

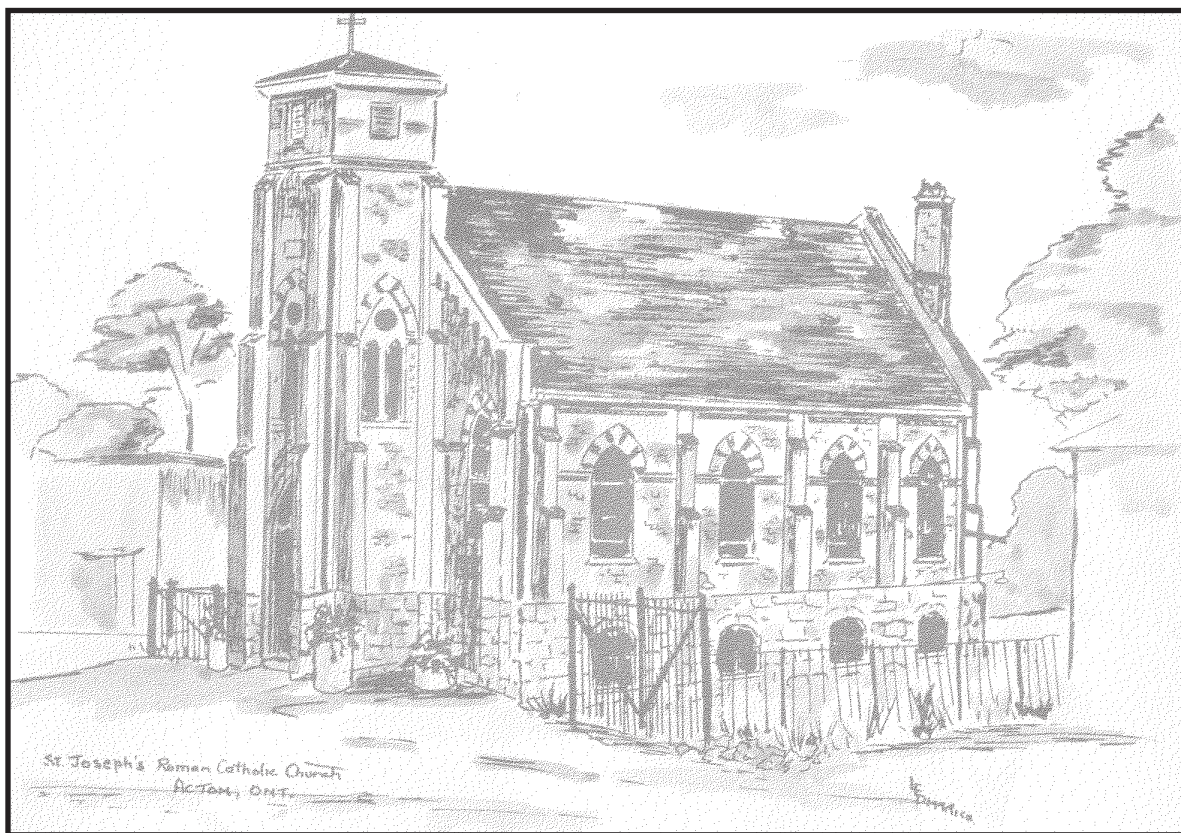
# St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

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

## 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:**

**W**ith the ongoing Canada Post mail strike we have lost one of the great traditions of this Advent Season, the sending and receiving of Christmas cards

It is very easy to say that people do not send Christmas cards as they did in previous times. This is true, but it would be wonderful to think that once this postal strike ends, we will realize what we have lost out on this Christmas season. We may have to wait till next year to experience the joy of mailing and receiving Christmas cards once again.

Perhaps over the years our selection of Christmas cards has said in many ways how we approach this Advent/Christmas Season. I can remember as a young boy that my parents would every Christmas receive a card from our Dentist, Dr. Prouse. What I remember about his cards was that they were always humorous in nature. My parents would laugh out loud at the cards which he sent. This always surprised me because I was always afraid of Dr. Prouse! However, as you get older, you realize that every child was afraid to go to the dentist!

Since my ordination as a priest, I have made it a practice to always purchase and send Christmas cards which have images of the birth of our Saviour. Early in my priesthood I was uncomfortable in sending a religious card to someone who was not religious or was away from the practice of faith. Today I send the same religious cards to everyone, no matter who it is. As a priest, I have an obligation and responsibility to let others know what we celebrate at the time of the year, the coming of our Saviour!

In the Gospel of this Third Sunday of Advent, we encounter people who would have chosen religious themed Christmas cards if they had been available at the time. The tax collectors and the soldiers were not part of the 'accepted' group. They were hated and despised. They were cut off from mainstream worshipping. They were lonely. The possibility of salvation was indeed a message of hope for them. They needed a card that gave a message of hope. Laughs are easy. Hope requires more.

Once again, when we can mail Christmas cards properly, we may need to send them as an exercise in faith. This may be an exercise that allows us to connect to our faith and the purpose of our celebration.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Knights of Columbus of our Parish who every year sell beautiful Christmas cards at the back of the church. This year obviously it has been more difficult to offer this service. There are still opportunities to purchase a box of cards before Christmas. You don't need to put a stamp on an envelope to state and believe what we celebrate this Christmas Season.

*Fr. Mark*

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**

"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?" — Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

This week please pray especially for:

***Lisa Fuller, Madeline Ainsworth,  
Stephanie Lampkin***



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

***Agnes, Alac, Albano,  
Albert, Aitken, Amaral***

The **Parish Office will be closed** from 12:30 p.m. December 20 to 9:30 a.m. January 3 to prepare for year-end reporting and to celebrate Christmas. Messages and emails will be monitored.

**MEETINGS**

Mon.	6:00 p.m.	Tops
Tues.	7:30 p.m.	K of C General
Wed.	8:00 p.m.	Acton Sharing

**Winter Weather Conditions:**  
**During inclement weather, we remind Parishioners to be cautious when coming to Mass and be prepared to stay home if conditions are treacherous. We wish all our Parishioners to be safe both on the roads and on the sidewalks this Winter.**

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (December 16 – December 22)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues. 7:00 p.m.	Mariellen Penrose	Janine Milton
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Grace Mendes	Her Parents
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	Ron and Shirley Dunlop	Querques Family
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	Advent intentions of Our Parish	
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Emily and Cassie Raats	Raats Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Tony and Mary Gorjup	Gorjup Family
11:00 a.m.	Pro populo	

**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.



**Sat. Dec 21 5 p.m.**  
 Lector Patricia  
 Ex. Minister Nancy

**Sun. Dec 22 9 a.m. 11 a.m.**  
 Lector Andrew Lar  
 Ex. Minister Jay Aaron

**CONTACT CWL and**



**K of**



**PERSONS for 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)

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** – Christmas and New Years Day fall on Wednesdays 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:** 4:00 p.m. **Christmas Mass**  
 7:00 p.m. **Christmas Mass**  
 Midnight **Christmas Mass**

**Christmas Day:** 10:00 a.m.

**New Years Eve:** 5:00 p.m. **New Year**  
**New Years Day:** 9:00 a.m. **New Year**  
 11:00 a.m. **New Year**

**Reconciliation Times:**

**December 17 6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.**  
**December 19 6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.**  
**December 21 3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.**  
**December 23 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT** During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, January 4th** at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton, ON).

Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>  
 For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

2025 Envelopes will be available on the weekend of December 14/15.



**Bulletins** are available online at:  
<http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/097>




**Knights of Columbus**  
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 Decio Ramalho  
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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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