

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST-GANANOQUE ST. PHILOMENA - HOWE ISLAND Roman Catholic Church

**Pastor: Father Sebastian Amato**

270 Stone Street S., Gananoque, Ontario K7G 2A1 Office: 613.382.2017  
Email: stjohnstphil@gmail.com Fax: 613.382.5002 Website: stjohnsgananoque.ca  
Parish Secretary: Lise Emmerson Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm

**W**elcome to returning and new parishioners, family members, friends,  
and visitors. Your presence here makes all the difference!



**M**AY THE  
BLESSINGS  
and love of  
our Heavenly Father be  
yours in abundance  
today and everyday!



#### **Reconciliation:**

- 4:15 - 4:45 pm Saturday or anytime by appointment.  
Please call the parish office.

#### **Rosary:**

- Join us for the Rosary a half hour prior to  
Saturday 5:00 pm Mass.

#### **Marriage:**

- Those who are planning to enter into the sacrament of  
Matrimony are asked to please contact Father Amato  
at least 6 months in advance.

#### **Baptism:**

- Please contact Father Amato to set up an appointment  
to meet for instruction.

#### **Children's Liturgy:**

- Children's Liturgy for young children is held during  
the 10:30 am Sunday Mass.

#### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):**

- Are you an adult who has not been baptized or who  
would like to explore being received into Full  
Communion in the Catholic Church? If so, this  
program is for you. Please contact the parish office.

#### **Prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle:**

- The Church is open every day from 8 am to 4 pm for  
quiet prayer. Please use side entrances.

#### **New Parishioners:**

- Welcome! Please introduce yourself and complete a  
registration form which is available at the entrance of  
the Church.

#### **Join our Choirs (voice and instrumental):**

- Sunday Choir: practices on Mondays at 7 pm
- Funeral Choir: practices on Wednesdays at 10:30 am

#### **For the Sick and Shut-ins:**

- Please contact Father Amato if a family member is in  
the hospital or confined at home. The Sacrament of the  
Sick is available upon request.

#### **St. John's and St. Philomena's Cemetery:**

- Please contact the parish office for more information.

#### **Bequests to the Parish:**

- Keep your love for your parish alive. Remember your  
parishes in your will and when recommending  
expressions of sympathy.

#### **St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School:**

- Principal: Tracy O'Brien  
235 Georgiana St., Gananoque, ON K7G 1M9  
613.382.2361 [www.stjosephgan.cdsbeo.on.ca](http://www.stjosephgan.cdsbeo.on.ca)

#### **Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School:**

- Principal: Terry Daniels  
130 Russell St., Kingston ON 613-545-1902  
[www.reginotredame.ca](http://www.reginotredame.ca)

# Second Sunday of Advent-December 6, 2015

2nd CANDLE: THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE / THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION - God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD!

**Saturday, Dec. 5** 5 pm Millie Garrah

**Sunday, Dec. 6**

St. Philomena 8:30 am Mike Finn  
St. John 10:30 am Mary O'Hearn

\*\*\*\*\*

**Monday, December 7:** *Feast of St. Ambrose*

8 am Nora Scully

**Tuesday, December 8:** *Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8 am Bill Rogers  
7:30 pm at St. Mary Cathedral, Kingston

**Wednesday, December 9:** NO MASS

**Thursday, December 10:**

8 am For the Protection of the Unborn Children

**Friday, December 11:**

School at 9:45 am:  
Carveth at 1:30 pm: Len Charboneau

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Sat., Dec. 12** 5 pm Hugh & Anastasia McGlade

**Sunday, Dec. 13**

St. Philomena 8:30 am Geoff Hobbs  
St. John 10:30 am Red & Bernice McCann

**CHRISTMAS CAKES:** Campaign Life Coalition Christmas Cakes: delicious custom baked Christmas Cakes will be sold at St. John's Church THIS weekend - December 5/6 and next weekend December 12/13, 2015. For a donation of \$25.00 to CLC's Pro-life work you will receive a beautiful boxed 900g. Christmas cake in a decorative tin. We also have a 680g. cake for \$15.00 They make great Christmas gifts! Contact: Gerry 613-382-1084.

**St. John: Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015 at 5 pm**

Rosary: Mary Haesler Lector: Yvonne Harper  
Greeters: Ron Knapton and Joey Lynch  
Gifts: Bill & Sherry Turcotte  
Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist: Bernadette Egan  
Lighting the Advent Wreath: Charlye Swain & family

**St. John: Sunday, Dec. 13 - 10:30 am**

Carveth on Sunday: Sharon Sullivan & Ed Lanigan  
Lector: Joan Dillon  
Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist: Dianne Hebert  
Gifts: Children's Liturgy  
Greeters: Children's Liturgy & Class of First Communicants  
Children's Liturgy: Dale Shepherd  
Lighting the Advent Wreath: Clark Family

**St. Philomena: Sunday, Dec. 13 - 8:30 am**

Lector: to be announced  
Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist: to be announced

## + IN OUR PRAYERS +

We remember family & friends who have died recently. + We also pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May the Lord Grant Them Eternal Rest +. We pray for *healing, peace and contentment* for our sick, especially Bob Bird and Dawn Tennant.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Confession) will take place on **Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in St. John's Church. Fr. Justin Pulikunnel will be here to assist Fr. Amato. It's a perfect opportunity to partake of this great sacrament as we begin the Year of Mercy.



### What are the qualities of a good confession?

A good confession is humble, sincere and complete. It's humble when we accuse ourselves of our sins with a deep sorrow for having offended the Lord while imploring his loving mercy. It's sincere when we tell all of our sins honestly and truthfully, without exaggerating or excusing them. It's complete when we confess all of our mortal sins, including the number of times we have committed each one.

