

# St. Joseph Patron of Canada Parish

64 Church St. E., Acton, ON  
Office

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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

## Epiphany of the Lord



**The Wise  
Still Seek Him.**

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:

This week Father Mark was a bit under the weather so we will revisit his Epiphany message from 2024

**M**any of us have Nativity sets on display in our homes during the Christmas season. Perhaps we have a set which has been passed on in our families from one generation to the next. I am very blessed to have in my possession my parents' Nativity set which they bought from Eaton's department store in 1948, the year in which they were married. Since my arrival here at St. Joseph's, I have placed it on the side table next to my bed. Over the years, the set has brought back fond memories of past Christmases.

We here at St. Joseph's have a lovely outdoor Nativity set which is placed behind the church. If you have not had the opportunity to stop by and pray at this set, I truly encourage you to do so before it is put away for another year. I am grateful to our Knights of Columbus who purchased this set for the Parish in my first year here.

You may recall that last winter on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> we had a terrible ice storm with a windstorm. Many individuals and families had to cancel their holiday plans because of the storm. Someone brought to my attention, on Christmas Eve, that one of the figures of the Wisemen had been damaged by the storm. The statue was broken in three different places. The set was put away for the year with the broken pieces.

This year, one of our talented Parishioners kindly repaired the statue. As I write these words it stands in its proper place outside of the Church. I was praying by the Nativity set when the statue was being repaired. It just did not look right, staring at two Wisemen instead of three. It is like having only two Musketeers or two Stooges, it just did not seem right. Now, thankfully our Parish Nativity set looks just right.

As we celebrate the Epiphany this Sunday, we must remind ourselves that the Magi were not the first to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. Mary, of course, knew that her Child was to be the Messiah and Joseph understood this too. Elizabeth and her son John, not yet born, recognized the Lord's presence at the Visitation. Finally, the shepherds of Bethlehem were also told that the Messiah had been born. All these incidents should more properly be called 'recognition' of the Lord rather than 'manifestations' because they happened in private settings. The word, 'epiphany' means a public manifestation of the Lord as the Messiah.

This is the first of the three 'epiphanies' we see in the Gospels. The other two being the Baptism of the Lord and the Wedding Feast at Cana. The Magi are in some sense official figures who have come from afar to offer gifts to the Christ Child.

The fact that Christ shows Himself first to these Gentiles indicates that the Messiah's saving work can reach all peoples. At the same time, the Church teaches and points out with a sensitive nature, the continuing role of the Jewish people. The Magi coming to Bethlehem shows that all can discover Jesus and worship Him as the Son of God and Saviour of the World by only turning toward the Jewish people and receiving from them the Messianic promise found in the Old Testament.

This Sunday, as we celebrate the Epiphany, we are reminded that it gives hope. It shows us that God has revealed Himself in the person of Christ. Despite all the bad we may see in the world; God is in our world. There may be bad people in our world but counting up the Kings, the good outweighs the bad three to one.

*Fr. Mark*

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

For by gold the power of a king is signified, by frankincense the honor of God, by myrrh the burial of the body; and accordingly, they offer Him gold as King, frankincense as God, myrrh as Man.

- St John Chrysostom

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

This week please pray especially for:

**Pat O'Meara, Curtis Golden,  
Nicole McInnis**



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

**Ramalho, Rea, Reinhardt,  
Richardson, Ryan, Saftic**

## 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 (January 5 – January 11)	REQUESTED BY:
Tues. 7:00 p.m.	New Year's Intentions of Our Parish	
Wed. 9:00 a.m.	<i>Intentions of Grandchildren</i>	Kwiatkowski Family
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.	The Sick of Our Parish	
Fri. 9:00 a.m.	Maria Albano	Schiafone Family
Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Rosa Augusta Zilio	Luisetto Family
Sun. 9:00 a.m.	Pro populo	
11:00 a.m.	Arthur J. Savoie	Geralda Savoie

### 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.



### 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>



**Sat. Jan 10** 5 p.m.

Lector Maria

Ex. Minister Patricia

**Sun. Jan 11** 9 a.m. 11 a.m.

Lector Jay Lizzie

Ex. Minister Ann Lorin

**Please remember to sign in so Father Mark knows you are present.**

### From the Parish Office:

**Envelopes for 2026** can be found in the Church Hall. Numbers have not changed. If you are new to the Parish and wish to have envelopes issued there are membership forms found at the back of the church which can be dropped in the collection basket. If you haven't received envelopes in the past and wish to do so now, please leave a note in the collection and envelopes will be issued.

**Tax Receipts for 2025** will be available in the coming weeks and will be found at the back of the church.

**CWL General Meeting:** Tuesday January 13 following the 7:00 pm Mass

*Oh, Come Let Us Adore  
Him,  
Christ the Lord!*





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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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**Naomi Bedell** RMT  
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