation of the celebration of Christmas, it is most appropriate that on the First Sunday of Advent we listen to a passage from Mark that is about the future, for Advent, our own future, and the preparation for Christmas.

The 13th Chapter of Mark is often called "little Apocalypse". There are two full books from the Bible that are also apocalyptic, that is, concerned with future things. These are the Book of Daniel in the Old Testament and the Book of Revelation from the New Testament. Of all the things that the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Mark holds in common with the two other books is that they were written in very troubled times.

In the book of Daniel, Israel was facing destruction, in Revelation, the people were facing persecution, and in Mark, the people were in the midst of the horrible Roman-Jewish War, which would end in 70 A.D. with the destruction of the Temple.

Each of these books believed the world was coming to an end. Daniel, Revelation, and to a degree, Mark, were written in such situations where all hope seemed lost, and the only source of rescue left was the direct intervention of God. The most important thing that these books offer are the words of hope that, in fact, God will intervene to save His people.

There are certainly situations today which can make us very nervous. These include things like sickness, the economy, terrorism, etc. These are things which we can fear. What we must remember today is that our enemy is not fear. Rather, it is things such as complacency and apathy' basically the acceptance of the status quo.

What are we supposed to do? Mark gives us a single word, "watch"! This word is our hope. "Watch", for God will always surprise us. But we are not to be caught 'twiddling' our fingers. This hope belongs to those who have embraced their duty to God's Kingdom. It is our duty to keep hope alive.

If we are to appreciate Christmas, we must come to the realization that we need God. If we don't need God, the coming of His Son is no big deal. If, however, we can touch our fears, anxieties, or

despair, we might begin to touch our neediness, and our hope that God will come again.

Christmas reminds us that Jesus came to us once. Advent is a reminder to stay focused. We must have the hope that He will come to us again.

Fr. Mark

#### THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

"God could, had He pleased, have been incarnate in a man of iron nerves, the Stoic sort who lets no sigh escape Him. Of His great humility He chose to be incarnate in a man of delicate sensibilities who wept at the grave of Lazarus and sweated blood in Gethsemane."

- C.S. Lewis

#### PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

#### Roberto Luisetto, Leo Cheverie, Michael Symboluk



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

#### Dick, Doucette, Dunn, Duval, Dzioba, Eugenio

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.

St. Joseph, Patron of Canada Parish Bazaar The Catholic Women's League will be holding a Bazaar Saturday Dec 9th in the church basement from 10am till 2pm. Once again, we will have a Penny Table, tasty treats at our Bake Table, Religious Books and Articles and the opportunity to have your caricature drawn by artist LAR. The proceeds will go to various CWL charities! As always, we appreciate donations of baked goods and preserves, etc. They can be dropped off on Friday Dec 8th from 7 till 8PM or on Saturday morning from 9 till 9:30 AM. Hope you can join us!

#### **DECEMBER 3, 2023**

DAY & TIME		MASS INTENTIONS (December 4 – December 10)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Intentions of Helen Fowler	CWL
Wed.	9:00 a.m.	People of Ukraine	
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Mary Hartley	Mary Smith
Fri.	9:00 a.m.	Helen and Dusan Klemencic	Estate of Helen Klemencic
Sat.	5:00 p.m.	Annie Rea	Rea Family
Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
	11:00 a.m.	Molly Baillie	de Souza Family

#### **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.

#### 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

Information on Reconciliation times is not yet available.

#### 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 13<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Freelton 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 information. more please contact:

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com





#### Knights of Columbus

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



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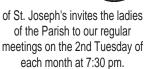


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#### Catholic Women's League



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