



# Holy Spirit Catholic Parish A Welcoming Community

1489 Shea Road, Stittsville, ON K2S 0G8  
Phone: 613-836-8881  
Web: [www.holyspiritparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritparish.ca)

## PASTORAL TEAM

Father Geoffrey Kerslake, Pastor, [pastor@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:pastor@holyspiritparish.ca)  
Alex Ducharme, Youth/Sacramental Coordinator, [youth@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:youth@holyspiritparish.ca)  
Administrative Assistant, [admin@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:admin@holyspiritparish.ca)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; & 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

As indicated in the weekly calendar.

### RECONCILIATION

Available before weekday and Saturday Masses as indicated in the weekly calendar and by appointment.

### BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the year. Please introduce yourself to the pastor after mass. See parish website for further information.

### MARRIAGE

Please make an appointment with the pastor as soon as a decision is made to marry. A minimum of nine months notice is required. Please make no other arrangements until a date is confirmed with the parish. A marriage preparation course, offered in our pastoral region, is required.

### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Kim Baudouin 613-884-8475

### PASTORAL CARE

A Pastoral Care Team visits sick or elderly members of the parish in their homes or in hospital. To arrange for Communion, the Sacrament of the Sick, or a visit, please contact the Pastor.

### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Claire Moore, President 613-612-1659

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

James MacLean, Grand Knight 613-831-8617

### PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Alex Golob, Chair 613-410-1896

### OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St. Bernadette Elementary 613-907-4122  
Guardian Angels Elementary 613-836-7423  
Holy Spirit Elementary 613-831-1853  
St. Stephen Elementary 613-831-8844  
Sacred Heart High 613-831-6643



**PARISH REGISTRATION:** If you are new to our Parish Community, please fill out this form and put it in the collection basket.

Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3.14-18a  
Philippians 4.4-7  
Luke 3.10-18

### December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5.2-5a  
Hebrews 10.5-10  
Luke 1.39-45

#### Parish Calendar

- Mon, Dec 16**  
5:00 pm Catholic Women's League potluck & elections  
6:30 pm RCIA
- Tue, Dec 17**  
7:00 pm **Mass**  
7:35 pm Knights of Columbus meeting
- Wed, Dec 18**  
9:00 am **Mass**  
6:00 pm Choir Practise  
7:00 pm Finance Council meeting
- Thu, Dec 19**  
9:00 am **Mass**  
9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
9:30 am Cenacle of Marian Movement of Priests  
6:00 pm Youth Night Grades 3-12  
7:00 pm Small Faith Group (by zoom)
- Fri, Dec 20**  
9:00 am **Mass**  
9:30 am Flame of Love Prayer Group
- Sat, Dec 21**  
4:15-4:45 pm Reconciliation  
5:00 pm **Mass**
- Sun, Dec 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
9:00 am **Mass**  
11:00 am **Mass**

\*Confession available before morning Mass 8:30-8:50am

(Please note: The Parish Office will be closed from December 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm until January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am.)

#### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Masses** - First Come-First Seated. Parishioners will be seated by ushers. Please, no seat saving. Doors open one hour before Mass.

Tue, Dec 24 at 4:30 pm, 7 pm & 9 pm

Wed, Dec 25 at 10 am

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

Sat, Dec 28 at 5 pm

Sun, Dec 29 at 9 & 11 am

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Tue, Dec 31 at 7 pm

Wed, Jan 1 at 10 am

#### Advent Humour:

How does the snow globe feel this year? A little shaken.

For e-Transfer please send it to [admin@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:admin@holyspiritparish.ca) and use the password: Holyspirit (all one word with a capital H).

#### Mass Intentions

- Tue, Dec 17 – 7:00 pm**  
Intentions of LeBrun Family by Garvey Family
- Wed, Dec 18 – 9:00 am**  
Intentions of Colin Bahen by Dolores & Warren Bahen
- Thu, Dec 19 – 9:00 am**  
Intentions of Jeffrey by Julian & Rita
- Fri, Dec 20 – 9:00 am**  
Intentions of Jeremy by Julian & Rita
- Sat, Dec 21 – 5:00 pm**  
Deceased members of Pipkins Family  
†John Yutronkie by Lori, Mark, Ashton & Ashleigh Hoare
- Sun, Dec 22 – 9:00 am**  
Intentions of John Bahen by Dolores & Warren Bahen  
†Jean & Joe Kennedy by Kennedy Family  
†Mary K. Bleskie by Mary & Michael Watters
- Sun, Dec 22 – 11:00 am**  
For the intentions of all parishioners  
**Please pray for those who are sick:** Kevin, Donald  
**Please pray for those who have died:** †Ray Mulvihill, uncle of Mary Garvey; Claire Besner, sister of Vanita MacDonald



†Indicates Deceased.

#### ADVENT ACTIVITIES at Holy Spirit Parish

##### Sun, Dec 15 at 2-4pm – Drop in reconciliation

on Sunday, December 15th between 2 pm and 4 pm we will have several priests available to hear your confession. This is a 'drop-in' opportunity for reconciliation anytime in the two-hour time frame. Give yourself the gift of a good confession to prepare yourself for Christmas.

