

# *Saint Patrick's Church*

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



### Saturday, December 23 St John of Kanty

**5:00** Bridie McCann *req. by Mom & Dad*  
Gautier & Hunt Families *req. by John & Anna Hunt*

### Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

**8:00** Darlene Wancha *req. by Shirley, Berni & Jackie*  
Joseph & Michael Downes *req. by Rita & Family*  
**9:30** Domenic & Lucietta Marchese *req. by the Children*  
Dec'd of the Quintero & Fiore Families *req. by Anna & Family*  
**11:30** People of the Parish

### Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve The Nativity of the Lord

**4:30pm** People of the Parish  
**6:30pm** People of the Parish  
**12:00am** People of the Parish

### Monday, December 25 Christmas Day The Nativity of the Lord

**8:00** People of the Parish  
**9:30** People of the Parish  
**11:30** People of the Parish

### Tuesday, December 26 St Stephen

**8:00** Cecil Shannon *req. by Charlene*  
Vito Picca & Nick & Nancy Di Paolo *req. by John, Lucy & Family*

### Wednesday, December 27 St John

**8:00** Carmine De Mizio *req. by Pasqualina De Mizio & Family*  
Madeline Rosati *req. by the Grandchildren*

### Thursday, December 28 The Holy Innocents

**8:00** Dorothy & John & Helen Doyle *req. by the Family*  
Robbie Loro *req. by Anna Bortolin & Family*

### Friday, December 29 St Thomas Becket

**8:00** Oscar Bonaguro *req. by the Family*  
Margaret & John Pederi *req. by their Dtr: Margaret Pederi*

### Saturday, December 30

**5:00** Irene & Robert Boyd Lavelle, Raymond H Weaver & Sara Grant-Weaver *req. by Joyce & Family*  
John Leo, Sante & Emilia Giacobetti & Angela & Angelo Leo *req. by Julie, Rino & Family*

### Sunday, December 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

**8:00** People of the Parish  
**9:30** Lina Grespan *req. by Joe & Rosetta Marone*  
Betty Coyle *req. by Margaret Lysick*  
**11:30** Carlo Rossi *req. by Paul & Joan Di Paul*  
Nicole Taylor *req. by Rose & John Horth & Family*  
**5:00** Bruno Gagno *req. by Nancy Oatley*  
Rev. Ben Hogan, O.Carm. *req. by John Roberts*

### Monday, January 1, New Years Day The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

**\* 11:30am** Mark & Wanda Solomon *req. by their Son: Joe*  
Jenny & Pacifico Sacco *req. by a Family Friend*

### Tuesday, January 2 St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen

**8:00** John Buckner *req. by the Shannon Family*  
Gianni 'Johnny' Bonaldo *req. by Juliet Fasano*

### Wednesday, January 3

**8:00** Robbie Loro *req. by Sandro & Frank Bonaldo & Families*  
Patricia Patterson *req. by Anna Luciano*

### Thursday, January 4

**8:00** Deacon Patrick O'Brien *req. by Frank & Maria Berardi*  
Cecelia Lococo *req. by Nancy Vout*

### Friday, January 5

**8:00** Elena Di Carlo *req. by Vito Cuvielli*  
Emilio F. Zannuti *req. by Frank, Rachel & Tay Fragomeni*

### Saturday, January 6

**5:00** Sara Grant-Weaver *req. by Grandma Weaver*  
Lena Gauvreau *req. by Laurie Walsh*

### Sunday, January 7 Epiphany of the Lord

**8:00** Dr. Michael Arseneau *req. by Howard & Sherry Wales*  
Sam Fisher *req. by Howard & Sherry Wales*  
**9:30** Jozef Brzozowski *req. by the Janusz & Komor Families*  
Stanley Dick *req. by Yvette Dick*  
**11:30** People of the Parish  
**7:00** Lawrence & Lucy Kitney *req. by Evelyn Kemp*  
Pacifico & Jenny Sacco *req. by the Family*

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** Monday, January 1, New Years Day Mass will be at 11:30am not at the regular 8:00am time slot.

Rest in Peace... We pray for the souls of Rachael Brown & Adua Pizzolato. May they rest in peace. Please remember their families in your prayers.

