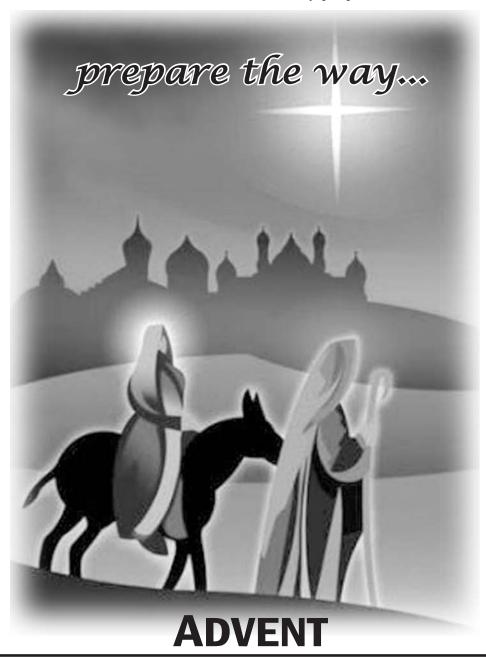
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Holy Spirit Catholic Parish A Welcoming Community

1489 Shea Road, Stittsville, ON K2S OG8
Phone: 613-836-8881 Web: www.holyspiritparish.ca

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Geoffrey Kerslake, Pastor, pastor@holyspiritparish.ca Alex Ducharme, Youth/Sacramental Coordinator, youth@holyspiritparish.ca Administrative Assistant, admin@holyspiritparish.ca



Dec 22 – 4th Sunday of Advent



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

Dec 25 – Nativity of the Lord



Isaiah 52.7-10 Hebrews 1.1-6 John 1.1-18

Dec 29 - Feast of the Holy Family



Sirach 3.2-6,12-14 Colossians 3.12-21 Luke 2.41-52

Parish Calendar

Mon, Dec 23	Parish Office Closed
Tue, Dec 24	
4:30 pm	Mass
7:00 pm	Mass
9:00 pm	Mass
Wed, Dec 25	Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
10:00 am	Mass
Thu, Dec 26	St. Stephen

Mass Fri, Dec 27 St. John the Apostle

9:00 am Mass Sat. Dec 28

9:00 am

The Holy Innocents 4:15-4:45 pm Reconciliation 5:00 pm Mass

6:00 pm Holy Land Art sale

Sun. Dec 29 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

9:00 am Mass

10:00 am Holy Land Art Sale after both Masses

11:00 am Mass

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

(Please note: The Parish Office will be closed until January 3rd 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

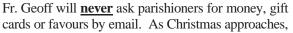
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Sat, Dec 28 at 5 pm Sun, Dec 29 at 9 & 11 am

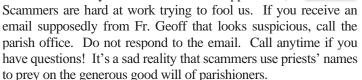
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Tue, Dec 31 at 7 pm Wed, Jan 1 at 10 am

May the blessings of this Holy Season be with you always.

Beware of Suspicious Emails from the Priests!





Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Campaign To reserve e-transfer, to pay via koc@holyspiritparish.ca. Trees 8 feet and higher are \$80 each. All the rest are \$65 each. Supply is limited. Proceeds are going to support the Parish Youth Ministry.

Mass Intentions

Tue, Dec 24 – 4:30 pm †Ben & †Blair by Marcel

Deceased members of Irwin Family

Living & deceased members of Foote-Gunn-Pollock Family

Tue, Dec 24 – 7:00 pm

Intentions of Steve & Allison Adam by Claire

Deceased members of D'Arcy & Garvey Families by Eileen

Tue, Dec 24 – 9:00 pm

For the intentions of all parishioners

Wed, Dec 25 - 10:00 am

†Margaret, †Jack, †Rita & †Paul Droogh by McCaffrey Family

†Alphonsus Dwyer by Alice & Family †Phil & †Josh by Joan & Family

†Eleanor Surette-MacDonald by Denise & Family

Deceased members of Bahen Family Intentions of Ancy Kurian by Family

Deceased members of Scarfo & Tassone Families by Teresa &

Giuseppe Scarfo Thu, Dec 26 - 9:00 am

†Patrick O'Donnell by O'Donnell & Devenny Families

Fri, Dec 27 – 9:00 am

†Xavier Bastiampillai by Rita

Sat, Dec 28 - 5:00 pm

†Terry Pultz by Miriam O'Brien

Sun, Dec 29 – 9:00 am

For the intentions of all parishioners

Sun, Dec 29 - 11:00 am

†Connie O'Brien by David O'Brien & Family

Please pray for those who are sick: Please pray for those who have died: †

†Indicates Deceased.

