

DECEMBER 24, 2017

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**READINGS: Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalm 89, Romans 12, 25-27 Luke 1.26-38**

Saturday, December 23, 2017 – 4:00 PM

Offered for: George Lafrance and his parents
Peter and Elizabeth Lafrance
Memorial Mass

Altar Servers: Megan, Phillip and Morgan

Lectors: Janine & Amanda Rourke

Sunday, December 24, 2017 10:00 AM

Offered for: Angus Adams and son Memorial
Mass

Altar Servers: Kenia, Reagan, Analeyna & Rylee

Lectors: Lisa Tarbell & Bernice Lazore

Sunday, December 24, 2017 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Children's Mass

Offered for: Isabel Rourke Memorial Mass

Altar Servers: Cheyenne, Keon and Summer

Sunday, December 24, 2017 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

Offered for: Mike Benedict Sr. memorial mass

Altar Servers: Megan, Phillip and Morgan

Monday, December 25, 2017 10:00 AM

Offered for: Theodore Porter & Angus Oakes

Altar Servers: Kenia, Reagan, Analeyna & Rylee

Tuesday December 26, 2017 NO MASS

Wednesday, December 27, 2017 NO MASS

Thursday, December 28, 2017 NO MASS

Friday, December 29, 2017 12:10 pm

Offered for: Laura Cree Memorial Mass

Saturday, December 30, 2017 – 4:00 PM

Offered for: James Herne Memorial Mass

Altar Servers: Cheyenne Keon and Summer

Lectors: Nicky King & Brian Thomas

Saturday, December 30, 2017 – 6:30 PM

TRI-DISTRICT ELDERS

Offered for: Mary Mae Thompson 1 Anniversary

Altar Servers: Megan, Phillip and Morgan

Sunday, December 31, 2017 10:00 am

Offered for: Charlotte & Malcom Gadway

Birthday Anniversary mass

Altar Servers: Kenia, Reagan, Analeyna & Rylee

Lectors: Bernice Lazore & Judy Cole

NOTE: The Rectory Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays, Dec. 26, 27th and 28th 2017. The office will re-open Friday December 29, 2017. For emergency pastoral needs, please call the Rectory office at 613-575-2753 and leave a message.

MEMORIES

In these days surrounding Christmas, we often remember our loved ones who have died. If someone close to us has died during the past year, we think, " This is the first Christmas without them." But even if they died long ago, we remember them in a special way at Christmas.

We remember our childhood, Christmas Eve and Christmas morning with our family. Our joining together to come to Church for Midnight Mass. Singing Christmas carols. Decorating the Christmas tree that we had chopped down in the woods amidst the winter snow. Life was simple. Money was scarce. We gave each other homemade presents crafted with great love. Relatives visited. Family was most important.

Let our memories this Christmas arouse a deep sense of gratitude for God's great gift to us of our own family. Let us pray for all those who are refugees, banished far from their families. In the crèche we see Jesus born among us in the manner of a refugee or exile. Everything around Him speaks of being displaced, the smell of manure, the rough feel of hay on skin, the cold air that comes through a hole where there is no door. He knows our loneliness.

If we look again, we see He is at His Mother's breast. Like every child, He could be anywhere, as long as He is with His Mother. She is His all. And Joseph is close by. And now the shepherds are crowding in with their sheep. The angels are hovering, suffusing the space with golden light. This is the tender compassion of our God!

We too are refugees, wandering this earth as we journey toward eternal life. The Church is our home, our family. Father, on this beautiful night, help me to experience the Church of Christ as my true home.

THE ORDAINED PRIEST

The eminent theologian, Karl Rahner, thus describes an ordained priest: "The priest is not an angel sent from heaven. He is a man chosen from among men, a member of the Church, a Christian. Remaining man and Christian, he begins to speak to you the word of God. This word is not his own; no, he comes to you because God has told him to proclaim God's Word. "For must not some one of us say something about God, about eternal life, about the majesty of grace in our sanctified being. Must not some one of us speak of sin, the judgment, and mercy of God? So, my dear friends, pray for your priest. Carry him so that he might be able to sustain others by bringing to them the mystery of God's love revealed in Christ Jesus."

