

# Immaculate Conception R.C. Church    Our Lady of the Lake R.C. Church

20916 Dalton Road, Sutton West, ON L0E 1R0

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Office Hours: 9am to 4:30pm Tuesday to Friday

## Pastoral Team

Rev. Fr. Paul T. Hancko, Pastor

Rev. Deacon Stephen Palmer



*prepare the way...*

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SUTTON

#### MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

- Mon. Dec 23 8:30am: Blessings & Health upon Fortunato Del Col req. John Del Col
- Tues. **Dec 24 Christmas Eve**  
**5:00pm:** Parishioners (Pro Populo)  
**10:00pm:** +Bertha Ewasko req. Florence Casciano
- Wed. **Dec 25 Christmas Day**  
**8:30am:** +Angela Kalichak req. The Estate
- Sat. Dec 28 5:30pm: +Augusta McDonald req. Rose Sheppard
- Sun. Dec 29 8:30am: +Charles Savoie req. Beatrice Savoie

*A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS from Father Paul, Deacon Steve and the parish staff. May the blessings of the season be with you and yours.*

Thank you to all who made our parish Christmas party last Sunday such a success, especially to Santa Claus.

#### PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Keep in your prayers: Erica Barry, Helen Bromley, Tyler Clements, Ed Davis, Michael D'Paul, Ligia Gallego, Marika Gilligan, Sebastian Henriques, John Hopkins, Grant Madill, Linda Martignani, Mary Meade, Michelle O'Reilly, Mary Rice, Janis Scully. **Please call the office if you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick during Advent.**

#### NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

##### New Year's Eve – December 31

4pm Holy Hour – Sutton

5pm Mass – Sutton

##### New Year's Day – January 1

8:30am – Sutton

10:30am - Keswick

#### TEMPORARY ON-STREET PARKING IN KESWICK FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Parking is permitted on the east side of Metro Road only and not permitted within 15 metres of the intersection at Old Homestead. On-street parking is only permitted if all other off street parking options are at capacity. Park vehicles in a single file and as far off the travelled roadway as possible on the shoulder of Metro Road. Violations of the conditions may result in tickets, towing.

**FYI:** Addresses on donation envelope boxes have been blacked out as per the Archdiocese of Toronto in compliance with current privacy laws.

### KESWICK

#### MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

- Tues. **Dec 24 Christmas Eve**  
**8:00pm:** +Daniel Kane req. Helen Bromley
- Wed. **Dec 25 Christmas Day**  
**10:30am:**+Angela Kalichak req. The Estate
- Thurs. Dec 26. 8:30am: +John Forkan req. Helen Bromley
- Fri. Dec 27 8:30am: +George & Mary Humpage req. Rose Sheppard
- Sat. Dec 28 4:00pm: +Concetta Simone req. Kathy Perruzza
- Sun. Dec 29 10:30am: +Eva & Antonio Macuso req. Rosa Turano

**December 15<sup>th</sup> Collection:** \$ 3,354.00  
**Repairs Debt: To-date:** \$370,000.00

#### PAG AND DONATE NOW

Two alternatives to envelopes: **Pre-Authorized Giving** (forms in the foyer of both churches) and **Donate Now** (uses a **credit card**). Please contact the office for more info.



#### Live the Gospel this Christmas

In our consumer culture, it's easy to forget those who are less fortunate. One remedy is to make a gift to ShareLife on behalf of your loved ones. In doing so, you embody ShareLife's mission to live the Gospel by providing for those in need. You can donate securely online at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate) or by calling 416-934-3411 or 1-800-263-2595. May God bring peace and joy to you and your loved ones this season!

#### SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

Thanks to everyone who generously provided gifts as part of the parish Giving Tree. Your contributions will make for a brighter Christmas for many of the less fortunate in our community.

**Confirmation Candidates** should hand in their letters on "Why I want to be Confirmed" to the Catechist. The letter should be dated and have your signature.

#### EVENT CALENDAR

- Tues Jan. 7:** Confirmation - Class #4 7pm  
**Thurs. Jan. 9:** Confirmation – Class #4, 7pm  
**Sun. Jan 19:** Confirmation Make-up Class #4 after the 10:30 Mass

**POPE: PRE-MASS TIME IS MEANT FOR SILENT PRAYER, NOT CHITCHAT**

*Prayer is, 'first and foremost dialogue, a personal relationship with God,' – Pope Francis*

Pope Francis called out the common habit of chatting with people before Mass, stressing that this is a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord.

"When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chitchat with those in front of us," the Pope said. However, "it is not a moment for chitchat."

"It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus," he said, adding that "silence is so important."

Continuing his catechesis on the Eucharist, the Pope recalled his message prior, that the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, he said, silence is what "prepares us and accompanies us."

But to really understand this, first we have to answer a question, he said. And that is: What is prayer?

Pope Francis explained that prayer is something that Jesus himself taught us to do, first of all by example, when in the Gospels he withdraws to a secluded place to pray. And second, he teaches us again when he tells his disciples that the first word in knowing how to pray is "Father."

This is "so simple," the Pope said. "So we have to learn 'Father.'" Then we must take on the attitude of a small child, one full of trust and confidence, knowing that God "remembers you and takes care of you," he said.

The second attitude we should take is one of childlike surprise and wonder. The child, he said, "always asks a thousand questions because he wants to discover the world; in our relationship with the Lord, in prayer," he said, "open the heart to wonder."

He noted that many say they don't have time to pray. "We lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life of prayer with the Lord."

However, Jesus surprises us in truth by loving us and calling us even in our weaknesses, he said, adding that just as Christ called his disciples, he also calls us to him at each Mass.

"This is, therefore, the greatest grace: to be able to experience the Mass, the Eucharist. It is the privileged moment to be with Jesus, and through him, with God."

**THE YULE LOG**

Many customs began during the Middle-Ages to celebrate Christmas. Some of them are still practiced, others have slowly given way to newer ways of celebrating this Holy day.

One of these is the Yule log. After the harvest, the workers on the great estates would go into the woods to find a great, thick tree trunk. They would cut it down and take home its widest part. When they arrived at the noble's house, they would soak the log in water to make it as wet as possible.

On Christmas Eve, the log would be taken into the noble's house and put in the fireplace. They would light a small fire under it, keeping the fire burning at all times. Because the log was huge and very wet, it would take a long time for the log to catch on fire and burn. As long as a part of that log had not been burned, the workers didn't have to go to their work. This would take about a week.

Another medieval custom was to have a Christmas joust. All the Knights would gather and practice their skills against one another as part of their Christmas festivities. But because Christmas was so holy, it was forbidden to do battle on Christmas and in the days surrounding it.

**HOLD THE DATE!**

The Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women's League are planning a fun and affordable celebration on **Saturday, February 15, 2020** to be held at **the Ice Palace in Keswick**. More details to follow soon.

**FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

Last week 10 million pilgrims arrived from all over the world for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

This was to celebrate the 488th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe al Tepeyac. According to the same source, this is the place of Marian pilgrimage that gathers more people each year, about 25 million.

**LAST CALL FOR PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. PAUL**

To Guadalupe, Mexico from February 11 – 17, 2020. Contact Polimex at 905-238-6683 or visit: [www.polimex.com](http://www.polimex.com)

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