

St Michael Catholic Church

80 University Ave. W., (at Hemlock Street) Waterloo, ON N2L 3C7

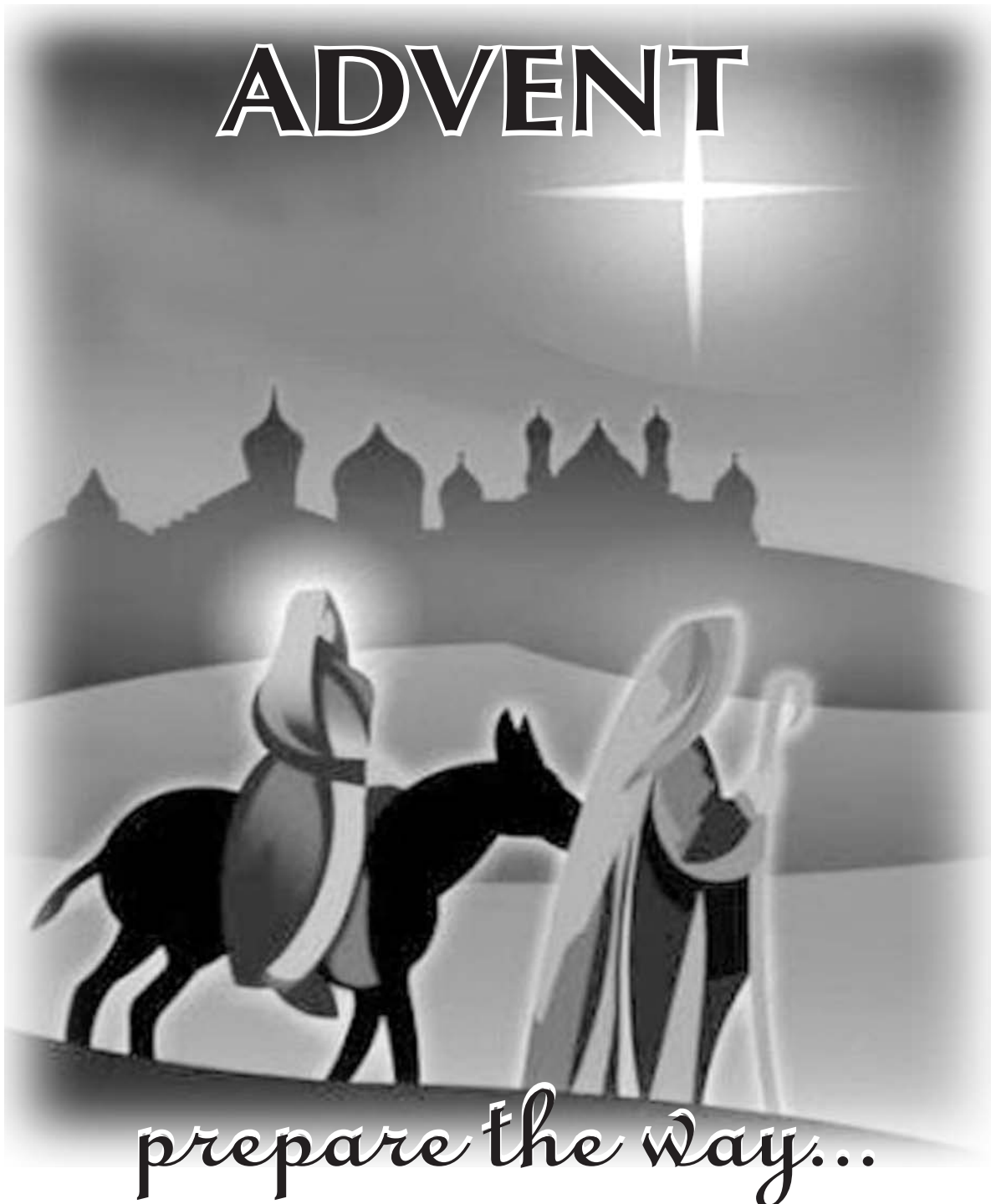
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Parish Office email: parish@stmichaelw.ca

 @StMikesWaterloo  @StMikesWaterloo

Father Pawel Jamroz, Pastor email: pastor@stmichaelw.ca

ADVENT



prepare the way...

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, I pray that the remembrance of Christ's birth brings you and your families much peace and hope.



*On behalf of our Parish Staff, I wish each of you all the many blessings of Christmas and a grace-filled New Year! I hope that God's presence will be made known to you not only today but every day.
Merry Christmas!*

Fr. Jamroz

There will be no bulletin published next weekend, December 24/25.



