

1ST SUNDAY

OF ADVENT

01 DECEMBER 2013

St. Columban Parish

36 Fourth St. West, Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6

Masses: Sat Vigil: 7 p.m., Sun: 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., Weekdays: 7:30 a.m.

APPLYING GOD'S WORD TO MY LIFE

Today's Readings:

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122:1-9
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:37-44

What if God were to
call you home today;
would you be ready?

Further Reflection from the Catechism:

CCC: 668-682
CCCC: 133-135
YOUCAT: 110-112

SCRIPTURE BACKGROUND

In the first reading from the Old Testament we find a glorious image of the mountaintop of the Lord. It is foretold that all nations and many peoples will be drawn to the Lord's house. God will teach the people so that they may walk on the path of goodness and light. A God-given peace will come down on all nations and weapons will turn into tools for life. Today's passage describes the completion of the hopes of Israel. The people of Israel and all peoples will be drawn to God, who will bring about both judgment and true peace.

In today's gospel we are given an urgent message to get ready for the Second Coming of Jesus. Now is the time to live as true followers of Christ because a coming as sudden and devastating as the flood in Noah's time is expected. The Lord's return will be like a thief in the night, coming without notice.

Today's passage gets right to the point that we must prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. At the time of judgment, one will be taken and one left. We need to be ready to meet the Lord now. Stay alert, this is a strong Advent theme which continues throughout the season.

A KEY THEME:

THE SEASON OF ADVENT celebrates the expectant hope of believers who look forward to the coming of Jesus. During Advent the Catholic Church looks toward the end of time, when Christ will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.

We look forward to the Second Coming of Christ with great hope. The Church helps us prepare for Christ's coming and the final judgment. We are reminded that how we behave here and now has consequences in the hereafter. During Advent we examine our hearts and spend our days preparing and praying for the coming of Jesus. While no one knows the day or the hour, the Lord is coming soon.

THINKING ABOUT IT

- How will God bring about true peace?
- How will God determine who will be taken and who will be left in the final days?
- Why do we need to stay alert for the Second Coming of Jesus?
- Why do we celebrate the season of Advent?
- How does looking forward to the Second Coming of Jesus give us hope?
- How does the Church help us prepare for the Second Coming of Christ?



THE GOSPEL IN LIFE

This Advent how can you stay alert for the coming of Jesus?

Excerpted from RCL Benziger Lectionary Resources



PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Dan VanDelst, Pastor
Rev. Mr. Marcel Brunet, Deacon

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Kelly Poitras

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Evenings by appointment

BAPTISMS

By appointment 1 month in
advance

MARRIAGES

Please give 6 months notice

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Also by appointment

OFFICE PHONE

613-932-9616

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

stcolumban@alexandria-cornwall.ca

WEBSITES

PARISH FOUNDATION

www.stcolumbans.com

DIOCESE

www.alexandria-cornwall.ca

**FOR TIMELY PUBLICATION, PLEASE
E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO
stcolumbanbulletin@sympatico.ca
BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY
(ONE WEEK PRIOR TO REQUIRED
WEEKEND PUBLICATION)**

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, November 30th

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
 7:00 p.m. Gertrude Poitras (2nd Anniversary of death)
 by son Raymond Poitras & family

Sunday, December 1st

7:30 a.m. Intentions of parishioners
 9:30 a.m. Tom Parisien by Isabel Parisien
 11:00 a.m. Lynn Tremblay (4th Anniversary of death)
 by husband Ron & family

Monday, December 2nd

7:30 a.m. Hutt & Taillon families by Mervin Hutt

Tuesday, December 3rd

7:30 a.m. Peter Tyo by Lloyd & Darlene Tyo

Wednesday, December 4th

7:30 a.m. Kathleen Landon by Diane Lalonde

Thursday, December 5th

7:30 a.m. Donald & Hazel McDonald & Gertrude Maloney
 by Graceline Chisholm

First Friday, December 6th ADORATION

7:30 a.m. Eleanor Morris by the family
 8:00 a.m. Adoration
 7:30 p.m. Seaway Winds Christmas Concert

