



Second Sunday Of Advent ~Year A

Diocesan Theme: THE FAMILY: HOME OF LOVE, MERCY AND JOY."

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace..."(Galatians 5.22)

Parish Mission Statement: "LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 3rd ~St. Francis Xavier

4:30 pm

Sunday, December 4th ~Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am For the intentions of the parishioners by the pastor

10:45 am For the repose of the soul of Sally Kiskis by family members and friends

Tuesday, December 6th

7:00 pm For the healing intentions of Millie Spencer by the adult choir

Wednesday, December 7th ~at STA~St. Ambrose

8:30 am

Thursday, December 8th~ The Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 pm For the repose of the soul of Ovila Boucher by the Doyle family

Friday, December 9th

9:00 am

Saturday, December 10th

4:30 pm For the repose of the souls of the deceased members of the Chyzyj family by Myra Chyzyj

Sunday, December 11th ~Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am For the birthday intentions of Brianna Urlocker/Lalonde by the Urlocker/Lalonde family

10:45 am For the intentions of the parishioners by the pastor

YOUR OFFERINGS FOR

November 27th, 2016~\$3,525.45

Thank you for your generosity and support

~IN OUR PRAYERS~

For the sick among our families and friends especially:

Margaret Robertson, Eleanor Kelly, Addie Pittman,
Marthe Lepine, Melanie Joannette and
Brent DiBartolo.

Pastor's Corner

On this second Sunday of Advent, we focus on John the Baptist, the prophet sent by God. John was the voice crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord, make His path straight." John was blunt in delivering his message to the Israelites. The same message he has for us today. He challenges us to turn to the Lord, to repent. And the question is: Do I repent? Do I seek the way of the Lord?

Call to Repentance

To repent and to seek the way of the Lord means to follow Him on His own terms and not on our own terms. Sometimes we find it hard to open up to God; to give Him the permission to take full control of our life which is what conversion is all about. During this Advent, let us ask ourselves: "What part of my life do I find difficult to surrender to God? What is stopping me? Is it fear?" Today more than ever, God, through John the Baptist, is calling all people to repentance; that we may love Him above all else and our neighbour as ourselves!

Immaculate Conception

As we know, December 8 is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On this day we honour our Blessed Mother Mary, conceived without sin, and give thanks and praise to God the Father who had prepared her from the first moment of her life to be worthy mother of His son. On this day, we honour Mary, the second Eve and the new Ark of the Covenant, and thank her for saying "Yes" to God. The feast of the Immaculate Conception challenges us to always be open to the will of God in our lives; to imitate Mary by bringing joy to others particularly during this Christmas. We have always observed this day as our parish feast day. Mass will be at the church at 7:00 pm. There will be refreshments in the parish hall immediately following mass. All are encouraged to attend.

Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus!

Fr. Paul

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR DECEMBER:

That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated the world over. That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel, which gives joy, and hope to life.

December 4th, 2016

Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?

WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration form found in the foyer or in the office.

You may bring the completed form to the office or drop it in the collection basket.

THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY'S

Mon. Dec. 5th~Rosary making group
~7:00 -9:00 pm in the hall
Tues. Dec. 6th~Adult choir~7:30~church
Tues. Dec. 6th~First reconciliation class~6:00-7:00
pm~hall
Wed. Dec. 7th~Edge youth group ~6:30-8:30pm~hall

EDGE youth ministry invites all youth in grades 6-8 to come join us on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30pm. Bring a friend and check us out. No cost!!

CHURCH DECORATIONS & FLOWERS: Parishioners can help beautify the church for Christmas by making a donation for church flowers and decorations in the name of a departed loved one. The names of the donors and the names of their departed loved ones will be published in the church bulletin at Christmas. If you have a loved one you would like to honor in this way, please fill out the envelope found in the pews including your donation. Deadline for envelopes to be in is December 18th. Thank you!

OLMM Jesse Tree Are you looking for a way to get the most out of the season of Advent? Do you want to prepare yourself for receiving true joy at Christmas? Then consider joining us for an evening of reflection and song based on the tradition of the Jesse Tree. Through stories about the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus, you will be able to connect the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. Everyone is invited to attend this special event on Sunday, December 11th at 7:00 pm.

The CWL would like to thank all OLMM parishioners for their support in making our Bazaar a great success. We wish everyone a blessed Advent and a very Merry Christmas. May Our Lady of Good Counsel bless each of you with peace, joy and love as you prepare for the birth of our Saviour.

Parish Advent Activities

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Thursday, Dec. 8th, Mass at 7:00 pm
Jesse Tree-Sunday, Dec. 11th ~7:00 pm
Mark your calendars**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

- **Penitential Service**
- Wednesday, Dec. 14th ~7:00pm
- **Christmas Eve**
- Saturday, Dec. 24th ~4:30pm (STA)
~7:00pm (OLMM)
~9:00pm (OLMM)
- **Christmas Day**
- Sunday, Dec. 25th ~10:00am (OLMM)
- **New Year's Eve**
- Saturday, Dec. 31st ~4:30pm (OLMM)
- **New Year's Day**
- Sunday, January 1st ~10:00am (OLMM)

Next weekend (Dec. 10/11) we will be handing out a short survey to collect data that will help us run an Alpha program that aims to be as inclusive as possible.

Alpha is an 11-12 week course designed to help you grow in your life of faith. It will allow you to deepen your knowledge and understanding of what it means to be a Christian. Please note: Completing this survey does not imply a commitment to attend the Alpha program. We ask that you return the completed form as early as possible. Forms can be placed into the collection basket.

GOURMET FRUITCAKES will be available for purchase on the weekends of December 10-11 and 17-18 after all masses. Prices this year: small Christmas cake (600 gm) - \$15 Gift basket (Includes a mini Christmas cake, a jar of Okaramel Spread and 2 boxes of 6 chocolates) - \$25
NOTE: no large cakes this year
The cakes are made by the Cistercian Monks, and are in support of Campaign Life Coalition.

Seniors of Russell Meadows Retirement Community wish to invite everyone for their annual up-coming St Nicholas Bazaar on Tuesday, December 6 from 10:00-3:00. Many vendors will be present. Special entertainers: the Dutch Treat Choir. Door prizes and raffles.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at www.olmm.ca
Email: admin@olmm.ca