## St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Conception Churches

St. Paul the Apostle: P.O. Box 789, 190 King St. S., Alliston, ON L9R 1V9 Office: 705-435-6325 Fax: 705-435-6859

Immaculate Conception: 4781 Conc Rd 5, Adjala, RR 1, Alliston, ON L9R 1V1







4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent ~ 21 December 2014

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father." - 12 1 22 12

First Reading + 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Second Reading + Romans 16:25-27 **Gospel + Luke 1: 26-38** 

## **Mass Intentions for the Week**

Monday, December 22 NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, December 23

5:30pm+Marian Cenacle 6:00pm+*HOLY HOUR* 

\*\*\*\*6:15pm - 6:45pm + CONFESSIONS

7:00pm+Anna GREEN, healing – M/A Crowley

Wednesday, December 24

5:00pm+Bing GIBSON, RIP – Family 7:30pm+Erna LEX, RIP – M Lynch

12:00am+Kurt/Elizabeth STIEGWARDT, RIP – B Baumfeld

Thursday, December 25

9:00am+FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH 10:30am+Andrej SVETINA, RIP – D Svetina

Friday, December 26

12:10pm+Doreen POWER, healing – J/C Orr Saturday, December 27

(Morning Mass at Immaculate Conception) 9:00am+Holy Souls in PURGATORY – J/F Gallant 5:00pm+Yvonne/Richard GALEZOWSKI, 40<sup>th</sup> Ann – Family

Sunday, December 28

9:00am+Mary/Al VAN HESWICZK, 50<sup>th</sup> Ann – M/A Crowley 10:30am+FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

#### Saint of the Week

Genuine contemplation and action are inseparable. The one who seeks truth loves truth, and the one who loves truth seeks to spread the knowledge and practice of truth.

- Servant of God Isaac Hecker (1819-1888), founder of the Paulist Fathers, potential Feast Day December 22

#### **PASTA DINNER - TICKET REFUND**

Call Charles Donnelly at 705.435.2577

#### FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:

Yet what can I give him?

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made know by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.

These words, familiar to us as the Angelus prayer, are also the opening prayer of today's Mass of the fourth Sunday of Advent.

"Pour your grace into our hearts!" What is grace? Grace is nothing else than the presence of God's love in our souls, freely given to us. It is the power of the Holy Spirit active within us. And just as the soul gives life to the body, so the Holy Spirit gives life to the soul. When we are alive in the Spirit, then we are truly alive.

During this season of Advent, when gifts are given and received, what gifts should we ask of God? Children write their letters to Santa: "Dear Santa, this Christmas I would like ..." What would we write in our letter to God? "Dear God, this Christmas I would like ..." There are limits to what Santa can fit down the chimney. There are no limits to what God can give us.

All of us are in need of God's gifts, but of all the gifts that can be given or received, can there be any gift greater than the gift of oneself? When Christ asked St. Thomas Aguinas what he most desired, Thomas replied: "Nothing but yourself, Lord." What greater gift can we ask of God than himself? "Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts." In asking for this we ask for all that we truly need. If I have everything else, but I do not have God, I have nothing. If I have nothing else, but I have God, then truly I have everything.

God's gift to us is freely given, love given for the sake of love. As St. Bernard said: "For when God loves, all he desires is to be loved in return; the sole purpose of his love is to be loved, in the knowledge that those who love him are made happy by their love of him."

Or as Christina Rossetti expressed it in a poem:

In the bleak mid-winter / Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, / Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, / Snow on snow, In the bleak mid-winter / Long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him / Nor earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away /

When He comes to reign:

In the bleak mid-winter / A stable-place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, / Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him, / Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd / I would bring a lamb, If I were a wise man / I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him, / Give my heart.

#### PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



## **Confessions**

Every Saturday: 4:00-4:45 pm (before 5:00 pm Mass) Every Tuesday 6:15-6:45 pm There will be *no* confessions on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

NOTE: All Sunday Masses for the weekends of December 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> will be at regular Mass times.

## **Christmas Mass Times**

At Saint Paul the Apostle Church

Wed. December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00p.m. - 7:30p.m. & 12 midnight

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

At Immaculate Conception Church

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am

## **New Year's Eve Mass Times:**

At Saint Paul the Apostle Church
Wednesday, December 31 at 5:00 pm
Thursday, January 1st at 10:30 am
At Immaculate Conception Church
Thursday, January 1st at 9:00 am

#### **Christmas Smiles Campaign:**

In the past we have raised \$200 -\$400 to give a healthy meal to children in developing countries.

**Answer Christ's Call** ~ by joining many Parishes around North America answering the call to serve the poor. During the Advent season, Parishes will place a metal container in front of the altar. At Offertory time, the pastor asks the children to come forward and drop coins in the tin. Along with the joyful noise, this special



moment in the mass teaches the importance of charity and stewardship. The Campaign goal is to give a nutritious meal to a child in a developing country. We begin the Campaign on Dec. 1st - at all weekend Masses until Christmas.

CHALICE ~ Largest Canadian Catholic Child Sponsorship



Catholic Ministry to Grades 6-8

Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:15 p.m. Life Teen Mass 5:00 p.m.

## "INSPIRED"

Through the saints lives we will help the youth Understand what makes a truly inspiring person.



On behalf of all the Pastoral team, we would like to wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas. May you and your family and friends experience the presence of the Emmanuel - 'God is with us' and be touched by His presence and love. Let us pray for the strength and courage to share that love with others especially the needy and vulnerable among us including our youth and children.

May God Bless you. Fr. Glass.

## <u>Please note the Office Hours during</u> <u>the Holidays.</u>

#### **CHRISTMAS HOURS**

The Parish Office will be closed at 12:00noon on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on December 29th.

Yes! I still have vacation time.
Wait until next year when I earn an extra weeks' vacation! (smile)

### **NEW YEAR'S HOURS**

The Parish Office will be closed at 12noon on Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and will reopen on Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



We congratulate the families of the following children who have entered into the Roman Catholic Community through the Holy sacrament of Baptism: Hazel Elizabeth CORREIA; Isla Marie DESROCHE; Brayden Michael HARRIS; Keira Ann KNOX;

Liam Gordon KNOX; Jacob Michael KUZMICH; Logan Riley Adam MASK; Damiano Leo TRIUMBARI and Felicity Margaret Lily TOMINI.

#### **2015 Offertory Envelopes**

The 2015 Sunday Offertory Envelopes are now available at the Entrances of both Churches. The boxes will be in **Alphabetical order.** 

\*For at least the first month of January, please record your name and <u>full address</u> (*including your 911 number and Conc/Side Road numbers*) on the front of the envelope.

\*\*I have amended everyone's address that has an RR# as the Post Office is phasing these numbers out. Eventually they will return as 'Address incorrect'.

\*\*\*PS... I am stilling looking for the name and address of Envelope #14 to prepare a tax receipt.

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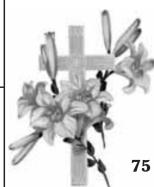
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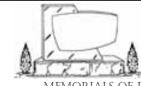


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