

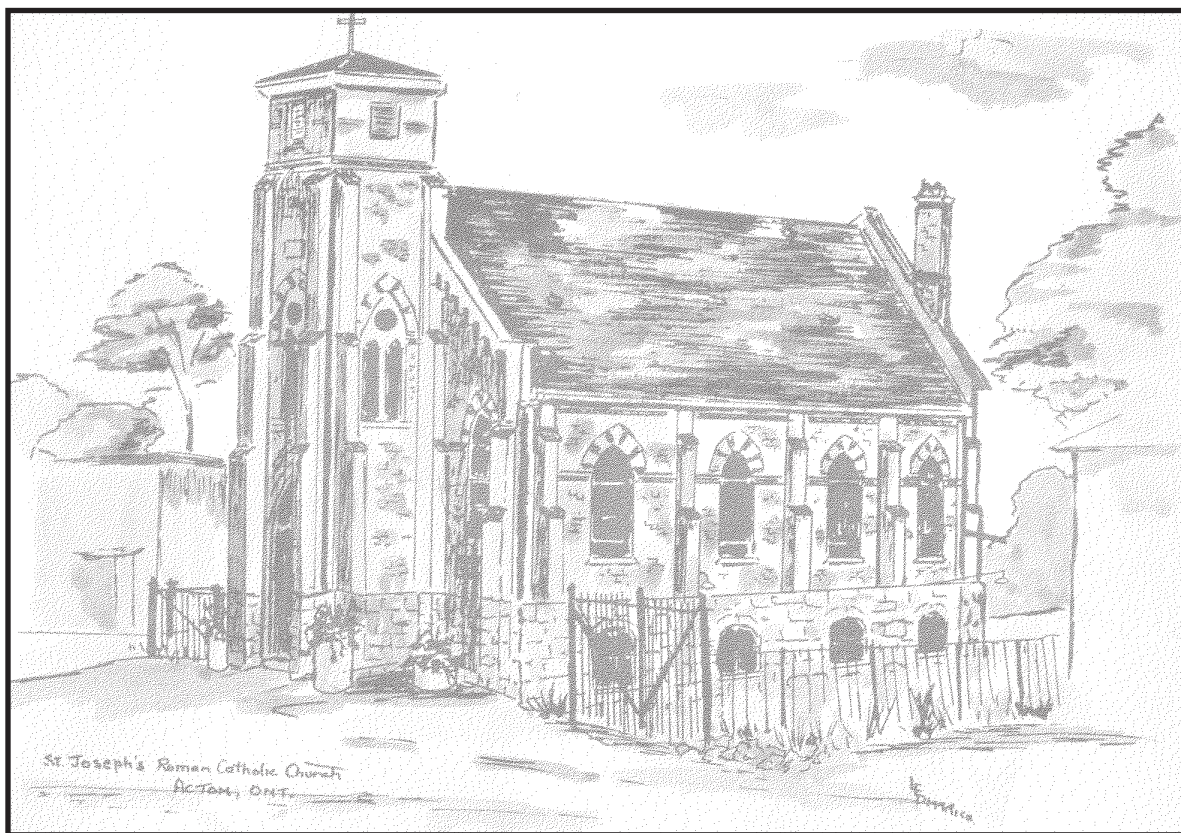
# St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON

## Office

39 John St. S. Acton, ON, L7J 2A8 Tel: 519-853-0784 Fax: 519-853-5941

e-mail: stjoseph.church@bellnet.ca



Fr. Mark Sullivan, Pastor

Janet Raats, Office Administrator

Office Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Fri. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

### SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am  
11:00 am

### PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Catholic Women's League

Knights of Columbus

St. Vincent Charities



### BAPTISMS:

By arrangement with the pastor.

### MARRIAGES:

By arrangement one year in advance.

### CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 pm  
or by appointment.

### SCHOOLS:

St. Joseph 519-853-3730  
Christ the King 905-702-8838

### WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

We invite you to register in our parish community  
by filling in a blue registration form.

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

**T**raditionally, on the Second Sunday of Advent, the Gospel we speak of John the Baptist and his words of repentance, and the Coming of the Lord. This weekend, however; I wish to speak of the First Reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah's passage today is on of the most beautiful in Scripture. It describes a leader sent from God who would bring peace to the world. This was an intense image of hope. The kingdom of Judah had had a succession of kings, each one worse than the last.

King Ahaz had ascended to the throne when the passage for this Sunday was written by Isaiah. Ahaz was under siege, surrounded by the Kingdom of Israel to the North and the Kingdom of Syria to the South. Isaiah's message to the king was simple. If the king would remain faithful to God and to the Kingdom, Judah would triumph. However, the king was weak and decided to enter an alliance with the Kingdom of Assyria. An alliance which came with a heavy cost.

