

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST-GANANOQUE ST. PHILOMENA - HOWE ISLAND

Pastor: Father Sebastian Amato

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Parish Secretary: Lise Emmerson Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm

prepare the way...



ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2016 – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Mass Intentions for this week

Sat., Dec. 17 at St. John 5:00 pm Jack Mulcair
Sun, Dec. 18 at St. Philomena 8:30 am Paul Simoneau
Sun., Dec. 18 at St. John 10:30 am Frank Princ

Monday, Dec. 19 8:00 am Kathy Ross
Tuesday, Dec. 20 8:00 am Alice Reid
Wed., Dec. 21 No Mass
Thursday, Dec. 22 8:00 am Len Charboneau
Friday, Dec. 23 8:00 am Ruth Pritchard

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN

Sat., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm For the people of the parish
Sat., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 10:00 pm For the people of the parish
Sun., Dec. 25 Christmas Day 10:00 am For the people of the parish

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS AT ST. PHILOMENA - HOWE ISLAND

Sat., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 7:30 pm For the people of the parish

Please note that the regular weekend schedule has been modified for both Christmas and New Year's. Both of these Feast Days fall on a Sunday this year.

The 5 pm Christmas Eve Mass will involve the children. Just after the entrance procession, Father Amato will call them to the front of the church for the readings and the homily. We're sure that you will find their participation delightful. They have been practicing some songs which will be sung during the Liturgy. Bring your children and grandchildren, family and friends. It may be a "bit" noisy but the children will warm your hearts with their joy!

Come Early!

Christmas music and singing will take place for about a **half hour before all of the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.** You are invited to join in the hymns as we enter this festive season. The birth of our Saviour opens our hearts to his grace. As we gather together with our brothers and sisters in Christ let the music lift us close to Him!

We are very fortunate to have talented people as musicians and singers leading our weekly celebrations as well as funerals and other events.

- TODAY - TODAY - TODAY -
Once in Royal David's City
A Christmas Celebration
in Song at 2:00 p.m.
St. John's Church, Gananoque

Come and hear seven different choirs showcasing their talents individually & then together. Reunite your voice for a sing-a-long.

Tickets at the Door: Suggested donation is: **\$10/Adult and \$5/Children** Food Donations for the Food Bank are also welcomed.

Proceeds are being donated to the Help Raise the Curtain Campaign for the Royal Theatre Thousand Islands owned by Frayne & Kevin, volunteer musicians at every Sunday Mass at St. John's. Let us show our appreciation to Frayne & Kevin for sharing their talent. Presented by St. John's Church Choir, Gananoque.

2017 Church Offering Envelopes Your envelopes are ready. Please verify the address as soon as possible as this is the address used to forward the tax receipt. Need envelopes - please call the office. As some numbers were re-assigned, **please do not use these new envelopes until January 2017.**

2016 Sunday Dec. 11	St. John	St. Philomena
Regular	\$1,597.00	\$453.50
Loose	\$170.25	
Restoration	\$275.00	
Fuel	\$160.00	\$90.00

Next Debit: Dec. 22 (for Christmas)

December Contribution Envelopes: Fuel, Building Maintenance; Christmas. Thank you!

Flowers for our Loved Ones – Please send Forms by Monday, December 19

Each year to enhance the celebration of the Birth of Christ we purchase poinsettias and other decorations for St. John's and St. Philomena's. We are inviting parishioners to consider **Remembering Our Loved Ones** through donations for these items. The names of those remembered will be published in a special booklet for the Christmas season. To participate, please pick up a form on the table. Please make cheques payable to St. John's or St. Philomena's Church with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line or on envelope. Clearly write the names of your loved ones on the form. Return your donation to the office or via the collection basket. Any excess funds will be used for flowers for future special liturgical feasts.



Hear the Good News - A Christmas Message

Tune in to 99.9 MyFM to hear Father Amato broadcasting over the airwaves. See our Christmas and New Year's schedule printed in the Gananoque Reporter and EMC. Share the joy! Spread the news! Invite your family and friends to join us on Sundays & Christmas Season.

A Christmas Community Dinner will take place at the FoxRun Retirement Centre on Christmas Day. Social Hour Noon until 1 pm followed by full turkey dinner with all trimmings at 1 pm. Seniors or persons in the community who will be alone on Christmas and who wish to join in a family style dinner on this special day are most welcome. Rides to and from dinner for anyone who needs one is available. There is no charge for the dinner. However, anyone who would like to donate something for our local food bank is welcome to do so. Please contact FoxRun at [613 382 8448](tel:6133828448) for a ride and/or to reserve your seating. Take a poster available at the back of the church.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Salvation Army Kettle Drive this past week. Over 50 spots were filled. It always feels good to help others!

Many thanks to the St. Joseph Kindness Club who greeted you today. These youngsters have undertaken to be visible each month in our parish. Their cheerfulness is catchy!

Ministries for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

St. John the Evangelist			
	Sat. Dec. 24th 5 pm	Sat. Dec. 24th 10 pm	Sun. Dec. 25th 10 am
Greeters	Heather Bovey, Gerry Brosso	Judy Weir, Diane Hebert	Christine Milks, Don Mills
Reader	Emma McShane	Sabrina Gifford	Nettie Robertson
Communion	Krista Jenkins, Mary Wray Brennan Steve Brennan, Sharon Carmichael	Annastasia Cliffe Lorraine O'Meara, June Nalon	Bernadette Egan Wilma Turcotte, Margaret Rose
Gifts	The Jansen Family	Bill, Sherry & Betty Turcotte	Frank Fair, Linda Beaupre
Ushers/Collectors	Knights of Columbus		
St. Philomena - Sat. Dec. 24th 7:30 pm			
Reader:	Bonnie Ottenhoff		Communion: Dianne Dowling & Andrea Guindon

IN YOUR PRAYERS: May the Lord grant healing and strength to families and friends who suffer physically, emotionally or spiritually especially **George Javornik, Angela Keyes and Richard Senecal** and for fortitude to their caregivers.

PRAYER FOR ETERNAL LIFE: Please remember in your prayers those who have entered into eternal life especially Frances "Snansy" Easton

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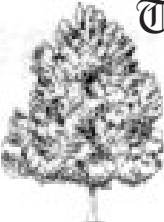
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