

# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

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## PARISH STAFF

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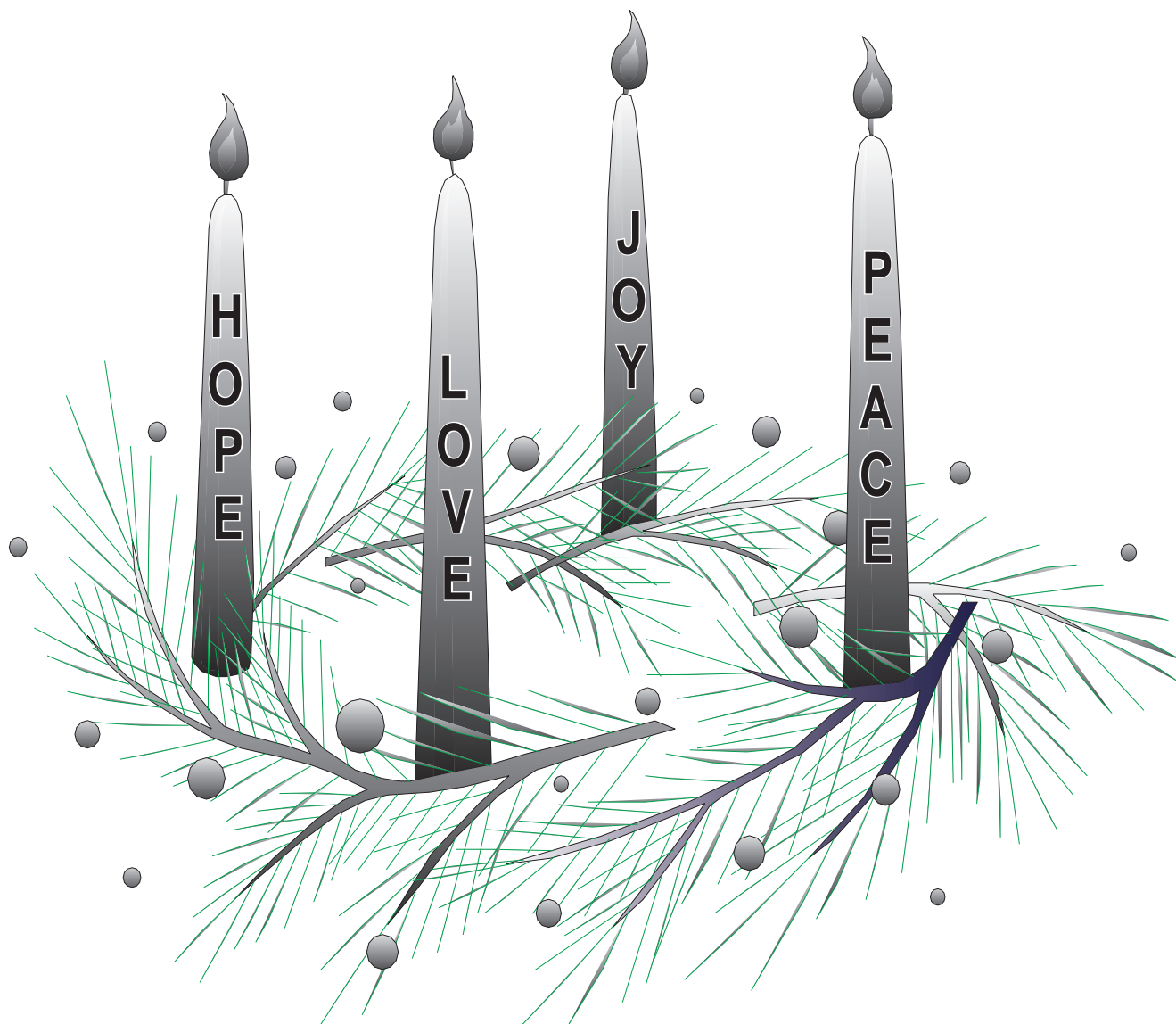
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Father Carlos Diaz, Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang, Permanent Deacon

Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary

Mrs. Jennifer Cauchi, Pastoral Assistant



# ADVENT

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Date	Time	Holy Mass	Parish Meetings
SUNDAY, December 22 Advent 4	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish <i>(ON LINE at 6:00 a.m.)</i>	
MONDAY, December 23	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass ✠ Stjepan Vrhovnik	
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> , Tuesday, December 24	5:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m. 12 midnight	Christmas Eve Masses	<i>No Confessions today</i>
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> , Wednesday, December 25	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Christmas Day Masses	
THURSDAY, December 26		<i>No Daily Mass</i>	
FRIDAY, December 27		<i>No Daily Mass</i>	
SATURDAY, December 28	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass ✠ Steve Posavec	
	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph <i>Offered for the Intentions of the Deceased Faithful:</i> Andrew Gus Lynas; Rosalinda dosAnjos, Duarte Costa & Manuel Francisco Costa; Teresa Mancini; John Faria; Janey Resendes & Joe Caciano; Robert O’Gorman, Jean & Howard Robinson. Special Intentions.	This week’s Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of Joanne Daquano.

### From the Pastor’s Desk

On this fourth Sunday of Advent we are reminded of how close we are to the Lord’s birth! The lighting of the last candle on our Advent wreath is a visual reminder of the joy we are to have in our hearts as we prepare for Jesus’ birth at Christmas in a few days. Let’s not take this for granted - the Son of God coming into the world in the flesh just like you and I. It’s an incredible reality we should reflect on this week as we prepare our hearts and minds so that we can make the ‘main thing’ the ‘main thing’ this Christmas - Jesus Christ born into our world - the Prince of Peace, the Saviour of the world!