Ahaz had to surrender the religion of Yahweh (God) and instead worship the gods of Assyria. Judah could hardly have been moved further away from God. With the kingdom losing its soul, Isaiah turned his attention the people to offer them hope. The stump of Jesse, meaning the royal line, was being cut down; however, he assured the people, the line of Jesse would not end.

During the season of Advent, we are reminded to begin something new, to truly reform our lives. The challenge is to see what needs to be reformed.

Isaiah gives us the vision to follow. He describes the Saviour of Israel. He gives us something to look to and something to strive for. Perhaps this Advent it is time for us to look at ourselves and see if we have this vision of ourselves. What is to come from us?

King Ahaz acted out of self-interest, out of fear, and out of desperation. He was so intent on saving himself, that he sacrificed everything

of worth. In our own lives, what have we sacrificed out of our self-interests, our fears, and our desperation.

This Sunday, we must recognize that the tender stem of Jesse is our hope and our promise. It gives us the promise of the coming of the perfect King, Jesus Christ. If He becomes the centre of our lives' experiences, then we will truly and at last discover the peace of Christmas

*Fr. Mark*

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

"Rejoice and be glad that so great and good a Lord, on coming into the Virgin's womb, willed to appear despised, needy, and poor in this world, so that men who were in dire poverty and suffering great need of heavenly food might be made rich in him."

- St. Clare of Assisi

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

**Mary Albert, Mary Palmateer,  
Brian Tanney**



This week we pray especially for the following families of our parish:

**McGilloway, McLean, Mendes,  
Milton, Monteiro, Montgomery**



## CONTACT PERSONS for CWL and K of C

Anyone interested in learning more about our parish Catholic Women's League or Knights of Columbus is invited to call the appropriate contact person:

CWL: Christie deSouza: 519-400-6012 [cwl@lartist.com](mailto:cwl@lartist.com)

K of C: Ian Nolan: [grand.knight.8050@gmail.com](mailto:grand.knight.8050@gmail.com)

**Bulletins** are available online at:

<http://www.parishbulletins.com/bulletins/097>

**Winter Weather Conditions:** During inclement weather, we remind Parishioners to be cautious when coming to Mass and be prepared to stay home if conditions are treacherous. We wish all our Parishioners to be safe both on the roads and on the sidewalks this Winter.

DAY & TIME	MASS INTENTIONS (Dec 8 – Dec 14)	REQUESTED BY:
Mon Dec 8 9:00 a.m.	<b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b>	
Tues. Dec 9 <b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<i>Intentions of St. Joseph Parish CWL Members</i>	CWL
Wed. Dec 10 9:00 a.m.	<i>The Sick of Our Parish</i>	
Thurs. Dec 11 7:00 p.m.	Maria Albano	Schiafone Family
Fri. Dec 12 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Anne Marie Curtis</i>	Curtis Family
Sat. Dec 13 5:00 p.m.	Jean and Fran Marcoux	Suzanne Blanchet-Haffey
Sun. Dec 14 9:00 a.m.	Czeskawa Hercyk	Kwiatkowski Family
Sun. Dec 15 11:00 a.m.	Pro populo	



**Sat. Dec 13 5 p.m.**  
 Lector Kathleen  
 Ex. Minister Nancy

**Sun. Dec 14 9 a.m. 11 a.m.**  
 Lector Jay Lizzie  
 Ex. Minister Kazi Aaron

## MEETINGS

Tues. **6:30 p.m.** CWL General  
 Wed. 8:00 p.m. Acton Sharing

**CWL Christmas Dinner** - Tuesday, December 9 is the night of the CWL Christmas dinner (at the General) hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Tickets for the ladies' Christmas dinner are for sale after weekend Masses: \$30. Mass will be at 6:00 that night and the dinner will begin at 6:30

**CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT** During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, January 3rd at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton)**. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

### Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Father Mark arranges Baptisms and Marriages personally, by appointment. Please see Father after Mass to set a time for an interview. Marriages must be arranged one year in advance. Completion of a marriage preparation course is required. Applications may be obtained from Father Mark

**PARENTING TIP #174** Christmas is a wonderful time of year! We see family, experience the joys of gift giving and receiving and have some time as a family just to be. It is however, more than any of these things, the celebration of the birth of Christ. In the hustle and bustle of the season we can forget to focus on this moment, where a child came into the world so that each of us could experience the profound gift of Salvation. This Christmas, enjoy all the fun stuff, but remember to focus, through stories, Mass, prayer and discussions, on the joy of Christ's birth and the real reason for the season. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)







## Knights of Columbus

St. Joseph's Council #8050  
Ian Nolan, Grand Knight  
Decio Ramalho  
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of St. Joseph's invites the ladies  
of the Parish to our regular  
meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of  
each month at 7:30 pm.

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