First Saturday, December 7th

7:00 – 7:25 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Harry Doran by Sean Herdman & family
 2:00 p.m. First Reconciliation St. Columban School
 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
 7:00 p.m. Aldon & Leigh Landon by the Landon family

Sunday, December 8th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of parishioners
 9:30 a.m. Laurea Maguire by Jake & Donna Villemaire
 11:00 a.m. Carmel Bourgon (1st Anniversary of death) by
 her husband Urbain Bourgon
 12:30 p.m. Baptism

Monday, December 9th

7:30 a.m. Gerald Caron by Gerry & Lise DiCola

OUR SYMPATHY, THOUGHTS & PRAYERS GO OUT TO

Fr. Celestine Agwu as he mourns the loss of his mother

Mrs. AUGUSTINA AGWU

who died in Nigeria on Friday, 22 November.

Fr. Celestine served us faithfully as Associate Pastor here at St. Columban's from Feb. 2009 until June 2013 when he was assigned to St. Raphael's parish. Messages of condolences may be sent to Fr. Celestine c/o St. Raphael's Parish, 19998 County Rd 18, Williamstown, Ont. K0C 2J0

REST IN THE PEACE AND LOVE OF THE LORD

Elaine McDonald, Claudette Marion
 and all those who died this past week.

IN OUR PARISH

COLLECTION – 17 NOVEMBER – THANK YOU

Sunday Env.	\$4,366.50	Book Table	\$ 36.95
Loose	484.50	Candles	182.05
Total	\$4,851.00	Needs Can. Church	5.00
Priests Pension	\$ 490.00	Christmas	40.00
Initial	5.00	Prop. of the Faith	15.00

BECAME A CHILD OF GOD THROUGH BAPTISM

Charlotte Aubin
 was Baptized here on 17 November.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

An invitation is extended to all parish volunteers to attend.
 The reception will be held in the rectory from
2 TO 4 P.M., THIS SUNDAY, 1 DECEMBER

Special Collection This Weekend SHELTERBOX

OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROJECT

The contents of a ShelterBox was displayed at the rear of the Church last weekend. The need is great and our parish hopes to sponsor one of more of these boxes. Please mark your Parish envelope # on the one provided in the Church for the ShelterBox collection this weekend. Cheques should be made payable to St. Columban's Parish. Thank you for your love & generosity towards those in need.

**JUST \$5 EACH – NEXT WEEKEND
 LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA AUDIO CDs
 GREAT ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SELECTION
 FOR GIFTING AND FOR SELF!**

NO SCENT MAKES GOOD SENSE

Please consider your fellow parishioners and avoid wearing colognes, perfumes or scented products to Church, as many individuals have sensitivities and allergic reactions to these products. Thank you.

HOLY HOUR – 8 A.M., FRIDAY, 6 DECEMBER

After the 7:30 a.m. Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed & a time of adoration, prayer, Scripture & meditation will follow. Hour closes with Benediction.



ADORATION – WHY AM I HERE?

Jesus gives the answer: *“Come to Me all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will refresh you and give you peace of soul.”* (Mt. 11:28-29)

I have come, my Lord and King, to be with You, to recall to mind the great mystery of faith: Your presence, body and blood, soul and divinity in the consecrated bread of life. Let me recall more carefully how I can realize my visit in response to Your invitation – *“Come to Me”*

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

Rosary prayed at 7:30 a.m. - Mass at 8 a.m.
 Confessions available from 7 to 7:25 a.m.
 All are welcome to come and pray.



IN OUR PARISH

In his homily at Sunday Mass on the Feast of Christ the King, Pope Francis emphasized: "The attitude demanded of us as true believers is that of recognizing and accepting in our lives the centrality of Jesus Christ, in our thoughts, in our words, and in our works ... When this center is lost, when it is replaced by something else, only harm can result for everything around us and for ourselves ... When Jesus is the center, light shines even amid the darkest times of our lives; He gives us hope. The Lord always grants more than what He has been asked."