### Quote of the Week

“Peacefully do at each moment what at that moment ought to be done. If we do what each moment requires, we will eventually complete God’s plan, whatever it is. We can trust God to take care of the master plan when we take care of the details.” — *St. Katharine Drexel*

### Sunday Smile

Fun fact: Australia’s biggest export is boomerangs. It’s also their biggest import.

### NO MASS December 26 & 27

So that Fr. Dave and Fr. Carlos have an opportunity to visit family after the Christmas Masses, there will be NO MASS on Thu, Dec 26<sup>th</sup> or Fri, Dec 27<sup>th</sup> (Adoration cancelled on this Friday as well). The regular schedule will resume on Sat, Dec 28<sup>th</sup> with Mass at 9:00am.

### Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2025

Boxed sets of 2025 envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex. If you are not currently an envelope user and would like to start please contact the parish office. Also, *pre-authorized giving* forms for 2025 are available in the Narthex - please return them promptly. If you would like to learn more about this way of supporting the parish please contact the office.

### Christmas Mass times

Christmas is coming quickly! For those planing ahead, here are the Mass times this year:

**Christmas Eve:** 5:00pm; 7:30pm; 9:00pm; 12 midnight

**Christmas Day:** 9:00am; 10:30am (*NO 12pm Mass*)

Also, please note that we will have the Children’s Christmas Pageant at the 9:00am Mass on Christmas Day.

### Year End Donations

CRA regulations prevent us from accepting 2024 donations in 2025. If you would like to make a "year end donation" please do so before or by December 31, 2024. Donations received or dated after December 31 must be credited for 2025. Thank you.

### Toonie for Turkeys

The CWL and Knights of Columbus will be collecting "Toonies for Turkeys" this weekend, the proceeds will be donated to the Georgetown Food Basket to help with their Christmas needs.

### Sunday (Novalis) Missals

2025 Sunday Missals will be available for purchase after all Masses this weekend. The Knights of Columbus sell the Missals for \$5 each. The Sunday Missal is useful for reflecting on the Scripture readings before Mass. Your 2024 Missals can be left with the Knights for disposal.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

### Managing Stress

Stress is a part of life for just about everyone. Sometimes it is not easy to recognize stress because we are caught up in the flow of life. The things in your life that cause you stress are called stressors. Often, stressors are things you cannot control. These could be events (like losing a job) or conditions in your life (like not getting along with a family member). Your responses to these stressors are your stress reactions. These are different for all of us. Stress happens first in the mind, but has effects all through the body, including the heart and circulatory system. To cope with your own stress, you need to understand what causes you to feel stress and how to control how you respond to stress. There are three basic types of coping skills: physical/behavioural skills, thinking (cognitive)/mental skills, and personal/social skills. For more information, visit [www.heartandstroke.ca/healthy-living/reduce-stress](http://www.heartandstroke.ca/healthy-living/reduce-stress)

### Health and Wellness Committee Invitation

The Health and Wellness Committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30am at Holy Cross Parish. New members are always welcome! If you are interested, please contact Linda Motz at [linda.m.motz@gmail.com](mailto:linda.m.motz@gmail.com)

### Hospital Stays

For your information - Due to privacy laws, the hospital does not provide us with a list of Catholic patients as was the practice in the past, even if you give them information about your religious affiliation when admitted. This is just a reminder that if you find yourself or a loved one in the hospital and wish to have a visit from Father, please contact

the office so we don't miss you! If it is an emergency, ask a nurse to contact the on-call priest.

### Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

There is sometimes confusion over what the Sacrament of the Sick is. Anyone experiencing serious illness may receive the sacrament, not just those who are close to death. In fact, it is preferable to receive the sacrament early in an illness when the person in ill health can benefit from the healing graces available as they battle their sickness. It is also the case that one can receive the Sacrament more than once during a time of serious illness, so there is no need to wait until the 'last minute' to call the priest. 'Last Rites', as the sacrament is often referred to, is actually the receiving of three sacraments if the person is able – *Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Communion*. If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with a serious illness, contact the office to set up a time to receive the sacrament. If it is a hospital emergency (at any hospital, not just Georgetown), the nurses will have the contact information of local on-call priests which you can request.

### Register Your Child for Kindergarten at HCDSB!

Kindergarten registration at the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) for the 2025-2026 school year is now open! Parents and guardians who are interested in registering their child for Kindergarten are invited to visit the HCDSB website for more information: <https://hcdsb.info/KindergartenRegistration>

### Dr. Simone - Canadian Food for Children

We are accepting donations for Dr. Simone's Mississauga Warehouse. Please remember to wash and fold your clothing and bedding donations. If you have any questions about what is acceptable please contact the warehouse at 905-274-9239 or [www.canadianfoodforchildren.net](http://www.canadianfoodforchildren.net)

### Rosary Repairs

Do you have a broken rosary lying around that you're not sure what to do with? Well, there's good news! We have a parishioner that has the skills and tools to repair rosaries, and is more than happy to do so for you! There is a box in the narthex titled 'Rosary Repairs' – simply take an envelope from the box to insert the broken rosary, write your name and contact information on it and we will let you know when it's fixed and ready to pick up.

### Young Adults Group at Holy Cross

If you are a 17-30 year old young adult looking for a group of people to hang out with, share your faith, and to grow your relationship with the Lord, send us an email with your name and phone number as we plan meetings and outings together! Our email address is: Holy Cross Young Adult Community: [hcyacommunity@gmail.com](mailto:hcyacommunity@gmail.com)

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