

Jesus affirmed John in the scripture of today as the greatest of all prophets. It is reassuring as parents to know that even when we doubt, either ourselves or God, we are still great in God's eyes. Our strength is in knowing God is with us as a loving parent.

# ST. COLUMBAN

## PARISH

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)**

**DECEMBER 15, 2019**

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Fr. Ernest Emeka Emeodi, Parochial Administrator  
Rev. Mr. Chris Chisholm, Deacon

### MASSES & SACRAMENTS

Saturday Vigil	5:30 PM
Sunday	7:30, 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Tuesday – Friday	7:30 AM
Confession	Saturdays, 3 – 4 PM (or by appointment)
Baptism	Please notify one month in advance
Marriages	Please notify 6 months in advance

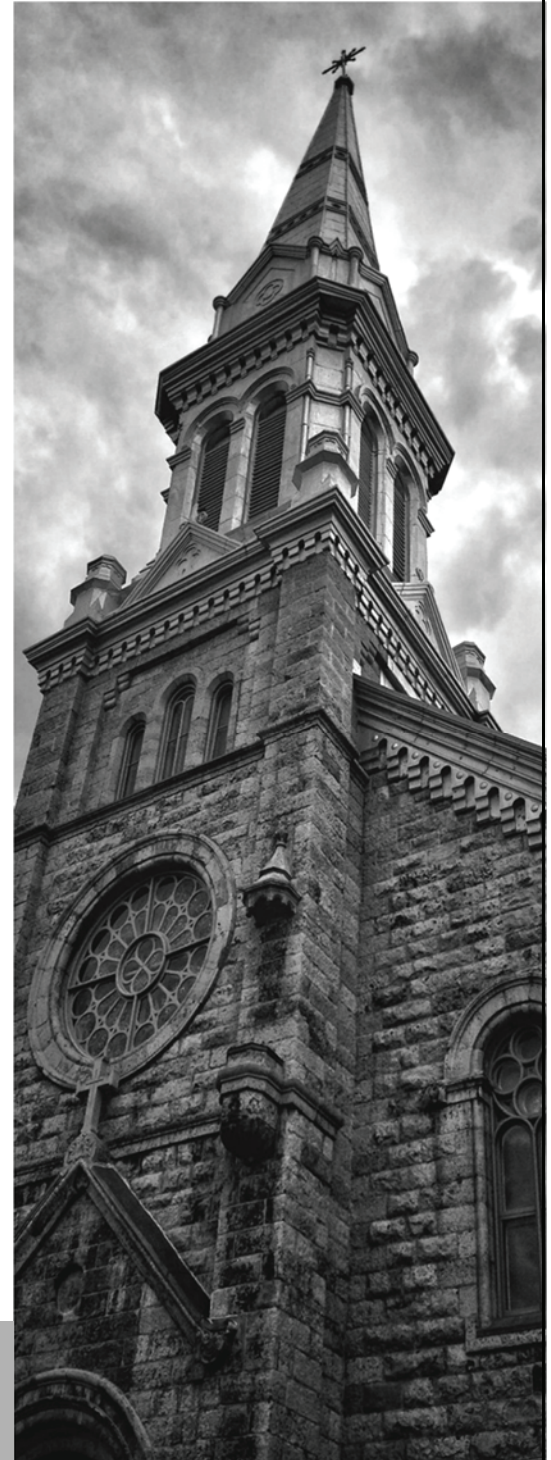
### PARISH COUNCIL

Liturgy & Holiness	Jane Anderson	613.933.1062
	Jean McDonell	613.938.6138
Catechetics & Evangelization	Richard (Rick) and Bernadette McRae	613.932-2872
International Outreach	Richard Pilon	613.363.8870
Youth Ministry	Josip Kupina	613.937.4359
Pastoral Outreach	Greg McCullough	613.933.0993
Administration & Stewardship	Anne Gauthier	613.932.2780
CWL Rep. President	Dana Fry	613.938.3126
Patrons Foundation Rep.	Donna Villemaire	613.932.2099

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Administrator	Mrs. Kelly Poitras
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Address	36 Fourth St. West Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6
Office Hours	Monday – Thursday, 9 AM – 3 PM
Parish Foundation	stcolumbans.com
Diocesan Website	alexandria-cornwall.ca
Online Bulletin Access	<a href="http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/111">www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/111</a>

For timely publication, email bulletin notices to:  
stcolumban@cogeco.ca by Noon on Thursday  
(one week prior to required publication)



# CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

# IN OUR PARISH

**Saturday, December 14th** SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS (M)

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions  
 5:30 p.m. Tina Primeau by Mom Pauline Primeau

**Sunday, December 15th** THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners  
 9:30 a.m. Janet Surgeson by Marilyn & Ron Wylie  
 11:00 a.m. Sheila Malloy by Monica McCool & Family  
 2:00 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation in Rectory

**Monday, December 16th**

7:30 a.m. **No Mass** ADVENT – WEEK 3

**Tuesday, December 17th**

7:30 a.m. Barbara Parisien by Joe Parisien & Family

**Wednesday, December 18th**

7:30 a.m. Peter & Theresa D’Cruz by the Estate

**Thursday, December 19th**

7:30 a.m. Marilyn Hamilton by Her Family

**Friday, December 20th**

7:30 a.m. A Private Intention by a Parishioner

**Saturday, December 21st** SAINT PETER CANISIUS (OM)

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions  
 5:30 p.m. Maria Vincelli by the Vincelli Family

**Sunday, December 22nd** FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners  
 9:30 a.m. Pete Piquette by Betty Piquette  
 11:00 a.m. Those Remembered in Memoriam by the Patron’s Foundation

**Monday, December 23rd** SAINT JOHN OF KANTY (OM)

7:30 a.m. **No Mass** ADVENT – WEEK 4

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*“You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.” James 5:8*

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer we better align ourselves with God’s will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

An invitation is extended to all parish volunteers to attend. The reception will be held in the Rectory from 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday December 15, 2019.

## COFFEE AND CHAT SUNDAY

Please take a few minutes on the weekend of Dec 21 and Dec 22 to enjoy a cup of coffee with your fellow parishioners after Mass at the 4th St. entrance.



## TODAY’S READINGS – DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

1st Reading: Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10  
 2nd Reading: James 5.7-10  
 Gospel: Matthew 11.2-11  
 Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?

## 2019 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO DEAR PEOPLE OF GOD!

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, those who live in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shone”. (Is. 9:2)

We would like to use this moment to wish you a very Merry Christmas. During this season, we will be celebrating Hope, Peace, Love and Joy; we pray that these will find their fulfillment in your life in every way this Christmas and beyond. We are grateful to God. This Christmas, as in all previous years, we celebrate “Immanuel” (God with us). Without Christ’s presence among us we would be lost. Through God’s presence working within us we are being healed, transformed, reconciled and made whole.

Christmas is the Solemnity of the birth of Christ- the word made flesh, who dwelt among us. In the history of our salvation, Prophet Isaiah foretold this birth as a great light who dispels the darkness in this world. The Evangelist John says: “The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world”. (Jn. 1: 9) Christ, later on in the same Gospel introduced himself: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life”. (Jn. 8)

People of God, Christmas invites us to turn to Christ as the light of the world; as the brilliant Light that shines in the darkness surrounding creation, giving hope; as the Divine light who came to the world bringing life.

Like Parents of Jesus, may we become instruments of God in bringing the Light of Christ into this world especially during this season of wonderful celebration through our acts of kindness, goodness and generosity to others and by this; we bring the light of Christ to humanity.

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

**REV. FR. ERNEST EMEKA EMEODI**

**REV. CHRIS CHISHOLM & MEMBERS OF PARISH COUNCIL**

## FATHER ERNEST VACATION

Fr. Ernest will be away on vacation from Jan 07 – Feb 07. We wish him a wonderful time spent with his family and look forward to his return. Please welcome Fr. Claude Halle who will preside at all masses while Fr. Ernest is away.

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY!

We wish to extend our gratitude to so many members of St. Columban’s parish family who served us prior to and during our recent Advent Mission with Bishop Guy: the choir, greeters, ushers, decorators, sacristans, servers, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, collection counters, the prayer team, the hospitality team, our parish secretary Kelly, our custodian Dennis, and of course, Father Ernest. Each of you made our Mission a blessed experience that will help us enter into the approaching Christmas season, prepared to welcome Our Saviour into our hearts in a deeper way.

Sincerely, Rick and Bernadette McRae  
 Parish Catechetics and Evangelization

# IN OUR PARISH AND DIOCESE

## PLEASE NOTE

The last confessions before Christmas will be on Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## THANK YOU

A huge thank you to Elizabeth Mackillop for donating the purple material and to Sue Holland-Lalonde for sewing the new coverings for the altar, tabernacle and credence table to celebrate the Advent Season. These acts of generosity are very much appreciated and make the celebration of Advent more meaningful for all parishioners.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. & 12 Midnight

Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m.