The **Lighthouse Youth Ministries** Youth Nights continue: this week Grades 3-12. This week's theme: Christmas Party. Bring a friend. Check Parish Calendar above. Our ministry is still looking for volunteers, if you feel called to help in any way, please contact Alex for next steps! [youth@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:youth@holyspiritparish.ca)

#### Beware of Suspicious Emails from the Priests!

Fr. Geoff will **never** ask parishioners for money, gift cards or favours by email. As Christmas approaches, Scammers are hard at work trying to fool us. If you receive an email supposedly from Fr. Geoff that looks suspicious, call the parish office. Do not respond to the email. Call anytime if you have questions! It's a sad reality that scammers use priests' names to prey on the generous good will of parishioners.



#### Have You Moved in the past year?

Call or email the Parish Office to be sure we have your new mailing address before income tax receipts are printed and distributed. Please help us stay up to date!



**Advent Quote of the Week:** “This time of Advent is a time for hope. These great horizons of our Christian vocation, this unity of life built on the presence of God our Father, can and ought to be a daily reality. Ask our Lady, along with me, to make it come true. Try to imagine how she spent these months, waiting for her Son to be born. And our Lady, Holy Mary, will make of you alter Christus, ipse Christus: another Christ, Christ himself!” *St. Josemaria Escriva*

**Sunday Reflection:**

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say rejoice!” Today is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the imperative form of the verb commanding us to “rejoice”! We are exhorted to celebrate with joy the approach of the celebration of Christmas. Christ’s coming is good news. God has seen our need to be saved from the forces of sin and death and he has a plan in motion. *Fr. Geoff*

**Understanding the Mass – The Penitential Act:** There are several different options for this part of the Mass: we will look at the Confiteor (I Confess). When we admit in public together that we have sinned, it emphasizes that we gather as a community where each person has need of God’s mercy. This version is close to the Latin original text and has strong connections to scripture: King David admitted to the Lord that he had greatly sinned (1 Chronicles 21:8); and the repetition that we have sinned through “my fault” three times and the striking of our breast with our fist recalls the tax collector who stood at the back of the temple who humbled himself before God (Luke 18:13). We too humble ourselves before God to receive His mercy. In the Prayer of Absolution, the priest asks God to be merciful to us: “May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life”. But this is not the absolution we receive in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The emphasis in the whole Penitential Act is something very positive and hope-filled because it highlights our need and desire for God’s loving, abundant, mercy. *Fr. Geoff*

**SUNDAY MISSALS** The 2024-2025 Sunday Missal, “Living with Christ” is available for purchase in the Parish Office at \$5.00 each. Please call the Parish Office for assistance. Limited supply – get yours early.

**Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Campaign** The pricing is now \$50 to \$40 each. Supply is limited. We accept cash and e-transfer to [koc@holyspiritparish.ca](mailto:koc@holyspiritparish.ca). Proceeds are going to support the Parish Youth Ministry.



**No Scents Makes Sense!** Many of your fellow parishioners suffer from allergies to hairspray, after shave, perfume, eau de cologne, etc. Please think of those around you as you prepare for Mass so that they too, may enjoy coming to church each week.

The **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is seeking donations of warm clothing, children’s toys, and household items to assist individuals and families in need during this holiday season. Donations can be dropped off at our Merivale location: 1620 Merivale Rd. Thank you for your generosity.

We are in the process of preparing our system to generate CHARITABLE RECEIPTS for 2024. If you have made an address change in the past year, please contact the Parish Office so that we can update our records. We wish to remind our supporters that if you wish to receive credit for contributions in 2024, donations must be received and deposited on or before the end of 2024. Revenue Canada does not permit charitable organizations to backdate receipts, and we are bound by that regulation. So please have your year-end donations in by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024**, and your etransfer donations in by December 20, 2024 before 3PM, or your donations must be calculated as donations for 2025.



**Christmas Gifts Ideas for Catholics:**

- \*A Catholic Bible (other bibles leave out some of the content)
- \*The Catechism of the Catholic Church (a one book encyclopedia of what the Church teaches with an index - helpful for looking things up)
- \*A Rosary
- \*A small Christmas crèche for a desktop or shelf
- \*C.S. Lewis - the Narnia series for children (the first book is “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe”)
- \*J.R.R. Tolkien - The Lord of the Rings contains a lot of content inspired by Tolkien’s Catholic faith. It can be interesting to spot the influences!
- \*A small statue of your favourite saint or the saint your child is named after

**CHRISTMAS DÉCOR & RESOURCES**

If you would like to donate toward the decorations & resources in celebration of a loved one’s birthday, anniversary, in memorial or in thanksgiving, please complete this form and put it, along with your cheque made payable to Holy Spirit Parish, in an envelope marked *Christmas Décor & Resources* and place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Parish Office. All names will be printed in our bulletin in the new year.

**(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)**

Name of person(s) or intention: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person making the donation: \_\_\_\_\_

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