Pray for Father Jerome Pastores who celebrates on December 30th, the 31st anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood of Jesus Christ. Thank you Father for accepting God's call to the ministry of holy priesthood. CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS YOU!

The Lord's Prayer (in Mohawk)

Ta kwa ien ha, ne, ka ron hia ke, te si te ron, a ie sa sen na ien, a ie sa wen ni ios ta ke, a ie sa wen na ra kwa ke, non wen tsia ke, tsi ni iot, ne, ka ron hia ke, kie sa wen na rak wa. Ta kwa nont, ne, ken wen te, ia kion he kon, nia te wen ni se ra ke, sa sa ni konr hen, ne ion kwa ri wa ne ren, tsi ni iot, ni, i, tsi on kwa ni konr hens. O the non, ion ki ni konh rak sa ton, non kwe; to sa, a ion kwa sen ni, ne ka ri wa ne ren, ak we kon, e ren, sa wit, nio tak sens.
NE NE KA NA KE RAH TSHE RA, NE NE KA SATS TENH SE RA, KA IA TA NE HRA KWAH TSHE RA, SA WEN'K NON:WA NOK TSI NEN:WE – E THO E THO NA IA WEN.

LORD JESUS, COME QUICKLY

Who can tell you what way is best to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, Eternal Word made flesh? Only you can answer for yourself. For only you can look into your own heart, into your life, to see what you must do to make a place for Jesus - to make room for all the love He asks both for Himself and for people everywhere whom He would have you love as well.

LET US PRAY- Merciful and loving Father, You gave us the surest sign of Your love for us all in the person of Your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us who prepare to share in the joy of the celebration of His birth to illumine the world by our faith in Him and our love for each other.
Amen.

NIAWEN:KOWA

Altar and Rosary Society for decorating the Church and donation of Christmas wreaths.

Anonymous Donation for flowers for the church

Food Panty for the donations, support and generosity of the community with food to help those in need

To Three Feathers Cafe for graciously volunteering to make and provide our Christmas bread.

Donaldson Funeral Home for their beautiful Catholic calendars that can used all year long.

Hospitality Ministry and Finance Council for the donation of cards and gifts for the church

PARISH MINISTRY MEETINGS

at the St. Regis Mission Church Sacristy/Rectory Chapel
unless otherwise noted

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| Parish Council | January 18, 2018 - 6:00 pm |
| Finance Council | January 12, 2108 - 5:15 pm |
| St. Kateri Circle | January 7, 2018 - 4:00 pm |
| Liturgy Ministry | January 4, 2018 - 5:00 pm |
| Altar Rosary Society | January 7, 2018 - 12:30pm |
| Choir/Music Ministry | January 6, 2018 - 9:30 am |

BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Lord our God, we praise You for the light of creation, the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise You for the light of Israel, the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise You for Jesus Christ Your Son. He is Emmanuel, God with us, the Prince of Peace Who fills us with the wonder of Your love. Lord God, let Your blessing come upon us as we light this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Wishes to everyone for a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. May God show mercy and love to you and your family this very special season of the year.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER

Lord, it is difficult to be sick at Christmas time -- not to feel the joy of celebrating. Look with compassion on all who suffer, whether alone, in the hospital, in the nursing home, in prison. Help those who await surgery, and all who suffer from depression, addiction, and abandonment. Give them the joy and peace of a holy Christmas season. Be near Clyde Cree, Robert Thompson, Marjorie Lazore, Mary Johnson, Marilyn Tarbell, Marie Casey, Alexina Auger, Larry Pyke, Leonard and Isabel Garrow, Felicia and Hubert Jock, Ruby Nowak, and Charlotte Francis.

Grant eternal rest to Margaret Buckshot and Laura "Malay" McDonald. May their families realize your consolation. Amen.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The First Communion and Confirmation classes have begun sessions. Registration for both programs is still being accepted. Forms can be picked up at the entrance of the Church at weekend Masses, at the St. Kateri Center, and online at stregischurch.org under the Religious Education tab. More information can be obtained by calling Laura Morris at [518-358-2931](tel:518-358-2931), Monday to Friday, 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

COLLECTIONS DECEMBER 16th AND 17th, 2017

REG. MASS \$ 449.18 US \$563.25 CDN