

**2ND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT
8 DEC. 2013**



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: 7:30 a.m.**

APPLYING GOD'S WORD TO MY LIFE

Today's Readings:

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-17
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Justice, peace and joy
in the Holy Spirit are
signs of God's Kingdom
in our midst.

Further Reflection from the Catechism:

CCC: 1076, 731-737, 437
CCCC: 82, 108
YOUCAT: 169, 118-119, 73

SCRIPTURE BACKGROUND

In today's Old Testament reading the prophet Isaiah gives us a beautiful vision of a future filled with justice and peace. The passage begins with the promise of a king with virtues that Christians later identify as "fruit of the Holy Spirit." Justice and freedom for the poor mark the reign of the king and all of creation lives together in peace and harmony.

Christians interpret the promise of a king in the line of David—found in today's Old Testament passage—to refer to the coming of Jesus Christ. We regard Jesus as the king sent to fulfill God's promise to send a Messiah.

In today's Gospel we find a bold and courageous character named John the Baptist. He is determined to prepare the way for the coming of Messiah, Jesus Christ. Out of the wilderness John the Baptist appears wearing clothing of camel's hair. His food is locusts and wild honey. His heart is pure and his preaching changes the hearts of many people.

John announces the coming of a new age when people are called to change their hearts and repent from sin. It is time to prepare for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Today's passage focuses on John's preaching which calls for a change of heart and true conversion in order to welcome Jesus and turn back to God. John's mission and message center on Jesus, the coming Messiah, and the moral conversion necessary to prepare for his kingdom of justice and peace.

A KEY THEME:

God is a God of promises. God promised never to abandon us. Catholics believe that throughout history God has worked to bring about our salvation. Starting with God's covenant with Abraham, and then throughout the time of Moses and the prophets, God's promise to send a savior is fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the Saviour Who entered our humanity and our history and brought about the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God will come to completion in the final judgment. Justice and peace are the signs of God's kingdom. Through His ministry, Jesus planted the seeds of God's reign. The faithful continue the mission of Jesus and help God's Kingdom to blossom on Earth.

THINKING ABOUT IT

- Why did Jesus become human?
- What did Jesus bring into the world?
- How can you help God's Kingdom blossom on Earth?



THE GOSPEL IN LIFE

How can you turn away from sin and turn toward God this Advent season?

Excerpted from RCL Benziger Lectionary Resources



PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Dan VanDelst, Pastor
Rev. Mr. Marcel Brunet, Deacon

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs. Kelly Poitras

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

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@alexandria-cornwall.ca

WEBSITES

PARISH FOUNDATION

www.stcolumbans.com

DIOCESE

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

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Saturday, December 7th

7:00 – 7:25 a.m. Confessions
 8:00 a.m. Harry Doran by Sean Herdman & family
 2:00 p.m. First Reconciliation St. Columban School
 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
 7:00 p.m. Aldon & Leigh Landon by the Landon family

Sunday, December 8th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners
 9:30 a.m. Lauea Maguire by Jake & Donna Villemaire
 11:00 a.m. Carmel Bourgon (1st Anniversary of death)
 by husband Urbain Bourgon
 12:30 p.m. Baptism

Monday, December 9th

7:30 a.m. Gerald Caron by Gerry & Lise DiCola

Tuesday, December 10th

7:30 a.m. Eleanor Morris by the family
7:00 p.m. St. Joseph's High School Christmas Concert

Wednesday, December 11th

7:30 a.m. Jacqueline Leduc by husband Marcel Leduc
 8:45 a.m. Advent Mass St. Columban School

Thursday, December 12th

7:30 a.m. Kathleen Landon by Eric & Cindy St. Louis

Friday, December 13th

7:30 a.m. Agnes & Leo Cashman by Sean Herdman & family

Saturday, December 14th

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions
 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Confessions
 7:00 p.m. George & Carmel Belmore by the family

Sunday, December 15th

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners
 9:30 a.m. Suzan Smith by Mom, Steve, Lisa & Mike
 11:00 a.m. Special Intention for Fr. Tom Villeneuve
 on his 60th Anniversary of Ordination

Monday, December 16th

7:30 a.m. Shana McGlynn by Mom, Dad and Son Lucas

Available This Weekend Only LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA AUDIO CDs

GREAT ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SELECTION
 FOR GIFTING AND FOR YOURSELF – STILL JUST \$5. EACH

St. Joseph's Catholic High School CHRISTMAS CONCERT

will be held here at St. Columban's Church

7 P.M., TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER

Admission \$5. – Tickets available at the door.

