

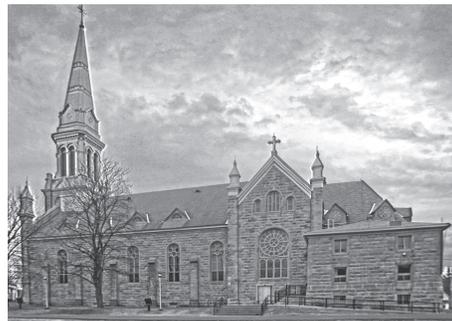
4TH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT (C)
20 DEC., 2015

Let it be done to me
[your servant]
according to
Your Word.

St. Columban Parish

36 Fourth St. West, Cornwall, ON K6J 2R6

Masses: Sat Vigil: 7 p.m., Sun: 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Weekdays except Mondays: 7:30 a.m.



THIS CHRISTMAS, LET'S SHARE THE GIFT OF MERCY

THE WORKS OF MERCY

CORPORAL & SPIRITUAL

FEED THE HUNGRY



INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY



COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL

SHELTER THE HOMELESS



ADMONISH SINNERS

CLOTHE THE NAKED



FORGIVE OFFENSES

VISIT THE SICK



COMFORT THE AFFLICTED

VISIT THE IMPRISONED

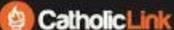


BARE WRONGS PATIENTLY

BURY THE DEAD



PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

"A BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD LESS COLD AND MORE JUST" (POPE FRANCIS) 

In his homily during the December 8th Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Bishop Marcel Damphousse quoted the Holy Father in saying that mercy is the bridge that connects God and humanity, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.

In John's Gospel we hear Jesus say: "I am the gate, and the one who enters through Me will be saved." Jesus is knocking at the door of everyone's heart and He yearns to accompany and nourish everyone. Entering a Holy Door is part of a longer process of conversion during which we prepare ourselves for a journey of faith that will bring us to an encounter with God. Through acts of repentance and a desire to seek God's forgiveness we pilgrims can truly experience the gift of mercy. It is recognizing our need for help and turning to God for that help and to receive from God a kind of love that heals. Mercy is that love that reaches us at the heart of our misery.

We can be merciful to others by allowing God's love to embrace another's misery through us. It's compassion - helping others in the midst of their misery.

Bishop Marcel will preside at Midnight Mass at St. Columban on Christmas eve.

**AS AN ACT OF MERCY, WHY NOT INVITE SOMEONE
TO WORSHIP OUR GOD OF MERCY
AT CHRISTMAS MASS**

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Fr. Ernest Emeka Emeodi
Parochial Administrator

Rev. Fr. Arockia Dhas Rayappan

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Kelly Poitras

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. to Thurs. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Evenings by appointment

BAPTISMS

By appointment 1 month in advance

MARRIAGES

Please give 6 months notice

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.
Also by appointment

OFFICE PHONE

613-932-9616

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

stcolumban@cogeco.ca

ACCESS PARISH BULLETIN

www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/111

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www.stcolumbans.com

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www.alexandria-cornwall.ca

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FOR TIMELY PUBLICATION,
E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO
stcolumbanbulletin@outlook.com
BY 4 P.M. FRIDAY
(ONE WEEK PRIOR TO REQUIRED
WEEKEND PUBLICATION)

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, December 19th

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
7:00 p.m. Bertha Depatie, Donald, Robert & families
by Pauline & Joe Foley

Sunday, December 20th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of parishioners
9:30 a.m. Thorold & Rita Heagle by their children
11:00 a.m. Germaine Lafrance (18 Anniversary of death)
by Gilles & Diane Lafrance

Tuesday, December 22nd

7:30 a.m. Elizabeth Stephenson by Gordon O'Neill

Wednesday, December 23rd

7:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory by Marleene McWilliam

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th

5:00 p.m. Anunciacion Cespon by Darlene Tyo
7:00 p.m. Cyril Dumond by wife Viola & family
Midnight Iola & Barbara Parisien by Joe Parisien & family

