

**MASS INTENTIONS
December 12 - 17, 2017**

Tuesday, 12th - *Our Lady of Guadalupe*
 9:00 am Intentions of Mary Karn – Mary Kuntz
1:00 pm **Advent Reconciliation Service**

Wednesday, 13th - *St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr*
 9:00 am Intentions of Pat Gray – Anne Pritchard
 7:00 pm Intentions of Fr. Ernie Varosi, CR – Catholic Women’s League

Thursday, 14th - *St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church*
 9:00 am Intentions of Kay Warner – Gerry & Dora Lamers

Friday, 15th - **Advent Weekday**
 9:00 am Intentions of Helen Shantz – Jennie Rodzen

Saturday, 16th - **3rd Sunday of Advent**
 5:00 pm +Lalith Wiratunga – Christine Dilanee Wiratunga
 +Mary McCarville – the Family
 +Maureen Crolla – Babette Paolini
 +Kay Irwin – Marg Irwin
 +Agnes Dever – the Dever Family
 +Carol Trussler – Richard Trussler

Sunday, 17th - **3rd Sunday of Advent**
 9:00 am Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
 11:00 am Intentions of Sr. Anne Rektor, SSND – Mary Ann Sellner & Family
 +Clifford McNamara – Carole McNamara
 +Leopold Proulx – Carole McNamara
 +Carl & Helen Bender – Bonnie & Chris, Ron & Jane & Grandchildren
 +Reg Sellner – Barbara Diemert
 +David Gray – the Gray Family
 +Taya Marie Flores – Great Grandma

December 10, 2017

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2/3 Collection	\$6,258.00
Total Collected to Date	\$263,827.00
2017 Budget to Date	\$299,240.00

Looking Ahead to Dec. 17, 2017

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 61: 1-2a, 10-11

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 John 1: 6-8, 19-28

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon. Dec. 11: **Rev. Malcolm Katzenberger**
 Tues. Dec. 12: **Rev. Arthur Scidmore**
 Wed. Dec. 13: **Carmelites of Mary Immaculate**
 Thu. Dec. 14: **Rev. Gary Schlack**
 Fri. Dec. 15: **Rev. Mervin Perera**
 Sat. Dec. 16: **Rev. Thomas Manninezhath, CMI**

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE PARISH

Monday
 Bereavement Group (AR) 1:00 pm
 Parents for Community Living (AR) 7:00 pm
 Celebrating the Word (RR) 7:30 pm

Tuesday
 Advent Reconciliation Service (C) 1:00 pm
 Christmas Hamper Packing (H) 2:00 pm

Wednesday
 Christmas Hamper Distribution (H) 4:00 pm

Thursday
 Parish Team Mtg (Office Closed) 10am - noon
 Choir Practice (C) 7:30 pm

Friday
 Songs of Advent (C) 7:00 pm

Saturday / Sunday
 St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive at all Masses

From the Pastors Desk:

For some time now you could walk through most stores and see signs that Christmas is almost upon us. Some economists suggest that the earlier the stores put their Christmas goods on sale the worse the economy is, while others suggest that it is more a sign of the intense competition to capture the Christmas sales market. There was a time, not long ago, when you saw little evidence of Christmas in stores until, in some cases, right into December. In church we are still called to journey through Advent before celebrating Christmas, highlighting the importance of completing Advent liturgically before celebrating Christmas liturgically. What are we to say to a society that seems to celebrate Christmas before Christmas? Well there is no simple answer to this question, especially if you are a store owner who depends upon healthy Christmas sales in order to survive the entire fiscal year. How do we keep the Christian focus in a society that seems to have lost this focus? Perhaps we begin by reminding ourselves that Christmas is not some historical drama we re-enact every year, replaying the nativity scene over and over again. We are called to move beyond the nativity of the baby Jesus and look to the adult Jesus, the one in whom we place our faith and hope and follow freely. Each Christmas we do not “return” to Bethlehem, but rather we celebrate the events of Bethlehem so as to better live out its effects in our daily lives. Christmas celebrates the presence of God in the midst of human affairs; Christmas celebrates the Word made flesh; Christmas celebrates the Incarnation; Christmas celebrates the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; Christmas celebrates the continuing presence of Christ among us; and Christmas celebrates the star over Bethlehem AND Christ, the light of the world.



~ Father Tim, CR

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Our Advent Penitential Service will be Tues. Dec. 12 at 1pm. Fr. Tim will be joined by several other priests, all of whom will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation following a short service. If this time is not convenient, there is a list of other area services on our website.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

This week our St. Vincent de Paul Conference will pack and distribute Christmas hampers to our neighbours in need. As we prepare to welcome Jesus, born again in our lives each Christmas, let us see Him in each member of our community. On Dec. 16/17 we will have a food drive at all the Masses, carts will be at the entrances for your donations. We are in particular need of crackers, canned pasta, peanut butter and pasta sauce. Thank you.