### *Please pray for those who are hospitalized:*

Jack Horth, Marie Cadman

### *Please pray for those who are ill*

Mary Power, Erika Bell, John Nicks, Melissa Brideau, Toni Brideau, Leon Dopke, Anna Hunt, John Kealey, Helen Lelievre, Samuel Potapczyk, Baby Julian, Baby Noah, Mary Lawrence, Bernard Martin, William JA De Foe, Emily Hanover, Leo Martin, Drago Bicanic, Baby Victoria, Nancy Weiss, Bob Marshall, Gerry Laffradi, Wendy & John Calder, Pauline Miner, Edna McDonnell, Fr Tony McNamara, O.Carm., Gloria Smelko, Fran Smelko, John Smelko, Trudy Smelko, Maria Melchiorre, Conner Hawkswell, Vicki Lea-Dawson, Danielle Barranca, Iole Mancini, Jeannette Fabian, Donna Cormier, Maria Rosiana, Lucy Rizzo, Barbara Phillips (Murray), Alice Dalton, Audrey Vendramin, Jeanne Lea, Stan Manning, Baby Maximus, David & Patrick Kealey, Francesco Albanese, Mary Ann O'Shea, Rosalyn Dagleish, Kelly Detlor, Kitty Decicco, Evelyn Rose Baker, Jozefa Bilski, Charlene Shannon, Dr. Andy Fisher, Rebecca Evans, Marie Massolin, Maria Guerin, Anna Vergalito, John Jefferson, Todd Reid, Jill Leronowich, Vince(Jim) Baldassarro, Nancy Jean Rose, Patrick McCarthy, Norman Horth, Muriel Pivarnik, Tom Hilton, Walter Wallace, Stefanie Borin, John Cox, Joyce Weaver, Kerrie Szuch, Faith Amadio, Margaret Smith, Carmella Modenti, Margaret Waghorn, Theresa Poirier, Carlo Trasmundi, Vito Fuccillo, Baby Hope, Donna Bradley, Cheryl D'Amizio, Kelly Laslo, Francois Chayer, Julie Nicholson, Mary Jo O'Kell, Alessia Commisso, Vicki Dubeau, Baby Sebastian, Lorraine Murray, Patricia O'Reilly, Mary Brennan, JoAnne Biamonte Ely, Pepper Martin Jr., Vital & Emmanuel Chayer, Michelle Price, Brian Smith, Baby Gabriel Paraskevopoulos, Trina Washington, Shirley Machulla, Lorraine Spence, Helen Rotella, Jeanne S, Dr. Andy Fisher, Carlo Trasmundi, Frank Sica  
*Please help us update our list of those who are homebound, infirm, or hospitalized by calling the parish office.*

### Collections

December 16 & 17 : \$7,466.00

Carmelite Missions: \$10,560.65

Many thanks for your generosity!

### Baptism Schedule for 2017 & 2018

Baptisms will be celebrated in St. Patrick Church at 1:00 PM on: **Sunday, January 21, February 11, April 15, May 13, June 17, July 15 & August 19**  
A mandatory meeting for Parents and Godparents will be held in the Church on Tuesday, Jan & Feb meeting is together on January 16, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3 & August 7 at 7:00 pm.

### Sacrament of Baptism

*Congratulations on the birth of your child! If you wish to have your child baptized, please register in the parish (if you haven't already done so). One of the parents must come into the parish office, meet with the pastor or his designate, so we can complete the proper forms, and gather all the necessary information. We encourage parents and Godparents to make an effort to attend liturgies in the parish community. We also have a special evening of preparation for parents and Godparents! Many blessings!*

**CWL News...**The next CWL Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:30pm in the Hall. (Please Note: New time)

**Ontario Early Years Centre** is located in St. Patrick School. Open Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 8:30am to 12 Noon. It is a FREE program with fun activities for the little ones. Call 905-357-2398 for more details, or check out the website: [niagaracatholic.ca/oeycnf](http://niagaracatholic.ca/oeycnf)

**Please note:** 2017 Tax Receipts are at the main doors of the Church for Ryan's Bowl donations. Thank you!

### Christmas Gift Campaign

Many thanks to our parishioners who so generously provided gifts and food for some 150 local needy children and families. The response was overwhelming! By putting joy and happiness in a child's heart is really making God more manifest... making the Kingdom more of a reality... and keeping Christ in Christmas! God bless you for your big hearts!

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.

Today's Bulletin is for *Christmas Day* and also for *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*, and *The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*,

### Christmas 2017

On behalf of St. Patrick's, I wish you a very blessed and happy Christmas! Today is a joyful day, the *Birth of our Lord and Saviour*. We rejoice again in the opportunity to celebrate the birthday of Christ! There is so much that surrounds the celebration of Christmas, that we can miss the whole meaning. As important as family gatherings, festive meals, parties, gift-exchanges are, may we never forget the fact that Christmas is ultimately about God. It's about God fulfilling his promises, saving his people, coming to us, as one of us, in the person of Jesus. With all the humdrum out there, this truth can be so easily missed!