Nativity of The Lord - Friday, December 25th

10:30 a.m. Intentions of parishioners



Saturday, December 26th

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
7:00 p.m. Willie Provost & deceased family members
by Maurice Provost

Holy Family - Sunday, December 27th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of parishioners
9:30 a.m. Pete Piquette by wife Betty
11:00 a.m. Those Remembered in Memoriam by
The Patron's Foundation

**COMMUNION STATIONS ARE LOCATED
CENTRE FRONT AND HALFWAY DOWN CENTRE AISLE**
Please exit pews from the centre aisle and return by
the side aisles. Thank you.

TIME CHANGE - SATURDAY EVENING MASS
5:30 P.M - EFFECTIVE SATURDAY, 9 JANUARY, 2016

IN OUR PARISH



APPLE CIDER AND CHAT

AFTER MASS THIS WEEKEND

STOP TO WISH OTHERS A BLESSED CHRISTMAS.

To help celebrate as we await the arrival of Jesus at Christmas, you are invited to stop after Mass today for fellowship and sample some Christmas baking brought by parishioners to share.

MIDNIGHT MASS, CHRISTMAS EVE

*WE WELCOME BISHOP MARCEL, WHO
WILL CONCELEBRATE MASS WITH FATHER ERNEST*

At Christmas we celebrate the great truth that our God entered human history. At the heart of Christianity is the belief that the most loving word God spoke became a person, Jesus.

COME AND WORSHIP

Sing Christmas Carols along with the Choir
from 11:30 p.m. to Midnight

Merry Christmas Everyone

SNOW REMOVAL

CHURCH ENTRANCES AND WALKWAYS

Please check the diagram (on bulletin boards) of the Church entrances and walkways which show where snow removal will be carried out on weekends when there is a major snowfall. As we have 5 entrances to be cleared of snow and our custodian is not scheduled to work on weekends, this will help eliminate some overtime work for him if a major storm occurs. Thank you everyone for your understanding.

Collection 6 December, 2015 – Thank You

\$4,391.35	Sunday Env	\$ 20.00	Christmas
319.11	Loose	\$ 30.00	Priest Pension Fund
\$4,710.46	Total		

PARISH FINANCIALS / INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

The Parish closes its Financial Books on 29 Dec. For donations to be included on your 2015 Income Tax Receipt, the parish needs to receive them before 29 December .

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Eve, Thurs., 31 Dec. 5 p.m
New Year's Day, Fri., 1 January – 10:30 a.m

OFFICE HOURS – CHRISTMAS

Closed 12 Noon Wednesday, 23 December
Closed Thurs & Fri., 24, 25 Dec. & Mon, Tues. 28, 29 Dec.

OFFICE HOURS – NEW YEAR'S

Closed 12 Noon, Thursday, 31 December
Closed Fri., Mon, Tues. 1, 4 & 5 January

CCCB – MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dear friends, Goodness abounds!

This Christmas, as a counterpoint to the destructive forces of misery and terror that we have witnessed these past months, we must not forget that goodness abounds! More than not forgetting, let us be ready to point it out when we see it.

A few weeks ago, I was invited to join a small group of people who help at the *Out of the Cold* breakfast program in Hamilton. These very good folk agreed in the autumn to get up early every Thursday morning from November through March to make their way to a small kitchen outlet to prepare a hot breakfast for over 120 men and women. The volunteers are part of about 400 remarkable and generous people who make the program work. They arrived in the quiet early morning hours and were spirited as they took up their duties, each one pitching in to assure that everything was ready for the arrival of the guests.