**SONGS OF ADVENT &
THE BIRTH OF JESUS**

Join us for an evening of traditional and contemporary seasonal music on Fri. Dec. 15 at 7pm in the church. Our evening will be led by John B. Miller and Friends, a group of professional musicians featuring Andrea Weber Steckly, Steve Martin, John B. Miller, Donna McLellan and Joe Orlando. This will be a fun and prayerful event, a great break in the busy time of preparation for Christmas. A free-will offering will be taken to cover expenses.

If you would like to donate towards our **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** in memory of a loved one, please use the envelope in your box. We will pray collectively for our deceased loved ones at all the Christmas Masses.

LECTORS NEEDED for the Saturday 5pm Mass. If you are a confident public speaker and feel called to proclaim God’s Word to His people please contact the office.

"Faith becomes tangible when it finds its expression in love and, especially, in the service of our brothers and sisters in difficulty."

~ @Pontifex, December 4, 2017



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE



If you are grieving, lonely, or sad for any reason as the Christmas season approaches, we invite you to join us for an ecumenical service on Dec. 21, the longest night of the year. This will be an evening of scripture, reflective music and prayer in solidarity with one another. The service will begin at 7pm and a time of fellowship will follow in the Hall. No one should be alone at this time of year, so please come and spend some time with us.

St. Paul School Nutrition for Learning is in need of volunteers, Mon to Fri from 8 to 8:45 am, packing bags for each classroom. This help is needed for at least 3 months as other volunteers are away for that period. Please contact Carla Santomero, principal of St. Paul's School, for more information, at 519-743-4401. Thank you.

VOCATION CORNER

"A voice cries out in the wilderness; prepare the way of the Lord." We are all called to prepare the Lord's way in our own hearts, and to proclaim His coming to the whole world! Are you being called to proclaim Him through the priesthood or religious life? Contact Fr. Toby Collins CR, Resurrectionist Director of Vocations crvocations@gmail.com or Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations for the Diocese at mking@hamiltondiocese.com 905-528-7988. www.vocationculture.ca

AROUND TOWN

Annual Advent Hymn Festival with the Diocesan Choir will take place on Sun. Dec. 10 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 7pm. Special guest choir: St. Michael's Spanish Choir (Oakville). All are welcome!

39th Annual Advent Novena – Invitation to Prepare Well for Christmas Nine daily Masses at 6:30am at St. Agnes Parish, Waterloo, Friday Dec. 8 to Saturday Dec. 16. There will be breakfast in the Parish Centre following Mass on Dec. 16. A free will offering will be taken for St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers. Make this Advent a special time of preparation for Christmas by joining your twin-city friends who have been keeping this tradition for many years!

Pope Francis to attend World Meeting of Families in Dublin – The Diocese of Hamilton is planning a trip to the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland, Aug. 21 – 26, 2018. This international event is designed to be significant to people of all ages at all stages of life. Every keynote address and workshop will be based on Pope Francis' Amoris Laetitia, or The Joy of Love. If you are interested in attending and making use of the accommodations booked by the Diocese please contact Teresa Hartnett (905-528-7988 ext. 2250) by mid-January. For more info go to <https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/wmof-2018>.

Coping with the Holidays... when a loved one has passed away Join us for an evening of reflection and strategies for coping at Christmas, facilitated by Dr. Wendy Hofman. At St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, 16 Cooper St. Cambridge, Mon. Dec. 11, 7-8:30pm. Free of charge, please call to reserve a seat, 519-658-4443, but walk-ins welcome.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



49 Blueridge Ave., Kitchener, Ontario N2M 4E2
519-745-7301 www.stfranciskw.ca
stfranciskitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

Administered by the Congregation of the Resurrection: www.resurrectionists.ca

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday 8:30 – 8:45 am
Wednesday 6:30 – 6:45 pm
Saturday 4:00 – 4:30 pm
or by appointment

Sunday Children's Liturgy

Sunday 9:00 am Mass

Prayer Network

Call parish office to request prayers

Communal Baptism

Each month, please call the parish office to register.

Marriages

Congratulations! Please contact the parish one year before wedding date.

Pastor: Fr. Tim Uniac, C.R.
(tuniac@hamiltondiocese.com)
Pastoral Minister: Miss Ruthann Fisher
(rfisher@hamiltondiocese.com)
Music Ministry: Mrs. Terriane Moulton
Admin. Assistant: Ms. Alice Soeder
Building Manager: Mr. Gary Howell

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 12 noon
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Vocations Information: www.vocationinfo.ca
www.vocationculture.ca



"We are a Christ-centred faith community seeking to be instruments of God's peace."

**"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God."**

~ Luke 3: 4, 6

**SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT
December 10, 2017**

