

# St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON

## Office

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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



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

**W**e have come to the end of another year. On this New Year's Eve, the Church gives us and celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. On the first day of the new year, January 1<sup>st</sup>, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. It is possible to combine both the Solemnity and the Feast into one bulletin message, but we will mainly deal with the Holy Family.

Our Feast this weekend begs for families to slide a little closer together in the pews and to listen attentively. The Family we celebrate today, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, has much to teach us about our fast-paced lives.

It may be hard to believe for many, but the Holy Family's life was equally busy. They may not have had to worry about their cellphones going off at an inopportune time, but they did have to make and do everything by hand. Grain was bought and had to be ground into flour. Flour had to be made into bread, daily. Water had to be drawn from a well. Never mind the microwave, the Holy Family had to cook every meal over an open fire. The young Jesus would have had so many chores that time to play would have been too brief for Him to have become bored.

So, what made this family 'Holy'? We cannot give Jesus all the credit for this. The holiness of this family came from Mary and Joseph's response to God. They made their faith, their religion, and their religious practices their highest priorities. In his Gospel, St. Luke points out no less than five times that Joseph and Mary did everything as required by the Law of Moses. Luke takes the time to point out that Jesus came from a family that valued its faith and thus by implication, it valued itself and its relationship with God.

Jesus was not just a product of nature. Who He was as a man was very much a result of nurturing as well as a result of the environment His parents created in their home. As we look at our own children, we might ponder what kind of an environment they are coming from. There is no question that children learn what they live. Jesus did, and so will our children.

The Holy Family does not have to be the only one that is holy. Our families can be holy too, but only if we choose to attach ourselves to Jesus Christ and the Faith and religious practices with which He has blessed us.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who gave me cards, gifts, and treats throughout this Christmas Season. More importantly thank you to all who wished me a Blessed Christmas. A Blessed New Year to all of you and your families as we begin this new year.

*Fr. Mark*

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## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

"Let us put ourselves into His hands, and not be startled though He leads us by a strange way, a *mirabilis via*, as the Church speaks. Let us be sure He will lead us right, that He will bring us to that which is, not indeed what we think best, nor what is best for another, but what is best for us."

- Saint John Henry Newman

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## PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

***Pat O'Meara, Curtis Golden,  
Mary and Joe Humenyk***

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

***Henschel, Hickey, Himeshazi,  
Humenyk, Iazzo, Isky***

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**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.

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DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (January 1 – January 7)	REQUESTED BY:
<b>New Years Day</b> 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of all Families of Our Parish</i>	
11:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of all Families of Our Parish</i>	
Tues. 7:00 p.m.	<i>Intentions of Ray and Rena Arbic</i>	CWL
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Czeslawa Hercyk	Kwiatkowski Family
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	Charles Spencer	Spencer Family
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	People of the Holy Land	
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Annie Rea	Rea Family
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.	Helen and Dusan Klemencic	Estate of Helen Klemencic
11:00 a.m.	Pro populo	

**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)

**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.





**Knights of Columbus**

St. Joseph's Council #8050  
Ilan Nolan, Grand Knight  
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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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