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# St. Francis de Sales Parish

Established 1937

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#### **Pastoral Ministers**

Msgr. Kevin Maloney - Pastor Rev. Marc Gaudet - Associate Pastor Rev. Kenneth Lalonde - Deacon Secretary: Helen James



Oh Come Let us Adore Him

#### MASS SCHEDULE

#### Saturday, 23rd December

3-4:30 p.m. Confessions

5:00 p.m. 1. Victor Proulx by Marc & Karen Leduc (1st Anniv.)

- 2. Theodore Lussier by Garry & Marlene McDougall
- 3. Rejeanne & Verna Parker by Roderick Parker

#### Sunday, 24th December - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:30 a.m Clifford & Theresa Ruest by Elaine LeBrun

11:00 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners



#### Sunday, 24th December - CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 p.m. George & Georgette Brand by the Brand family

7:00 p.m. Brent Casselman by Sandy & family

#### Monday, 25th December - CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 a.m. The Maloney & Brooks family & Peggy by Janice & John Maloney

#### Wednesday, 27th December

8:00 a.m. For the intentions of Dorothy Finner on her 100<sup>th</sup>

birthday by Tannis Girard

#### Thursday, 28th December

8:00 a.m. Arthur Seguin by Noella Seguin

#### Friday, 29th December

8:00 a.m. Carlene Hamilton by George & Judy Czernys

#### Saturday, 30th December

3-4:30 p.m. Confessions

5:00 p.m. 1. Mike Kostin by Frank & Lucille Ricci

- 2. Kim Racine by Ron & Helen Periard
- 3. David Dubreuil by Kay & Clarence Dubreuil

#### Sunday, 31st December - THE HOLY FAMILY

9:30 a.m. Intentions of the parishioners11:00 a.m. Sharon Steacy by Carole & Kevin

#### **NOTICES**

Sunday offering notices for the next few weeks will appear in the new year, due to early publishing schedules.

#### **REQUIESCAT IN PACE**

For the repose of the soul of Anna Pechie, sister of Therese Bourbonnais & Jeannine Watters. May the Lord Jesus welcome her into His kingdom of light and peace.

#### WOMENS' MORNING OF REFLECTION

Start the New Year 2024 by honouring Our Lady Mary Mother of God. Please join us on Sat. Jan. 6 from 9:00 am - 12:00 at the Agora Centre for Mass, confessions, a light breakfast and the rosary. Fr. Augustine will be blessing sacramentals; bring your water, salt, and candles. We will also have blessed chalk available. Our topic will be Mary, Mother of God. A freewill offering of \$5 is appreciated. For more information contact Heidi 613- 347-7561, email: krolhm11@gmail.com

#### CORNWALL CHRISTMAS LUNCH CANCELLATION

The Cornwall Christmas lunch for the lonely at the Agora Centre in Cornwall will NOT be held this year. We ask that anyone who has attended reach out to others this year. With the Grace of God, we hope and pray for love to abound in our lives and our community. God Bless.



God of love, you sent your Son, Jesus, to shine bright like the sun, lighting the way for all who walk in darkness. May the light of Christ's hope, peace, joy and love shine bright in us as we approach his coming, that we may be ready to welcome him on Christmas day and every day.

Amen.



#### PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

This year marks the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nativity scene that appears in Catholic churches at Christmas time. Saint Francis of Assisi became very conscious of the need of people to have a visual of the Nativity in order to understand the greatness of the Christian message.

The central person in all Nativity scenes is the Baby Jesus who reminds us of the true Christmas gift, "God so loved the world that he gave us His only son." The Baby Jesus reminds us that God loved us so much that he chose to become one of us, so that one day we might join Him in the father's house.

Two other figures in the nativity scene also have important messages for us. Mary, in her openness to the Spirit, allowed herself to become the vessel by which Christ would be born. She becomes for us a role model so that we might be able to bring Christ into our world today. As Mary gave flesh to the Son of God, so we by our word and example, are called to make Christ's presence in the world today a reality. Joseph becomes a role model. As husband of Mary, he becomes a protector, not only of Mary, but of the Christ child. He will have an awesome role of protecting them from Herod who tried to destroy God's gift. He still can be the protector of the community of Christ today (the Church) if we ask him to intercede for us.

The shepherds and the kings remind us that Jesus came for rich and poor, for Jew and gentile and in this time of civil unrest throughout the world, their presence in the nativity scene should call each of us to a greater respect for the diversity of peoples.

It is my hope and prayer for you this Christmas season that each of us might take the opportunity of praying before the Nativity scene in order that these realities spoken of may touch our hearts today. May the peace of that first Christmas be with you and your family and friends.

Msgr. Kevin

#### **NOTICES**

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL**

Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 - 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. at K of C Hall, 205 Amelia Street (Upstairs Hall) Tickets \$35 per person - call 613-932-7600



#### 2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please pick up your offertory envelopes for 2024 which are in alphabetical order on the shelves at the main entrance of the church.

#### WHAT IS YOUR GIFT TO HIM?

The Christmas holidays are here upon us, and the world around us is filled with the noble notions of gift-giving. "What am I going to get my spouse?" "Will my kids like this gift?" "What can I do for my boss and co-workers?" Giving gifts is a godly behavior, and we should all remember that our Lord said it is better to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). It is good to rejoice in giving!

But in all of our giving, did we remember to put God on our list? Did we remember to present ourselves to God as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1)? Did we think to walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him (Col. 1:10)? Did we remember to wrap up a huge present of thankfulness for salvation through Christ Jesus (Col. 1:12)?

In all the hubbub and scrambling to find the perfect present for those we love, did you remember to put the Lord on your list? Let's remember Him today and every day for His indescribable gift (2 Cor. 9:15)!

Matt Clifton



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