Come and enjoy the wonderful sounds of Christmas and show your support for St. Joseph's High School Students.

IN OUR PARISH

COLLECTION – 24 NOVEMBER – THANK YOU

Sunday Env.	\$4,619.00	Book Table	\$ 34.70
Loose	402.95	Candles	157.90
Total	\$5,021.95	Initial Offering	5.00
Priests Pension	\$ 455.00	D&P Philippines	5,111.10
ShelterBox	\$ 420.00	Har.Supper Donation	20.00

SYNOD ON FAMILY AND EVANGELIZATION

There will be a discussion with those interested in contributing to the parish response to the questions from the Preparatory Document for the Synod on Family and Evangelization.

3 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER – UPPER ROOM

The document may be found on the Vatican website in the tab "Latest" and search for its release date of 5 November.

ADOPT-A-CANDIDATE REMINDER

The deadline to provide a Christmas card or message to your child is due by 16 Dec. Please drop it in the collection basket and it will be distributed to your child. Thank you for responding to the opportunity to pray for our children.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING 2013 TAX RECEIPTS

We need to close the Parish Financials Books on *Dec. 27th*. All money received after December 27th will be credited for 2014. If you wish that your donations be included on your 2013 Income Tax Receipt; please bring it in before Dec. 27th.

13-MONTH CATHOLIC CHURCH ART CALENDARS

On the book table – only \$5.00
from "St. Joseph Workers for Life and Family"
 First-come, first-serve – Limited number available.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

7 p.m., Wednesday, 11 December - St. Andrew
 2 p.m., Wednesday, 18 December - St. Columban
 7 p.m., Thursday, 19 December - Blessed Sacrament

SUNDAY, 14/15 DECEMBER – COFFEE AND CHAT

We will be having our regular Coffee Sunday. The church marks the 3rd week of Advent which is a time of joy. Parishioners are invited to share in this joy by sharing some of your Christmas traditional baking. *Bring 6 or less pieces of your traditional baking to the table provided at the 4th St. entrance of the church. Then after Mass stop & enjoy some of the shared goodies.*



OFFICE HOURS – CHRISTMAS

Tuesday December 24th Closed at 12 noon
 Wed & Thurs. December 25th & 26th Closed all day

OFFICE HOURS – NEW YEARS

Tuesday December 31st Closed at 12 noon
 Wed. & Thurs. January 1st & 2nd Closed all day

ST. COLUMBAN – CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil Tues. Dec. 24th - 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 12 midnight
 Christmas Day Wed. Dec. 25th - 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S – MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Eve Tues. Dec. 31st – 5:00 p.m.
 New Year's Day Wed. Jan. 1st – 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

IN OUR PARISH AND DIOCESE

Remembering Our Loved Ones At Christmas

The Patrons of St. Columban Foundation ask for your assistance once again this year to keep the repairs to our historic church building on schedule. You can help by making a donation to the Foundation this Christmas "*In Memory of a Loved One*". Remembrances will be published in a special insert to our Parish Bulletin the weekend of December 21-22. For your donation, you may use the forms & envelopes provided at the Church entrances. Make cheque payable to the Patrons of St. Columban Foundation. Please submit in the collection basket by Sunday, 8 Dec. to allow time for printing. Thank you for your continued support of the work of **THE PATRONS OF ST. COLUMBAN FOUNDATION.**

SANTA'S HELPERS

PROJECT FOR THE CHILDREN'S TREATMENT CENTRE

To provide Christmas gifts to children receiving counselling at the CTC. Please do not wrap the gift, but place it in an appropriate gift-bag and return it to the Church no later than Sun., 8 Dec. The CTC thanks you for your kindness and spirit of sharing.

