

# St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Conception Churches

**St. Paul the Apostle:** P.O. Box 789, 190 King St. S., Alliston, ON L9R 1V9  
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Rectory: 705-435-0131 [www.stpaulsalliston.com](http://www.stpaulsalliston.com)

**Pastoral Team:** *Pastor:* Fr. Alan Glass [father.glass@gmail.com](mailto:father.glass@gmail.com)  
*Deacon:* Desmond Carroll

*Youth Minister:* Dave McKendrick, EXT. 24 or email Dave: [allistonlifeteen@gmail.com](mailto:allistonlifeteen@gmail.com)  
Text Dave @ 647-237-1347





#### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent ~ 18 December 2016

Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." — Mt 1:20-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

First Reading + Isaiah 7:10-14  
 Second Reading + Romans 1: 1-7  
 Gospel + Matthew 1: 18-24

### **Mass Intentions for the Week**

#### **Monday, December 19**

\*\*6:00pm+St. Paul's Kinder Lessons & Carols

#### **Tuesday, December 19**

5:30pm+Marian Cenacle

6:00pm+HOLY HOUR

6:15pm – 6:45pm + CONFESSIONS

7:00pm+Jeff KAVANAGH, Pers. Int. – J/C Orr

#### **Wednesday, December 21**

8:00am+Norman ALLEN, RIP – J Megraw

#### **Thursday, December 22**

8:00am+Stacey LAUGHLIN, RIP – K/A Holychuk

10:30am+Mass at Riverwood Home

#### **Friday, December 23**

12:10pm+Mary WALSH, RIP – M Lynch

#### **Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

(No Morning Mass)

5:00pm+Ken BROWN, RIP – M Brown

7:30pm+FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

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

#### **Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

9:00am+Bing GIBSON, RIP – Family

10:30am+Noreen FITZGERALD, RIP – J/M Neilson

### FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS

*O magnum mysterium — O great mystery*

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased."

This is the account of Jesus' birth in Luke's Gospel. Of all the events that have ever happened in the entire course of human history, this is the most momentous. It stands as the reference point for all human events: B.C., "before Christ," or A.D., *Anno Domini*, "Year of the Lord." And yet, as St. Ignatius of Antioch said, it was "an event that was hidden from the ruler of this age; an event that was accomplished in the silence of God, and which is now loudly proclaimed."

In the silence of that holy night, the Creator of the world entered into his creation. "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."

In a few days, we will celebrate the coming of Christ, the Son of God, into the world. What happened so many years ago in silence we now proclaim with great joy. As we commemorate Jesus' human birth two thousand years ago, we continue to invite him into our lives, into our families, into our community. With the Church, on Christmas morning we sing:

*O magnum mysterium —*

O great mystery and wondrous thing

that the animals beheld the new-born Lord

lying in a manger. O blessed Virgin, whose womb

was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia

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 A.D.) Feast Day December 23*

**OFFICE CHRISTMAS HOURS:**

**CLOSED**

**12:00noon December 23 – December 28**

**PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**



**Confessions:**

Every Tuesday: 6:00 – 6:45p.m. (before 7:00p.m. Mass)  
Every Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45p.m. (before 5:00p.m. Mass)  
There will be No confessions on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Christmas Mass Times:**

*(At Saint Paul the Apostle Church)*

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

**Sun. December 25<sup>th</sup>:** at 10:30a.m.

*(At Immaculate Conception Church)*

**Sun. December 25<sup>th</sup>:** at 9:00a.m.

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

*(At Saint Paul the Apostle Church)*

**Saturday, December 31:** at 5:00p.m.

**Sunday, January 1st:** at 10:30a.m.

*(At Immaculate Conception Church)*

**\*\*\*NOTE: Saturday, December 31: at 12:00midnight**

**Sunday, January 1st:** at 9:00am

**NEXT**

**'Edge & Life Night'**  
**Friday, December 30**

**Family Tobogganing**

**Potluck Dinner and Family Movie**

An opportunity for all our parish families to celebrate and grow as a community of faith



Catholic Ministry to Grades 9 - 12

Wednesday, January 4th

**ROAD TRIP!**

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in Toronto**

Email: [allistonlifeteen@gmail.com](mailto:allistonlifeteen@gmail.com)

Or Text Dave 647-237-1348

**UPDATING OUR PARISH LIST...**

Before we issue the 2016 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.



**I need to know the donors of Envelopes #380 and #445 if you wish a tax receipt. Thank you all for your continued support!**

**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*

**Lions Club Christmas Hampers:**

Food items and unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the Church. The hampers will be delivered to over 100 families in Alliston and surrounding area the week before Christmas.







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