



Second Sunday of Advent – Year C

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 7th – St. Ambrose

4:30pm For all our family members by Cathy Gambell

Sunday, December 8th – Second Sunday of Advent

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am In thanksgiving for Fr. Gerard, Deacon Allan and for all priests and deacons who served at OLMM

Wednesday, December 11th

9:30am Repose of the souls of Heather and Yvon Bourignon by the Urlocker-Lalonde family

Thursday, December 12th – Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00am Healing intentions of Miriam Caravaggio by the Rosary Apostolate

Friday, December 13th – St. Lucy

9:00am Intentions and well-being of all seniors

Saturday, December 14th – St. John of the Cross

4:30pm Repose of the souls of the deceased Members of the Rosary Apostolate

Sunday, December 15th – Third Sunday of Advent

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the soul of Gerry Redsell by his family

Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” [Luke 3:5–6](#)

These, the words of the prophet Isaiah, were spoken about the mission of Saint John the Baptist. John was to “Prepare the way of the Lord” and to “make straight his paths.” In prophesying this, Isaiah goes on to give this very descriptive image of John’s ministry. It would be one that levels mountains and valleys, straightens every winding road, and smooths out the rough terrain. In other words, John came to remove every obstacle to God, making it easy to encounter the Messiah.

How does John complete this mission? By calling the people of that time to the dry and empty desert where all the false allurements cease to exist. This is done by detachment from the many sins and temptations they faced. Their repentance was an act by which the people humbled themselves before God, admitted their sins and acknowledged their need for a Savior. This humble admission, coupled with the commitment to change their ways, prepared heart after heart for the grace and mercy that came through Christ the Lord.

Today, there are countless obstacles to grace that so many people encounter. Some have been drawn into the satisfactions of earthly riches and material comforts and find little need for God. Others have very little that this world can offer but are consumed with a desire for money and the passing comforts it promises. And still, others are drawn into many other forms of sins and false satisfactions. But some are like a dry and deserted desert, just waiting to soak up the gentle rain of God’s grace. These are those who have sought to detach themselves from the false promises of this world and remain “empty” and “dry” to be prepared for the abundance of grace when it comes. These holy souls have heeded the call to repentance and have humbly acknowledged their need for the Savior.

Reflect, today, upon whether or not your soul is like that dry and barren desert, detached from all the false and passing satisfactions of this world, and prepared to soak up the mercy and grace of God alone. Repentance brings forth detachment, and detachment prepares the soul for God. When one is truly detached and free from the many obstacles to God, then the road from God to your soul will be straight and easily traveled. Reflect upon your soul today and where you see unhealthy attachments. Repent with all your heart so that you are among those most fully ready for an abundance of the grace and mercy of God.

Lord, I turn to You in my need and repent of the many lies and false promises of satisfaction in this world. Please free me from all that is not of You so that my soul will be more fully prepared to soak You and Your mercy up like a gentle rain upon a dry and barren desert. I open myself to You, my Lord. Come fill and satiate my soul. Jesus, I trust in You.

Intentions of the Holy Father for December FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

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.

December 8, 2024

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

PARISH ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Parish Advent Reconciliation

Fr. Gerard is available to hear confessions during the following schedule:

Friday, December 13th ~ 5:00 to 9:00 pm

Saturday, December 14th ~ 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th ~ 4:00 pm

~ 6:00 pm

~ 8:00 pm

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th ~ 10:00 am

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31st ~ 4:30 pm

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1st ~ 10:00 am

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. The deadline for envelopes to be in is December 15th. Thank you!

OLMM Spiritual Library

Do you have a suggestion for books for the Spiritual Library?

The Spiritual Library committee would like to purchase some new books – children, youth, and adults for the Christmas season. Please give us your suggestions. Contact: Jane Munro 613-443-3692.

If you are in grades 7-12, come to the youth group, where we have fun, fellowship, food and more! Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month in the hall, from 7-9pm. Our next night is this Friday, December 13th. If you have any questions, contact Chris Smith at 613-223-7582 or email youthgroup@olmm.ca

WELCOME

My Catholic Women's League is a place of comfort as I share a seat with like-minded women of faith and purpose. With councils across Canada – I am confident of a warm welcome no matter where I visit. Our sisterhood spans the nation. Come be a part of our family!

Please pick up your 2025 donation envelopes in the foyer. The envelopes are only for those parishioners who are not on automatic payment. For the special collections throughout 2025, there will be envelopes in the pews. **NOTE THAT YOUR ENVELOPE NUMBER MIGHT HAVE CHANGED.** Please do not reuse the previous year's donation envelopes for 2025.

Waupoos Family Farm.

Our parish has been asked to sponsor two sisters and their 4 children this year.

This is the information on their children: Boy - age 10, Girls ages - 9, 6, and 3. There is a sign-up sheet and a list of gift ideas in the foyer. Please bring your labeled unwrapped gifts to the church foyer before Saturday, December 14th. For any additional information, please contact Karen Urlocker at 613-445-2962 Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting families in need at Waupoos Family Farm!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 12401 CORNER

- The Knights of Columbus Council 12401 will be holding a parish breakfast on Sunday, December 8 after the 9:00 am and 10:45 am masses. We look forward to seeing everyone. The cost is \$10 / adult, \$5 / child under 12 and \$30 for family.
- The Knights of Columbus will be handing out baby bottles to support the Miriam Center after each mass this weekend. The Miriam Centre offers emotional and spiritual support as well as practical assistance to all who find the circumstances surrounding their pregnancy difficult. We hope you will be able to support our fundraising drive to help those in need.
- The Knights of Columbus Council 12401 are hosting a Men's spiritual retreat on Saturday morning, December 14, 2024, starting with Mass at 9:00 AM. The Mass is open to all parishioners. The retreat is open to all men in the parish and will finish by noon. Please RSVP Kofc@olmm.ca