



Second Sunday of Advent - Year A

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life". (John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous members to develop their faith and service to others.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 3rd - St. Francis Xavier

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Bérengère Chapdelaine by Mariette Brault

Sunday, December 4th - Second Sunday of Advent

9:00am Birthday intentions of Joseph Urlocker-Lalonde by the Urlocker-Lalonde family

10:45am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

Tuesday, December 6th

7:00pm Repose of the soul of Germain Chapdelaine by Mariette Brault

Wednesday, December 7th - St. Ambrose

8:20am(STA)

9:30am Repose of the soul of Ronald Brault by Mariette Brault

Thursday, December 8th - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00am Repose of the soul of Luciana Gordon by Margaret Helliker

Friday, December 9th

9:00am Intentions of the family of René Chapdelaine by Mariette Brault

Saturday, December 10th -

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Bérengère Chapdelaine by Mariette Brault

Sunday, December 11th - Third Sunday of Advent

9:00am Intentions of Julius and Christine Toth on their 50th wedding anniversary by the family

10:45am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

YOUR OFFERINGS FOR:

November 27th - \$3,099.

Thank you for your generosity and support

Intentions of the Holy Father for December:

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

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When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." Matthew 3:7-8

This was both a very intense and yet very holy encounter. It was intense in that Saint John the Baptist, who had become quite popular and respected and was considered a great prophet, spoke harshly toward the Pharisees and Sadducees. "You brood of vipers!" he says. This was not the way the Pharisees and Sadducees were normally spoken to.

John speaks this way because it was the truth. These religious leaders were not leading anyone closer to God. One only needs to ponder all that Jesus would eventually say to the Pharisees and Sadducees to understand what kind of people these religious leaders had become.

So this passage is certainly intense. But it is also very holy. It is holy because this "brood of vipers" needed to be chastised. They needed to be condemned and challenged. They needed to be humbled. And there is nothing more humbling than sincerely repenting of one's sins in a public way.

Notice that John does not dismiss the leaders outright. Rather, he requires of them "evidence" of their repentance. Why? Because of the spiritual damage these men did to the people of Israel on account of their pride, self-righteousness, hypocrisy, love of public honors, condemnation of others, etc. They had so distorted the faith that the good of their souls required public repentance. It required that everyone see sincere good fruits flowing from their lives as a sign that they had changed. Though this is a tall order for the Pharisees and Sadducees, it's the way to holiness for them.

The same is true for us. If you have allowed yourself to fall into some of the same traps as the Pharisees and Sadducees, then you, too, will greatly benefit from clear and humble public change. If you have struggled with self-righteousness, a critical tongue, a "holier than thou" attitude or a judgmental attitude toward others, then you might have great need for a humble and public repentance.

Reflect, today, upon the Pharisees and Sadducees. Try to understand their sin and the reason John called them a "brood of vipers." If you see any of their pride and self-righteousness within your own soul, then listen to this exhortation from John the Baptist as if it were spoken to you directly. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." Do this, and God will free you through the gift of true humility.

My humble Lord, You call all people to repentance with great humility and sincerity. Please help me to see my sin and to never shy away from facing it, so that You can free me from that filth and set me more firmly on the path to holiness. Jesus, I trust in You.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at www.olmm.ca and our

Facebook page

Email: admin@olmm.ca

December 4th, 2022

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 in the collection basket.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week at Our Lady's

Wednesday, December 7th

6:00pm – First Reconciliation/Communion Class

Thursday, December 8th

6:00pm – Confirmation Class

Friday, December 9th

6:00 pm – Baptism Parents Meeting

7:00pm – Youth Group Meeting

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. On Saturday, December 24th at 9:00pm Mass we will offer the intention for their souls. Thank you!

Please pickup your 2023 donation envelopes at the foyer. The envelopes are only for those parishioners that are NOT on automatic payment. For the special collections throughout 2023 there will be envelopes in the pews.

Have you moved or changed your phone number in the past two years? If so please contact the office with your updated information so we can input the information for the upcoming tax receipts. Thank you.

The library bookshelves in the basement are free to anyone that would take them. Please call the office to arrange pickup from Tuesday to Friday, 8:30am to 12:00pm.

Coffee Sunday: Have you been missing the fellowship from attending coffee Sundays? If so please feel free to sign up and host an up-coming coffee Sunday. Sign up sheets are posted just outside the kitchen. Thank you all in advance.

Parish Advent Activities

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Thursday, Dec. 8th, 9:00am

Advent Penance Service
Thursday, Dec. 15th, 7:00pm

Mark you Calendars!

REMINDER: SCAM ALERT We would like to remind you that there is an increase of scams circulating, via emails, websites, or phone calls where the felon impersonates someone to obtain money or uses scareware to gain access to your computer or bank account. Please DO NOT respond to any requests for private information or money. Rather notify the Ontario Provincial Police, Russell County Detachment at 613-443-4499 or our parish office (admin@olmm.ca). Please also note that our priests would never solicit funds personally from you. Thank you.

Michaelangelo's Sistine Chapel Exhibition:

This globally successful exhibition is an innovative and unique interpretation of Michelangelo's timeless masterpiece. At Ottawa EY Centre, 4899 Uplands Dr., **Dec. 7 – Jan. 22.** Info & further details: <https://chapelsistine.com/the-exhibition/>.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Saturday, Dec. 24th ~4:30pm (OLMM)
~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)