**Christmas is all about Jesus.** And if Christ is not in Christmas, then Christmas doesn't amount to too much. May we know and feel the joy that comes from the mystery of Christ's birth among us, and continue to be witnesses of Christ's mercy to one another. My prayer is that we will each do our blessed part to Keep Christ in Christmas... and to keep Christ deeply rooted in our personal lives, and in our families. **May the New-Born Saviour fill your hearts and homes and communities with love, joy and peace! God bless you all. Merry Christmas!**



### Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph- December 31st

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family! We can be tempted to look at the Holy Family as an **ideal** which we could never realize in our own families. Before we do that, may we never forget that **Mary, Joseph and Jesus** certainly had their share of struggles! The trust which is fundamental to a marriage was challenged by Mary's pregnancy. Imagine Joseph having to bring Mary to a stable (cave) to give birth. Imagine living in a foreign land, Egypt, away from family and traditions. Still, the Holy Family made it through the difficulties of their **family life** for one reason only: **they had great faith**. Mary and Joseph's life was fueled by their faith, hope, joy and trust in God and his promises. This is a great feast to look at our own families. Is there **JOY** in my family? We need to laugh together! Are my family gatherings tense-filled, tedious? Do we have to walk on egg-shells around each other? Why not bring some joy into our family... for **holiness sake**! Do I spend enough time with my family? It's shocking how many families do not even eat together. What a shame! We fill our lives with so many activities that we hardly see each other. Children can be overwhelmed with schedules, that they hardly have quality time with their parents or siblings, let alone their grandparents. I think quality **TIME** together has something to do with being a **Holy Family**! What about **PRAYER**? We all know the old saying, "**The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together.**" To have any chance at all at being a **Holy Family**... we must have the ingredient of **PRAYER**... taking time to **pray together**! When was the last time we prayed a grace before a family meal? Do we pray bedtime prayers with our children and grandchildren? Or is prayer taboo in our house? Do we take our children to Mass? Or is the Church just some place that's there for our convenience when we need to celebrate a grace-filled Sacrament? None of our families will ever be perfect, but there's absolutely no reason why our families can't be a little bit **holier and sacred and joy-filled**. May Jesus, Mary and Joseph intercede for us, and draw our families closer together.

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- January 1st

Father, Source of light in every age, the Virgin conceived and bore Your Son who is called Wonderful God, Prince of Peace. May her prayer, the gift of a mother's love, be Your people's joy through all ages. May her response, born of a humble heart, draw our Spirit to rest on Your people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

### Christmas Flowers

Many thanks to all of you who donated so generously toward our Christmas Flowers and decorations. May our loved ones, in whose memory our altar is decorated, enjoy the heavenly chorus this Christmas! Heartfelt thanks to our many parishioners, young and old, who came out on the 20th to decorate our church.



### Prayer For Those who Grieve at Christmas

Comforting God, while the world is bright and sparkling, my heart feels laden and has an emptiness that cannot be filled. How can I enter into this season of joy? Instead of entering into the **Rejoice** of Christmas, I long for the sorrow of Lent. I beg you Lord, show me how the two are connected. I ponder the name *Emmanuel* and know that it means "God with us." With us. With me in this world, in this sorrow. If I look beyond my pain, I know that you too, suffered so much in this world. I never understood so clearly before that *Emmanuel* is what your nativity is really about. You are in my world, in my pain. Thank you, Lord, for the loved one you blessed my life with. Grant me now in my grief, a peace. Give me a comfort that might not make the tears go away, but that lets me feel your presence as you take up a place deep in my heart, *with me*.



### Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday December 30- 5:00 PM

Sunday, December 31- 8:00 AM / 9:30 AM / 11:30 AM

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, December 31- 5:00 PM (New Year's Eve)

Monday, January 1, 2018- 11:30 AM (New Year's Day)

### A Child's Grace for Christmas Day Dinner

Father, we thank you for this day.

Bless all we do and all we say.

May we each enjoy your blessings great

As Jesus' Birth we celebrate.

And may the love that we share here

Remain throughout the coming year. Amen!

### A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!

Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,

But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant,

But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead. Amen.

### Big Thank You "John Roy Buckner"

Many thanks to our parishioners who came out on December 11th to celebrate the life of John Buckner, one of our Lectors. John had no immediate family so our St. Pat's family took over and did the honours for him! Thanks to our priests, to Carol Martin, Anthony Scaringi, Nadine Bongers, John Arnold and our Adult Choir. Many thanks to the kind family who paid for the Trumpeter; to Pam and Paul Bongers from *Country Basket* and Sharon and Rob Van Noort from *Van Noort Florist* for donating the beautiful flower arrangements; To the lectors, commentators, Pallbearers, Pall placers, Gift Bearers... many thanks; To our CWL for the dessert reception, many thanks. A huge thanks to Ed Nieuwesteeg at *Pattersons Funeral Home* for going above and beyond to accommodate us in John's hour of need! Truly a blessing to our community... thanks for donating your staff, the register, and the prayer cards! And thanks to all of you who donated to St. Patrick Breakfast Program and to the Carmelite Missions in John's Memory! May John sleep in Heavenly Peace with his mom and dad!



Please continue to bring food items to Mass for Project Share! Every item helps!

*"Lord, when did we see you hungry?"*



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