St. Francis de Sales Parish extends an invitation to attend a **RETIREMENT PARTY FOR FR. GEORGE MALONEY** in St. Francis Parish Hall. Best wishes only.
2 TO 4 P.M., SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

IN OUR PARISH AND DIOCESE

MESSAGE FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Once a year, during the Advent Season we solicit funding for the upcoming year. We are a totally volunteer organization & all funds received will find their way to the less fortunate. Next weekend there will be an envelope in the bulletin & if you wish & your means allow, we would appreciate your donations. Tax receipts will be issued to donors who provide name & address.



"We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, in our parish or diocesan institutions, when so many people are waiting for the Gospel. It is not enough simply to open the door in welcome because they come, but we must go out through that door to seek and meet the people."
Pope Francis, Homily, World Youth Day 27 July, 2013

Bishop Brodeur Assembly 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Fundraiser for Holy Trinity/St. Joseph/St. Matthew Mission Trip
BIG BREAKFAST – SUNDAYS, 8 DEC. & 12 JANUARY
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 Blessed Sacrament Hall. *Good Will Donation*

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA
1 TO 4 P.M., THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 7 & 8 DEC.
at the Agora Catholic Centre. *Christmas marketplace, movies, creches from all over the world, etc.* All are welcome.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

is celebrated on **December 12** every year, on the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, who appeared to a humble Aztec peasant, Saint Juan Diego, in Mexico in 1531. The Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council celebrates this day of prayer, solidarity & reconciliation by issuing an annual message honouring Indigenous people who have been inspired by their Catholic faith.



?EHTSEO EREYA – A DENE PROPHET WHO PREACHED THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

Ereya was the original Dene name of the prophet now lovingly known as ?ehtseo (Grandpa) Louis Aya. Born in 1857, he became known throughout the Northwest Territories as a great spiritual leader. People traveled many miles to visit with him & today they still come to visit his grave. All the elders who knew Ereya talk about how special he was in the eyes of God. The local priests also appreciated his holiness. Fr. Jean Denis, O.M.I., a long-time pastor at Deline parish, was impressed with the holiness of ?ehtseo Ereya's life, his healthy melding of Dene & Catholic spirituality & the positive effect his teaching had on the people. Ereya was raised in Tlicho territory, in the Behchoko area of the Northwest Territories. He traveled with his family around the Sahtu area & built his first log home in what today is called Deline, a community on the shores of Great Bear Lake. He chose this place for its good fishing, hunting and trapping. Later in his life, Ereya said that when he was young he was visited by two angels to share the teachings of the Holy Book. These visits continued for years. Once he had grey hair he was told to share his knowledge & speak to Dene people everywhere.

Even though he had no knowledge of written words, he had a rich knowledge of the Bible. He would go from home to home, talking to the people. The Dene people have a tradition of prophets: good people who have some sense of the future & good words of guidance for the people. Ereya is seen as one of the most gifted prophets. He predicted the future for the people and the land. ?ehtseo Ereya would often say, "*Remember to always share & love one another.*" He also said, "*Remember to always keep the words that I taught you. Use them and teach them to each other.*" He also warned the people about the "yellow poison" that would be mined at Port Radium, also on the shores of Great Bear Lake. Early mining practices were very primitive & many of the miners suffered from exposure to uranium.

?ehtseo Ereya died on 23 Sept, 1940, at the age of 83. Loved and respected by young & old alike because of his strong belief in God, he tried to live out the best of 2 traditions. He prayed with the drum, participated in drum dances, feeding the fire ceremonies and in many ways was fully active in his Dene traditional culture. At the same time he was a faithful Catholic with great respect and love for Jesus, the stories of the Bible and the Sacraments. He encouraged his people to practise both their traditional culture and their Catholic faith. He truly was a holy man.

?Ehtseo Ereya reminds us that the particular spiritual legacy & gifts of our aboriginal brothers and sisters have much to offer our present-day society. He also calls us to respect both Catholic and Indigenous spiritualities and to celebrate what is common between them. As ever, our Church needs good prophets.

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