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SAINT BENEDICT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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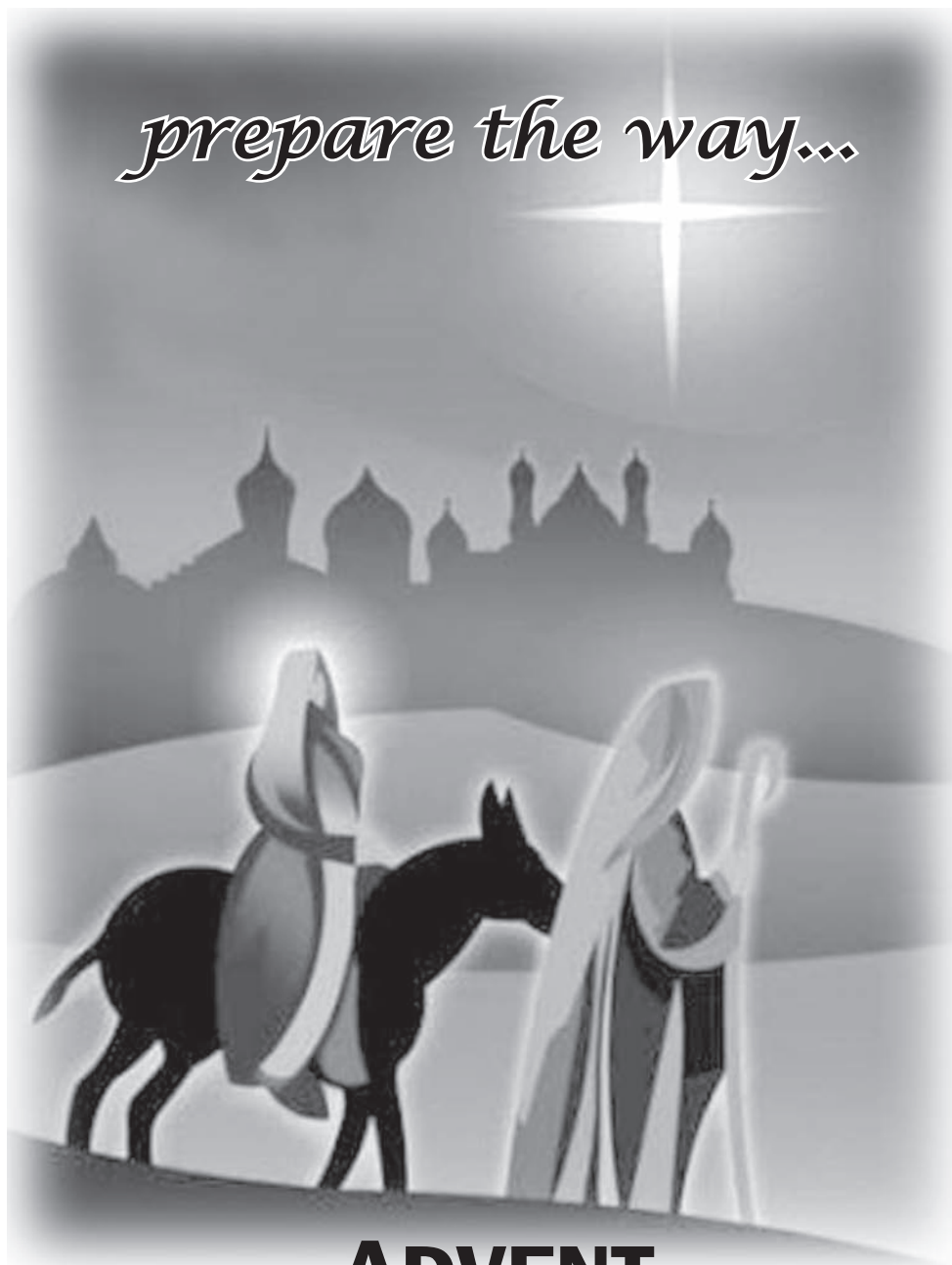
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Father Jonathan Reitzel, Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. Leonard Gallant, Deacon Rev. Mr. Joseph Murphy, Deacon

Mrs. Karen Viloría-Miguel, Pastoral Minister Mrs. Janis Asdrubolini, Office Administrator

Mrs. Alma Paje, Office Receptionist



prepare the way...

ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings	Liturgy	Intention	Please Pray for
Sunday, December 22nd Fourth Sunday of Advent Micah 5.2-5a Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-45 <i>"God's ways are different from ours"</i>	Masses 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Our Parish Community +Joseph D'Souza Sp. Ints. of Regina D'Mello	
Monday, December 23rd St. John of Kanty Malachi 3.1-4; 4.5-6 Luke 1.57-66	Mass 7:00 p.m. Simbang Gabi– Night Mass	Int. of Caroline Glaessel	Rev. Jerek Scherber, L.C.
Tuesday, December 24th 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 16 Luke 1.67-79 Christmas Eve Solemnity of The Nativity of The Lord Isaiah 62.1-5 Acts 13.16-17, 22-25 Matthew 1.1-25 or Matthew 1.18-25	Mass 9:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Masses 4:00 p.m. <i>(Livestreamed)</i> 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. <i>(French)</i> 10:00 p.m.	+Albert Walter Bochsler Thanksgiving +Goenadi Soetjipto Ints. Of Osareme Olotu Suleiman	Rev. Adam Zettel, L.C.
Wednesday, December 25th Solemnity of The Nativity of The Lord Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-16++	Midnight Mass 12:00 a.m. <i>(Livestreamed)</i>	Thanksgiving	Christmas Day The Nativity of the Lord
Wednesday, December 25th Solemnity of The Nativity of The Lord Isaiah 52.7-10 Hebrews 1.1-6 John 1.1-18 or John 1.1-5, 9-14	Christmas Day Masses 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	+Arthur Petrie +Louis D'Almeida +A.V. Joseph & C.J. Paul	
Thursday, December 26th St. Stephen Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-59 Matthew 10.17-22	Mass 9:00 a.m.	Sp. Ints. Of Blasiak Family	Rev. Jerry Punnassery, C.M.I.
Friday, December 27th St. John, Apostle Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10d Luke 1.26-38	Mass 9:00 a.m. <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i> 9:30am-10:30am	+Chris Gillis	Rev. Rijo Jose, C.M.I.
Saturday, December 28th The Holy Innocents Sirach 48.1-4, 9-11 Matthew 17.10-13	Mass 5:00 p.m. <i>(Livestreamed)</i>	+Isabel & +Narciso Garcia +Luis Ottalengo +Jesus Juarez +Edgar & +Wilfredo Angulo & +Cecilio Oliveros	The Holy Innocents



