

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 ~ Liturgical Year C

## Mass Intentions

✠ December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 to December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Monday.....NO MASS..... Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday.....Dec 24<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am ✠ Giovanni & Elena Macoretta  
(by Santino & Filomena Panunto)

✠ Filomena, Tony & Lucia Luciani  
(by Mary Tesolin & Family)

5:30pm ✠ John Bentivoglio (by Family)  
✠ Bob McGarrigle (by Family)

**12:00 MIDNIGHT MASS – For the deceased Priests**

Wednesday.....The Nativity of The Lord.....Dec 25<sup>th</sup>

9:30 am ✠ Antonio & Emilia Mazza (by Vince & Giselda Mazza)  
✠ Damiano & Maria LePera (by Vince & Giselda Mazza)

11:00 ✠ Len Devine (by Joanie Devine)  
✠ Connie (D'Addario) Cybula (by Joanie Devine)

Thursday..... St. Stephen, The First Martyr..... Dec 26<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am ✠ Albert DeRose (Bernie)  
✠ Fiorino Falovo (by Maria Falovo)

Friday.....St. John, Apostle, Evangelist..... Dec 27<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am ♥ Thanksgiving for Zack Marin  
(by François Crépeau)  
✠ Joe Tesolin (by Wife & Family)

Saturday.....The Holy Innocents, Martyrs.....Dec 28<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am ♥ In Honour of The Holy Innocents  
✠ Frazilia Absolue Sajet (by Adoptive children)

5:00 pm ✠ Pauline & Sam Valenti (by Char)  
✠ John Gabriele (by Angelo & Angiolina Gabriele)  
✠ Len Michaud (by Jane)  
✠ Lucia Micoli (by family)  
✠ Leo Catharine Doyle (by The family)  
Ralph Guarasci (by Donna Scappaticci)

Sunday.....The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Dec 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am ♥ ✠ For The People of Holy Rosary Parish  
9:30 am ✠ John Sergnese (by Phyllis & Michaelle Sergnese)  
✠ Antoinetta Palumbi  
(by Antoinetta & Giovanni (John) Meffe)  
11:00 am ✠ Elizabeth & Celso Ylagan  
(by Elizabeth DiFruscio & family)  
✠ Mickey, Florence & Orelia Difruscio  
(by Elizabeth DiFruscio & family)

**SANCTUARY LAMP:** This week's Sanctuary Lamp is donated in memory of *Pauline and Sam Valenti*. The Sanctuary lamp is lit to remind us of Christ's presence in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

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## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the Month of December

### FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

*Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope. participation (Apostleship of Prayer/Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network).*

## IV DOMENICA DI AVVENTO / C

22° DICEMBRE 2024

S. Francesca Saverio Cabrini

*La fede di Maria, di colei che ha creduto nell'adempimento di ciò che il Signore le ha detto, apre uno squarcio nella tenebra del mondo. La creazione tutta gioisce, la cugina la benedice e il suo bambino esulta nel grembo, il Figlio di Dio entra nel mondo e dice al Padre: «Ecco, io vengo per fare la tua volontà».*

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**Associazione Cattolica Italiana Fará la riunione Sabato 28 Dicembre alle ore 9:30pm, nella sala. Thank you!**

Margaret Cosentini

## Emmaus Youth Adult Ministry

(Tuesdays, 7-9pm, St. Denis Church)

This Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the young adults of the diocese invite you to **join us for prayer, formation, and fellowship at St. Denis Church, 230 Lake Street, St. Catharines.** For more information, contact Fr. Daniel at

[corso.danielanthony@gmail.com](mailto:corso.danielanthony@gmail.com) or follow us on

Instagram@emmaus.ya



We would like to sincerely thank the members of the Music Ministry of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, the organist, Lucas Chorosinski, Louis Phan, the Niagara Men's Schola and Our Lady of The Holy Rosary School Choir, directed by Rosanne Rotundo for sharing their gifts of song and their valuable time to make the "From Advent to Christmas "A Musical Journey" concert so enjoyable at our Christmas Concert. A special thank you goes to our Music Director, *Debbie Tessier* for her many hours of practicing, organizing and co-ordinating.

## \*NEW\* HOLY ROSARY YOUTH GROUP

Friday January 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

6:00pm in the Parish Hall.

*Young people in grades 6-12 are invited to join our youth group for fun, faith formation, and fellowship. For more information, to sign up, or to get involved, please contact Father Daniel.*

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The Parish office will be closed at noon on Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 and will re-open Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

## 2025 OFFERTORY BOXES

The 2025 offertory envelope boxes can be picked-up at the back of the Church. Because some parishioners chose the **Direct Deposit option** to make their donations, a new number is assigned to some of our parishioners.