## NEW YEAR'S – MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Eve Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> – 5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – 10:30 a.m.

## OFFICE HOURS – CHRISTMAS

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Office closed at 12:00 noon

Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> Office closed

Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup> Office closed

## OFFICE HOURS – NEW YEARS

Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> Office closed at 12:00 noon

Wednesday, January 01<sup>st</sup> Office closed

Thursday, January 02<sup>nd</sup> Office closed

## PLEASE NOTE

We need to close the Parish Financials books on December 30<sup>th</sup>. All money received after December 30<sup>th</sup> will be credited for 2020. **If you wish that your donations be included on your 2019 Income Tax Receipt; please bring it in before noon on December 30<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you.

## PARISH ENVELOPES

The parish envelopes are now available in the church. Please look carefully for your box of envelopes as all the numbers have now changed. Please call the Rectory with any address changes.

## PARISH FINANCIALS/INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

The Parish closes its Financial Books on Dec 30<sup>th</sup>. All monies received after Dec 30, 2019 will be credited for 2020.

## ANGELS OF HOPE

*Please return the gift to the Church no later than **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. For further information, you may call the Centre at 613-933-4400. On behalf of the children served at the **Children's Treatment Centre**, I thank you for your kindness and your spirit of sharing.*

## FAMILY BREAKFAST

St. Francis de Sales K of C 11531 are having a 'Family Breakfast' on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. \$7.00/person. Everyone welcome.

## ROAST BEEF DINNER

St. Francis de Sales K of C 11531 **Roast Beef Dinner** Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall \$12 per person.

## ST. COLUMBAN COLLECTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 01, 2019

Sunday Envelopes	3,699.00
Loose Collection	419.80
Total	\$ 4,118.80

## BISHOP'S 2019 ADVENT MESSAGE

Blessed Advent as the Year "A" (of Matthew) Begins

In Matthew's account of Jesus' teaching, the past—the "days of Noah"—shape how disciples are to understand the coming in glory of the Son of Man, that mysterious term Jesus used to refer to himself. People in Noah's day, seeing him building the ark, kept about their business, unaware of the flood that would sweep them away. Only Noah and his family were ready for the day of separation between those saved and those lost.

Jesus speaks of a division that "the Coming" will produce. Of two men working in a field and two women sharing the work of grinding meal, "one will be taken and one left". It is not clear whether those taken or left are the saved. Only that a division will take place and that some will be ready for it and others not.

The need to be ready is emphasized by the shocking image of Christ's coming like "a thief in the night". If the owner of a house knew when the thief was coming, he would know when to watch his goods and could safely neglect watching at all other times. But precisely because he does not know the time even in general terms, his only safeguard is to be ready at all times. Just so the Christian who is called to await the Son of Man who "is coming at an unexpected hour".

A happy and holy Advent to all!

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

7 p.m., Tuesday December 17 – St. Finnan's

2 p.m., Thursday December 19 – St. Peter

## ALONE CHRISTMAS DAY??

Join us for Christmas Dinner 12:00 to 2:30 p.m. At Agora Hall (Nativity Hall) 301 McConnell St. South. No charge (donations gladly accepted for next year). Welcome those alone: widows/widowers, single, divorced, separated, new to city, no family to be with here? Join your Extended Family! Need transportation? Call Allison 613-662-4719 after 4 p.m. Volunteers must register with Darlene 613-935-5828 – Hall is elevator accessible!!

## BULLETIN BOARD NOTICES

All notices/flyers must be brought to the office for approval before going on the bulletin boards in the church.

## EVENING FOR THE LOVE OF CHOCOLATE

The Alexandria/Cornwall Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League will be hosting our annual 'Evening for the Love of Chocolate'. A large variety of tasty treats will be presented for your tasting on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Cornwall Canadian Legion. You're encouraged to buy your tickets now because the event will be announced publicly in January. The cost is \$15.00 and can be purchased by calling Frances at 613-932-7392.

## WOMEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION

Please join us on Sat. Jan. 4 from 9 am. til noon at the Agora Centre, 301 McConnell Ave., Cornwall for mass, confession, breakfast, a talk and the rosary. The guest speaker is Joan Levy Earle and her talk is entitled "Helpmates of God". For any inquiries please contact Heidi Krol 613-347-7561 or Marilynn Light 613-537-2021. A free will offering of \$5 is appreciated.



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