Tuesday, December 20, 2022

7:00 pm + Vincaza & Adelina Ianni – Maria Ianni
+ Special Intentions of Bailey Johnston & her unborn baby – Arlene Kenrick
7:30pm-8:30pm Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

12:15 pm + Rudy Ianni – Maria Ianni
+ Nora Fedoryak – The Fulop Family
+ Doug Jamieson – Al & Carol Meagher

Thursday, December 22, 2022

12:15 pm + Special Intentions of Martin Mirt & Family – Grace Ibrahima
+ Sara Barros – Maria Ianni

Friday, December 23, 2022

8:00 am + In Thanksgiving – Maria Kuzio
+ Joseph Krochak – Nick Stasuik
8:30am-9am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, December 24, 2022, Christmas Eve

Mass at 5 pm, 7 pm and Midnight

Tuesday, December 27, 2022

7:00 pm + Special Intentions of the Snyder Family – Arlene Kenrick
+ Ernesto Rodriguez – Veronica Quintanilla Zarin
7:30pm-8:30pm Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday, December 28, 2022

12:15 pm + Special Intentions of Martin Mirt & Family – Grace Ibrahima

Thursday, December 29, 2022

12:15 pm + Special Intentions of the Kaufman Family – Arlene Kenrick
+ Leslie Molnar, Jr. – The Family

Friday, December 30, 2022, Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 am + Joseph Krochak – Nick Stasuik
+ Special Intentions of the Knowles Family – Arlene Kenrick
8:30am-9am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm + Special Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Michael Parish

Saturday, December 31, 2022 Solemnity of Mary Mother of God - Mass at 5 pm

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24th
5:00 pm, 7:00 pm and Midnight (12am)

Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25th
9:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

Christmas Season Mass Times –

Feast of the Holy Family

Friday, December 30th, 8 am and 7 pm

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Saturday, December 31st – 5:00 pm

Sunday, January 1st –

9:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

The History of the First Nativity Scene

St. Francis of Assisi is given the credit for creating the first Nativity scene in 1223 in the Italian city of Greccio. To celebrate the birth of Jesus, Francis wanted to recreate the experience of the first Christmas. He did this not with statues inside a church, but with animals in a humble hilltop grove. ... According to St. Bonaventure, a miracle occurred on that night, a valiant and voracious soldier ... affirmed that he beheld an Infant marvellously beautiful, sleeping in the manger, Whom the blessed Father Francis embraced with both his arms as if he would awake Him from sleep. ... The idea caught on quickly and in 1291 the first Franciscan pope (Nicholas IV) commissioned statues to create the first permanent Nativity scene in the Roman Basilica of St. Mary Major. (from: aleteia.org)

How Long Does Christmas Actually Last?

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with **Christmas Eve** and concludes on the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** (this year, **January 9th**). During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with Him, including the fact that He was born to die for us. (from: usccb.org)

Act II Separated/Divorced Support Group

Our monthly support group meetings are open to anyone. We meet in the Resource Centre the 3rd

Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm (following 7 pm Mass). Upcoming dates: **December 20th** and **January 17th**. Visit <https://www.stmichaelw.ca/separated-and-divorced> for dates and information.

Supporting the House of Friendship (HOF) - Join a St. Michael Parish Volunteer Team in the new year!

The HOF on Charles St., Kitchener, provides support to men, women, and children in our community who need food, housing, essential community services, or addiction treatment. In January they will be moving to their new location at 190 Weber St. N. Waterloo. If you are interested in joining a St. Michael Parish Volunteer Team to support our community, please contact **Kathy Shaw** at 519-886-2117 or (shawbing@rogers.com) for more information.

Year End Giving

An important reminder that donations must be received at the parish office by **Friday, December 30th** in order to be included in your 2022 income tax receipt. For online donations through our parish website please allow a minimum of 3 business days. This year that means that the online donation must be made no later than **December 27th** in order for it to be credited to the parish account by Friday, December 30, 2022. **Thank you for your generosity toward the financial needs of our parish.** For an instant tax receipt, the Diocese has provided all parishes with a secure, online giving option through www.canadahelps.org. This allows you to make a donation directly to St. Michael Parish and receive your tax receipt from Canada Helps instantly. You may search St. Michael Parish, Waterloo or simply click on the following link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450R0014-st-michaels-parish/>



DIocese of Hamilton

Any time is a good time to invite family, friends, and neighbours to attend Mass. Especially so during the beautiful Christmas season. What better gift can we give a loved one who is away from the Church than a warm invitation to *Come Home for Christmas*? Whether they have been away for a short time or a long time, we want all Catholics to know that they are warmly welcomed back to our Parish community. Please consider extending this invitation to loved ones, neighbours, and colleagues – for more information, visit <http://hamiltondiocese.com>.



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