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*This week Bulletin is dedicated in memory of the families Giovanni & Vincenza Gabriele*

*(By Francesco & Raffaella Meffe) - And he said to him "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." [Luke 23:43](#).*

Everybody in these days is getting ready for Christmas, preparing the great Christmas dinner. To succeed in our preparation we need to have in mind various things. When finally all is nearly ready, all we need is the final touch: a flower on the table, a wish card under the napkin, a leaf of lettuce under shrimps... Some small things, which create the atmosphere of the moment, hospitality, beauty and warmth.

And there we are... at the very end of the Advent. Christmas is almost here, at our doors. If indeed we have taken seriously this time of preparation, by now we must have understood that Jesus whom we wait for is not the chalk-baby from the crib, but it is the Son of God who comes. It was for Him that we have been preparing for.

We have gone into the desert to listen to John the Baptist. With his help we have renewed our hope in God who does not leave us alone, who has great plans for us, who sends us his only Son as his final word of mercy and love. Perhaps we have tried to overcome our weaknesses and to rich out from our egoism. Maybe we have already understood that to go to encounter Jesus means to encounter joy... All seems to be ready for the feast. All we still need is the final touch. The today's liturgy helps us in this. It gives us three precious tips.

Micah, in the first reading speaks about the small village where Jesus will be born: "You, Bethlehem too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel." Who counts in the history of the men? The powerful ones, the rich ones, the men of success! Whom are the mass-media interested in? In celebrities, politicians, divas... They do not speak about the small, ordinary people, the poor ones, those who do not count. Bethlehem was the small village, perhaps the smallest in Judea. It could not compete with the neighbouring Jerusalem. Nevertheless God chose Bethlehem, not Jerusalem, for his Son's birthplace. It was also from here that David came from. And he was the last of the sons of Jesse... God does not watch the appearances, the externals, does not watch that what counts in the human eyes. God today needs you, not because you are better-off, but because you are a weak person, a sinner, not necessarily very wise. God does not know those who puff up themselves, who talk only to their equal. Also today Jesus in order to be born does not seek "the better family", the most beautiful house, the best decorated one... He seeks a family, which needs Him, the people who want him in their lives. For God is on the side of the little ones and his glory is revealed in answer to their needs. That's the first tip.

The letter to the Hebrews tells us about Jesus' readiness toward God the Father: "Behold, I come to do your will, O God." The Alleluia verse reports Mary's answer to the angel: "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word". Every day, saying the Our Father, we repeat: "your will be done". To do the will of God means: to go wherever he wants, to trust and to

have hope in God. That's the second tip.

The third tip is suggested by Mary. After the annunciation, Mary to celebrate the joy of her motherhood, sets for a journey, not for tourism but for service. She doesn't keep the joy for herself. She wants to share it with others. Jesus comes for all. We learn from Mary to pass this gift to others. Jesus, the incarnate God, is the fruit of Mary's womb. Jesus is truly her Son. From her He received his body. In her he experienced his first human feelings. Thus from Mary we can learn the proper way to receive Jesus in our lives and to carry him to others. This proper way is believing. Elisabeth says to Mary: "Blessed are you who believed". Mary is the one who believed.

If you did this last touch suggested by today's readings: humility, obedience to God and readiness for service, it means that you are ready to celebrate Jesus' birth. He truly will be in your heart!

*Fr. Janusz Roginski, S.A.C.*

**Holy Mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year:**

The 2025 Jubilee of Hope will officially open on December 24, 2024, with Pope Francis opening the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. In his Bull of Indiction "Spes Non Confundit", Pope Francis decreed that, "...on Sunday, December 29, 2024, in every cathedral and co-cathedral, diocesan bishops are to celebrate Holy Mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year...". In our diocese, Bishop Gerard Bergie will celebrate Mass at 2:00pm at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria (3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines) Sunday, December 29, 2024, The Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year. All parishioners are encouraged and welcome to attend.

**Nativity Scene in front of St. Catharines' City Hall**

All parishioners are invited to visit the beautifully restored Nativity Scene in front of St. Catharines' City Hall (50 Church Street, St. Catharines). It is a stunning display to see day and night! This meaningful religious display was made possible through the dedication and generosity of the Catholic Women's League, the Knights of Columbus, Mr. Tom Rankin and Mr. John MacLellan of Rankin Construction, McNamara and Reynolds Design Centre, Mr. Dennis Sawatzky of Garden City Home Hardware Store and many volunteers of our community. It will be up until January 7, 2025. It is sure to inspire you.

**Weekly Offering**

**CAD**

**December 15th, 2024**

In Church offertory:	\$ 4,661.00
Online Offertory:	1,097.38
Church Maint/Utilities:	50.00
Church Basement Reno	1,000.00
Flowers for Christmas	75.00
Hall Rental	<u>560.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u><u>\$7,443.38</u></u></b>

**"Praying that you have a Christmas filled with miracles and memorable moments you'll cherish forever."**