Christmas Mass Schedule: you may have noticed that in the past, the first Mass of Christmas Eve at 4:30 pm is very crowded. We are blessed to welcome many visitors for Christmas and are glad they can join us! Many are visiting family and friends and our hospitality is an important sign of God's welcome. If large crowds are a little intimidating, you may wish to consider attending the 7 pm Christmas Eve (or the 10 am Christmas Day) or the new this year, 9 pm Mass. The 9 pm Christmas Eve Mass will have a more contemporary Christmas music sound (but with the hymns we know and appreciate) - if you have older teens or young adults in your family, you might consider coming to this Mass. We have a special guest providing the music for the 9 pm Mass (I don't want to ruin the surprise!). On Christmas morning, we have the one Mass at 10 am. One note: unfortunately, we can't "save seats" for family arriving later because of the need to seat people up to our legal maximum capacity and the only way to fairly do that is for a person to be physically present in the pew.

Advent Quote of the Week: "Mary sustains our journey toward Christmas, for she teaches us how to live this Advent Season in expectation of the Lord. For this time of Advent is a time of waiting for the Lord, who will visit us all on the feast, but also, each one, in our own hearts. The Lord is coming! Let us wait for him!" *Pope Francis*

Understanding the Mass – The Creed: The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe". In the Nicene Creed we notice right away "we believe". We express not only what the Church as a whole believes but what we as individual Christians with a personal relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit believe. Some of the language choices and phrases may seem archaic, such as "visible and invisible" but choices reflect a deeper meaning. An object is 'unseen' when something else blocks our view of it, but invisible realities, like the angels for example, are always 'unseen' but that doesn't make them less real! There are other changes too that more accurately reflect our faith that will need to be explained in more detail such as the words "consubstantial with the Father" and "incarnate of the Virgin Mary". It might seem like we are being very picky about the words we use, but how we pray reflects and shapes our beliefs and so we ought to use words which convey as accurately as possible our strongly held beliefs. Fr Geoff

Help Needed Counting Parishioners at Weekend Mass: We are looking for volunteers to count parishioners at the weekend Masses. We have the handheld counters. It involves counting how many people come to a Mass and recording the number in a log sheet in the sacristy. We are hoping to collect some 'hard data' on attendance. If you can volunteer to count at a Mass on schedule. rotating please contact youth@holyspiritparish.ca



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.

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 inte	ntion:
Name of person making the	ne donation:
Phone No. (613)	Envelope No
Amount (circle one): \$2	5 \$50 \$100 or

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.

Into the Deep NET Retreat (Gr 6-8) Sat Jan 14, 2025 from 10AM to 4:30PM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, 400 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa. Into the Deep is a retreat focused on helping your child look at what really matters in life. We can tend to get caught up in day-to-day life without ever stopping to think about the bigger questions. Throughout the day, participants will learn how a relationship with God answers our longing for meaning and hear from other young people whose own lives have been transformed. The retreat day includes games, skits, a chance to discuss things in a small group setting, and a time of guided prayer and worship. The cost is \$30/participant and includes lunch (dietary restrictions accommodated).

Support Christians in the Holy Land Through Craft Sale: after weekend Masses on December 28 and 29, we will have representatives of families from the Holy Land who make olive wood religious articles to support themselves. Christians are a tiny minority in the Holy Land and their population is shrinking due to instability, lack of jobs and opportunities. Making articles from olive wood from trees in the Holy Land is a major source of work (along with tourism) for Christians living in the land of Jesus. Please come out and see some lovely crafted goods that would make a lovely present for First Communion, Confirmation, birthday or (next Christmas!) gifts.

Advent/Christmas Humour:

What is the little snowman's favourite day at kindergarten? Snow and tell.

Did you hear about the man who stole an Advent calendar? He got 25 days.

What do gingerbread men put on their beds?

Cookie sheets

Why do birds fly south for Christmas?

It's too far to walk.

"No one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord. The great joy announced by the angels on Christmas night is truly for all people, both for the people of Israel then anxiously awaiting a Savior, and for the numberless people made up of all those who, in time to come, would receive its message and strive to live by it." - St. Paul VI

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

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