

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 HRS: Tues-Fri 9-4:30 p.m.

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Immaculate Conception: 4791 Conc Rd 5, Adjala

Alliston, ON L9R 1V1 www.stpaulsalliston.com

Secretary: Deborah Donnelly, Ext. 21

Pastoral Team: *Pastor:* Fr. Alan Glass father.glass@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Dave McKendrick, EXT. 24 or email Dave: allistonlifeteen@gmail.com

Text Dave @ 647-237-1347



prepare the way...

4th Sunday of Advent ~ 23 December 2018

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." *Luke 1:41-42*

First Reading + Micah 5:2-5a
Second Reading + Hebrews 10:5-10
Gospel + Luke 1:39-45

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, December 24

5:00pm+Paul DION, RIP – Family
 7:30pm+FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
 12:00MN+For the Intentions of Tardif/Rice Family

Tuesday, December 25

9:00am+Wayne WRIGHT, RIP – Dw Donnelly
 10:30am+Jean GALLANT, RIP – M Lynch

Wednesday, December 26

8:00am+Christina MORRISON & Baby – P/C Morrison

Thursday, December 27

8:00am+Rev. Garnet SAUVE, RIP – Archdiocese of TO
 10:30am+Mass at Riverwood Home

Friday, December 28

12:10pm+Mary/Michael WHELAN/Family RIP – M Whelan

Saturday, December 29

(Morning Mass at Immaculate Conception)

9:00am+Jane ALFARERO, RIP – L Alfarero & Family
 5:00pm+Personal Intentions of Leo & Mary JOYCE

Sunday, December 30

9:00am+John SZCZUKOCKI, RIP – M Lynch

FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

We are all familiar with the Christmas story as told by St. Luke in his gospel:

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

This is not merely a 'story.' It is the account of a real historical event. As the scripture scholar J. G. Machen wrote: "The Bible contains a record of something that has *happened*. The word 'gospel' means 'good news', tidings, information about something that has occurred. In other words, it means *history*. A gospel independent of history is simply a contradiction in terms."

Our Christian faith is based on historical events. Jesus was born in a particular place at a particular moment in time. The coming of the Messiah had long been foretold by the prophets. The moment of his coming seemed to be long delayed, but the people of Israel never lost hope. They were expectantly watching for his coming at any time. And then, at the proper time, not too late or too soon, he appeared. As St. Paul says:

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba, Father.'

The people of Israel were expecting a Messiah who would restore the nation-state of Israel and sit on the throne of his ancestor King David. Instead something infinitely greater occurred: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; and we have beheld his glory — glory as of the only Son from the Father. And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."

This Christmas we celebrate not merely a story but rather the single most important event in world history, an event which occurred in the silence of God but which we now loudly proclaim. Long ago in an obscure village in Judea, a baby is wrapped in cloths and laid in a manger — no ordinary child, but truly the Son of God come to save his people. May God richly bless you this Christmas!

Saint of the Week:

Fight all error, but do it with good humor, patience, kindness, and love. Harshness will damage your own soul and spoil the best cause. - *Saint John of Kanty(1390-1473), Patron St of Lithuania, Poland, Feast Day December 23*

PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Christmas Mass Times:

(At Saint Paul the Apostle Church)

Mon. December 24th: at 5:00p.m. 7:30p.m. & 12midnight

Tues. December 25th: at 10:30a.m.

(At Immaculate Conception Church)

Tues. December 25th: at 9:00a.m.

New Year's Eve Mass Times:

(At Saint Paul the Apostle Church)

Monday, December 31: at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1 at 10:30 a.m.

(At Immaculate Conception Church)

*****Monday, December 31: at 12:00midnight**

Tuesday, January 1st: at 9:00am



CWL 2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES

We are quickly approaching the dead-line of Dec. 31, 2018 for our membership campaign. Our memberships should be collected and remitted to the CWL National office on Jan. 1, 2019. Please enclose the fee of \$25 in the CWL envelope in your church offertory box or the pre-printed envelopes on the table in foyer. It can be dropped in the collection basket at weekend masses, the CWL mail box or the church office. Submitting your fee on time will prevent interruption of your League magazine as well as the years of service. Pay before December 31st to be entered into a draw to receive a year's membership FREE.

Good Shepherd Food Bank:

Christmas comes and goes but there is always a need to keep the shelves stocked. We collect through out the year and the food bank takes note of how many pounds of food our parishioners deliver to them each year. We thank all those who faithfully bring in food items every week.



Christmas Smiles Campaign:



In the past we have raised over several hundred dollars to give a healthy meal to children in developing countries. This year we would like to raise enough money to support our new foster child Baraki Ali (\$444.00/yr)

After each mass until New Year's Day, bring your children to the Crèche on the altar where you will see the Christmas Smiles Container and tell them what alms giving is about. Along with the joyful noise, this special moment teaches the importance of charity and stewardship and helping those in need.

UPDATING OUR PARISH LIST...

Before we issue the 2018 tax receipts, we need to update our Parish List. 90% of envelope users do not record their name on the envelope. I cannot issue a tax receipt if I don't know who the donor is. We understand not recording the amount, but please put your name and address on the envelope for the coming New Year. *Would the donor of Envelopes #3 please put your name and address on your envelope if you wish a tax receipt.*



Thank you all for your continued support!



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.

Please note the Office Hours during the Holidays.

CHRISTMAS HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, December 24 and will reopen on Thursday, December 27th.

NEW YEAR'S HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed December 31 and will reopen on Wednesday, January 2nd.

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