From Father Larry, Father Jonathan, Deacon Leonard, Deacon Joe and the staff of St. Benedict Parish

BISHOP CROSBY’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE-2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

We have begun the Advent Season, a time of active and spiritual preparation for the celebration of Christmas. The four weeks of Advent pass quickly and, almost before we know it, Christmas is upon us: the birth of Jesus Christ in a manger in Bethlehem.

During Advent, we meet, in Sacred Scripture, figures who help us understand the importance of the Christmas event and point out the way for us to prepare well. The Angel Gabriel assures us that “with God all things are possible”! The Virgin Mary sets the high standard of openness and obedience to God’s will in our lives. St. Joseph acts on revelations in his dreams. John the Baptist calls us to prepare spiritually and practically for the coming of Christ into our lives. The shepherds listen to the revelation of angels and hurry to meet the Lord. The Magi follow a star to find Him. For each, the experience is different. For all, it leads to an important encounter with Jesus.

For the past number of years, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has prepared an on-line series called Journey Through Advent. The weekly reflections in English and French open our hearts and minds. This year, Cardinal Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, is the presenter in English. His profound spiritual reflections are gifts to us, available on the CCCB website. They nourish our faith and help us prepare well.

In our Diocese, Parish Priests, Lay Pastoral Ministers, choirs and musicians, sacristans and decorators and cleaners – a bevy of gifted and generous people – help assure that all is ready for the Christmas celebrations. We are blessed that dedicated Priests, Deacons and lay-faithful care enough to do the necessary work of planning and preparing so that we might Come Home for Christmas and celebrate well. I am grateful to all who serve and I pray that, as our cloistered Carmelite Nuns so often say, “God reward you”!

Advent is a good time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We get ready “outwardly”. It is wise to prepare ourselves “interiorly” as well. A good Confession does wonders for the soul and for our hearts. It frees us and lifts us up. Pastors make time to welcome you and are happy to celebrate this liberating Sacrament.

I like to send and receive Christmas cards at Christmas. The Canada Post strike has precluded that pleasure this year. It means prayers for my family and friends must be evermore intentional. As I pray for them, I pray also for you, brothers and sisters, co-workers in the vineyard of the Lord, and parishioners throughout this vast Diocese. As we open the Jubilee Year of Hope on December 29, and live the experience of being Pilgrims of Hope, let us give thanks for the gift of faith that provides meaning and purpose to our lives – and hope for a future in union with the One Who Comes!

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,
+Douglas Crosby, OMI



From the Pastor's Desk Christmas blessings of peace and harmony! We enter the Jubilee Year on the Feast of the Holy Family. We are Pilgrims of Hope, rooted in the divine Love of the Father and the Son and called to emulate the courage and goodness of the Holy Family! Let’s us be hopeful in the blessings of the coming year!

God bless,
Fr. Romy

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	
New Year's Eve Tuesday, December 31 st	5:00 p.m.
	6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Eucharistic Adoration)
	8:00 p.m. (French)
New Year's Day Wednesday, January 1 st	9:00 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.
	12:00 p.m.
The Epiphany of the Lord	Sat January 4 th 5pm Sun January 5 th 9am, 10:30am and 12pm

	OFFICE HOURS	MASS
December 24 th	9am to 12pm	9am
December 25 th	CLOSED	see Christmas schedule
December 26 th	CLOSED	9am
December 27 th	9am to 430pm	9am
December 28 th and 29 th	CLOSED	Sat Dec 28th 5pm Sun Dec 29th 9am, 10:30am and 12pm
December 30 th	9am to 430pm	No mass
December 31 st	9am to 12pm	9am
January 1 st	CLOSED	See New year's schedule
January 2 nd	Regular office hours resumes	9am

JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Pope Francis has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee Year for the entire Church. We are invited to experience in a profound way the transforming power of God’s mercy and forgiveness, and a renewal of our faith and commitment to love God and our neighbour as God has first loved us. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is “Pilgrims of Hope”. In our world suffering from the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19, the climate crisis, economic hardships, and countless afflictions of mind, body and spirit, Pope Francis is inviting us to rekindle the hope which is rooted in our faith: our sure hope which never disappoints. **For more information: [JUBILEE 2025 – PILGRIMS OF HOPE](#)**



Our parish bulletin is also available online. For more information, updates and events, please visit our parish website: www.stbenedictparish.ca



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