### How do I examine my conscience well?

One does so by asking for God's help and prayerfully examining one's actions in the light of Christ's teaching and example. Some review their behaviour by the Ten Commandments, others by Christ's command to love God and love others, others by their correspondence to the beatitudes (Mt. 5: 1-12), others by comparing their behaviour to the most important Christian virtues, and others by the seven "capital" sins (pride, envy, anger, sloth, greed, lust and gluttony). It is not enough merely to focus on how one's broken God's "rules," but rather how one has damaged his relationship with God and others and hurt himself interiorly. It is also important to examine for sins of omission.

### How do I grow in contrition?

There are two types of contrition: sorrow over hurting one we love (called perfect contrition) and sorrow over getting caught or over the punishment that comes because of sin (imperfect contrition). We should ask God to help us achieve that perfect contrition in which we are sorry for having wounded the God who loves us and whom we should love in return. Meditation on the consequence of our sins — Christ's brutal death on the Cross — often helps us to grow toward perfect contrition.

Questions: [www.thelightisonforyou.org/confession/faq/](http://www.thelightisonforyou.org/confession/faq/)

View video: [www.catholic.tv.com/how-to-go-to-confession](http://www.catholic.tv.com/how-to-go-to-confession)

## Parish Support - Thank you!

November-29.2015	St. John	St. Philomena
Regular Offering	\$2,054.00	\$474.50
Loose	\$75.25	\$21.00
Priests' Retirement Fund	\$30.00	
Fuel	\$10.00	

December Pre-Authorized Plan (Dec. 15)  
(Dec. 22 for Christmas offering)

December's Collections: Restoration Fund; Fuel; Christmas Offering

### Cookies for Shut-Ins Baking Time!

Christmas Baking needed - We would like to give Christmas cheer to our Shut-ins. Bake with family and friends and bring squares or cookies to Anastasia Cliffe's home at 610 William Street. Someone will meet you in the lobby on Wed., Dec. 16 at noon. The cookies will be repackaged into uniform containers. Thank you from the members of the Catholic Women's League. Call Anastasia at 613.382.2474 for pick-up or information.



Archdiocese of Kingston Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the Inauguration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy Archbishop O'Brien invites all faithful to celebrate the Archdiocesan Feast of the Immaculate Conception on **Tuesday, 8 December, 2015, 7:30 pm, at St. Mary's Cathedral.** On this day, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, will inaugurate the **Jubilee Year of Mercy** and open the Holy Door of Mercy in the Basilica of St. Peter in the Vatican. The Holy Father is asking that, in every diocese, there also be a celebration of the Rite of Opening of the Holy Door in unity with the Universal Church, so that all can participate and obtain the indulgences promised in this Jubilee Year. St. Mary's Cathedral will open the Holy Door on Sunday, 13 December at the 10:30 AM Mass. All are cordially invited to celebrate and take advantage of this Extraordinary Year of Mercy.

### Flowers for our Loved Ones – Please give the names before Monday Dec. 21

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.



### ADVENT CELEBRATIONS OF RECONCILIATION

Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingston: Thurs., Dec. 13 at 3:30 pm  
St. John the Apostle, Kingston: Sun., Dec. 13 at 1:00 pm  
St. Joseph's, Kingston: Sunday, December 6 at 2 pm  
St. Mary's Cathedral: Sunday, December 20 at 3 pm  
Holy Family Church, Kingston: Sun., December 13 at 3PM

#### In Gananoque:

**St. John the Evangelist: Thursday, December 10 at 7 pm**

There will be an **Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service** at Christ Church Anglican Church on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. This Service is a great help for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. It consists of readings, hymns and reflections. Christmas is such a difficult time of the year when we have lost a husband, wife, family member or friend. Gathering together with others is a way of coming to terms with a loss as well as helping us to continue in our journey.



Clipart: [www.murphyscovenantchurch.org](http://www.murphyscovenantchurch.org)

**A Christmas CD** has been produced by Fr. Di Rocco and the parishioners of Elgin and Westport. Soloists include Monique Marchand and Sr. Jeanne Marie, and Fr. Di Rocco. The cover photo is by Fred Happy who kindly gave permission to use it. The price is \$20.00 plus postage (\$3.00 in Canada) if mailed. Copies are available in Elgin and Westport and from Fr. Di Rocco personally. Email [steds@kingston.net](mailto:steds@kingston.net)

### Food Bank in December

This year, at St. John's Parish, donations to the Food Bank will be collected this weekend and next one rather than at Christmas time. If you wish to donate a monetary donation, please enclose it in an envelope with your name & address and put in the collection basket. Thank you for thinking of others.



Picture: <http://www.mrsbgroup.com/>

**2016 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 2015.**

### PARISH CALENDAR:

**Finance/Property:** Mon. Dec. 7 at 5 pm  
**Carveth:** Friday, Dec. 11, 2015 at 1:30 pm  
**Catholic Women's League:** Wed. Dec. 16 at 6:30 pm  
**Parish Pastoral Council:** Tues., Jan 12 @ 7 pm  
**Funeral Choir Practice:** Wed. 10:30 am  
**Sunday Choir Practice:** Mondays at 7 pm in the sacristy  
**Legion of Mary:** 8:30 am Tuesdays; Sacristy  
**Knights of Columbus:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. 7 pm Firehall

**Pre-Authorized Debit at St. John and at St. Philomena** To join, complete a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Plan Form; enclose a cheque marked VOID; return all in a sealed envelope via Offertory Collection, Canada Post or at the office. **Next Debit** will be Tuesday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Debit Christmas Offering Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015.

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