REMEMBERING

OUR LOVED ONES AT CHRISTMAS

The Patrons of St. Columban Foundation ask for your assistance once again this year to keep the repairs to our historic church building on schedule. You can help by making a donation to the Foundation this Christmas "*In Memory of a Loved One*". Remembrances will be published in a special insert to our Parish Bulletin the weekend of December 21-22.. For your donation, you may use the forms and the envelopes provided at the Church entrances. Cheques should be made payable to the Patrons of St. Columban Foundation. Please submit in the collection basket by Sunday, 8 December to allow time for printing. Thank you for your continued support of the work of

THE PATRONS OF ST. COLUMBAN FOUNDATION.

ADOPT-A-CANDIDATE REMINDER

The deadline to provide a Christmas card or message to your child is due by 16 Dec. Please drop it in the collection basket and it will be distributed to your child. Thank you to parishioners for responding to the opportunity to pray for our children.

SUNDAY, 14/15 DECEMBER – COFFEE AND CHAT

We will be having our regular coffee Sunday. The church marks the 3rd week of Advent which is a time of joy. Parishioners are invited to share in this joy by sharing some of their Christmas traditional baking. *Bring 6 or less pieces of your traditional baking to the table provided at the 4th St. entrance of the church. Then after Mass stop & enjoy some of the shared goodies.*



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE—CHRISTMAS POT LUCK SUPPER

In the Parish Activity Centre (Room 201, Agape Bldg.).

6 P.M., TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER

Bring your favorite dish.

Reminder - Jello still needed for the Christmas baskets.

SANTA'S HELPERS

PROJECT FOR THE CHILDREN'S TREATMENT CENTRE

To provide Christmas gifts to children receiving counselling at the CTC. If you would like to help, kindly pick up a nametag after Mass, which includes the age and sex of the child. For confidentiality reasons, fictitious names are used for the children. Please do not wrap the gift, but place it in an appropriate gift-bag and return it to the church no later than Sunday, 8 December. The CTC thanks you for your kindness and spirit of sharing.

IN OUR PARISH

INCOME COMPARATIVE STATEMENT 31 OCT. 2013

	YTD ACTUAL	YTD LAST Yr	DIFFERENCE
REVENUE			
Sunday Coll.	\$223,720.	\$222,543.	+ 1,177.
Other	\$ 45,549.	\$ 62,973.	- 17,424.
TOTAL REVENUE	\$269,269.	\$285,516.	-16,247.
			Less revenue
EXPENDITURES	\$257,411.	\$279,223.	Less -21,812.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

7 p.m., Wednesday, 11 December - St. Andrew

2 p.m., Wednesday, 18 December - St. Columban

7 p.m., Thursday, 19 December - Blessed Sacrament

NEW SUNDAY MISSALS

As we begin the season of Advent today, we also begin a new Church year and therefore the need for a **NEW MISSAL**, as you will notice in the pews. These are needed for all year.

If you would like your own copy, some are available on the Book Table for \$3.50 each.

PARISH PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEETING

Will be held at 2 p.m. this Friday, 29 November.

Congratulations to team members who recently completed the Pastoral Care Training Program.

SYNOD ON FAMILY AND EVANGELIZATION:

Each diocese has been given a copy of the preparatory document for the synod which includes a survey that is to be completed. Some members of the parish will be asked for their input which will be sent to Bishop Marcel for him to collect from across the diocese. His response will be sent to the Canadian Bishops to create a summary from all the dioceses of Canada. This response will be sent to Rome with responses from around the world. This Nov. 5th document is available under "Latest" on the Vatican Website. The following comments provide a good insight into the nature of the document & the synod: In his Oct. 18th letter asking that dioceses share the Preparatory Document for the 2014 synod "**as widely as possible to deaneries and parishes,**" Archbishop Baldisseri also noted that "**since the time available is short, I would appreciate if you would follow the most brief and practical institutional process.**" Fr. Lombardi responded, stressing that **the questions "are not regarding the doctrinal position of the Church,"** explaining that the document has solely an advisory character, forming part of the habitual "praxis" of the synod of bishops. The questions were given to the bishops of all the world's dioceses on **how to address pastoral questions and how to give assistance to persons in irregular family situations, among other things."**

IN THE DIOCESE

WOMEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION – SAT. 7 DEC.

9:30 till noon at the Charles-Emile Claude Centre .

Morning includes a Guest Speaker, Mass, Confession, a light breakfast and the rosary. \$5. free will offering appreciated.

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