Steve showed me how to whip up pancake batter and how to cook the pancakes. Not too difficult – we worked together. Two hundred pancakes later, I was asked to help Karen and Frank serve the breakfast: pancakes, sausages, cereal, fruit, juice and the prerequisite coffee or tea. Morning greetings were friendly and sincere; the guests were known and called by name. As the serving line thinned out, I moved again, now to help with the washing of dishes. It gave me a chance to chat with Rob, who had done everything, including picking me up, to make the experience pleasant for me. The time passed quickly and, even before I left, I knew that I had participated in something good, something beautiful, something sacred! The same thing happens every day in many communities in our country and around the world. Terrorists may get front page media coverage, but quiet unassuming goodness such as I experienced that morning wins hearts and souls! It won mine, and I know it won the guests'. Goodness abounds! This Christmas we have begun the *Year of Mercy* called by Pope Francis. Feeding the hungry is one of the seven traditional *corporal works of mercy*. Many good people feed the hungry every day – often against great odds. When I think of the single unemployed parent worrying about how the 3 children will be fed that day, I know that my problems are small in comparison. Recently, I was reminded that before original sin, there was original good. The biblical story of creation reminds us that God considered the created world to be "good". And the human was "very good"! Original good came *before* original sin – and in Jesus Christ, the first born, that goodness is restored. Christmas is a time to remember that in spite of the horrors of evil, good abounds. This Christmas, let us look for the goodness of others, and allow the good in us to shine – so that God's compassionate mercy might be revealed through simple, everyday kindness. And when we see the good deeds of the other, acknowledge them and affirm them. A simple "thank you" is easy enough, and is actually quite effective.

**Thank YOU ... and Merry Christmas
to you, your families and your loved ones!**

Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, OMI

Bishop of Hamilton and

President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

IN THE PARISH

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Once a year during Advent we undertake a fundraising drive to help us through the upcoming year. Our client base and their need for assistance continues to increase here in our community. For example, our food bank numbers have jumped from 280 to 420 per month. We are *an all volunteer group* with little or no overhead costs and all that comes in will surely get to the less fortunate. Tax receipts will be issued.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Through your donation, you participate in the mission of sharing & helping the needy in our midst. **ENVELOPES CAN BE FOUND ON THE REGISTERS AT ALL ENTRANCES TO THE CHURCH.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

IN THE DIOCESE

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

7:30 P.M. SUNDAY NIGHT MASS HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Knights of Columbus, St. Andrews Council 10416
COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: 8 TO NOON, SUNDAY, 20 DECEMBER
St. Andrews Church Hall.

WOMEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION

SATURDAY, 2 JANUARY FROM 9:30 TO NOON

at the Charles-Emile Claude Centre. The morning includes Mass, a light breakfast, Confession, a talk and the rosary.

Joan Levy-Earle will speak on *'Mary Mother of God'*.

A free will offering of \$5 is appreciated. For more information call Marilyn Light at 613- 537 2021.

HELP WANTED – SHALOM HOUSE, ALEXANDRIA

Put your cooking talents into a ministry of welcoming. Join the team at Shalom House in preparing nutritious meals, managing the kitchen and supervising staff and volunteers. Weekend availability is required. Salary negotiable. Please send your resume to Sister Sue at maison-shalomhouse@bellnet.ca

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – MEALS ON WHEELS

Volunteers are desperately needed to deliver meals to home-bound seniors during winter months. If you can spare 2 hours a month, please call 613-933-3384 x4263.

Meals are delivered between 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. Mon.to Fri.
Mileage is reimbursed.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE CHRISTMAS DAY

You're invited to a special free Christmas Day dinner.

12 NOON TO 2:30 P.M., CHRISTMAS DAY

Great food, (turkey, dressing, etc.) music, crafts for children & the company of others. Agora (former Nativity) Hall, 301 McConnell Ave. Need a ride, call 1 week before 613-703-7696 or 613-935-4568

NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL

8 P.M. TO 1 A.M., THURSDAY, 31 DECEMBER

Knights of Columbus Hall, 205 Amelia St.

Music by Crazy Dave – Door prizes and spot dances. Hot and cold buffet. \$25/person. Call 613-932-7600 for tickets.

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