

DECEMBER 8, 2019

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans encourages us to focus our Advent preparations in this way: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." And how does Christ welcome us? With unconditional love.



This is the essence of Christian hospitality, a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist, in our Gospel passage from Matthew. His words apply just as much to us today as they did to the people awaiting the Savior's arrival. John says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." There is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality.

How can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can, and should, go to Confession this Advent. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering



PARISH CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

MON, DEC 9

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:30 am Eugene Rudachuk †
Antonio Fabrizi †
7:00 pm RCIA

TUES, DEC 10

8:30 am Eugene Rudachuk †
John Pawlik †
10:30 am Advent Mass at St. Peter School
12:30 pm CWL Christmas Lunch

WED, DEC 11

8:30 am Dr. Faleh Kazanchi †
Denis Morris Advent Mass
9:45 am Mary Margaret Barton †
Denis Morris Advent Mass

THURS, DEC 12

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

8:30 am William Ivanko †

FRI, DEC 13

8:30 am Rozario Alzamora †

SAT, DEC 14

10:30 am Altar Serving Tune-Up
5:00 pm Jim Taylor †
St. Peter Grade 7 Family Mass

SUN, DEC 8

9:00 am James Gorday †
11:00 am Mass for the People
3:00 pm St. Julia Choir presents
"Christmas at St. Julia"

OFFERING FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Offertory:

195 Envelopes.....\$4,420.00
Loose\$438.65
Confirmation.....\$525.00
Total Offertory.....\$5,383.65

Special Collections:

Deo Gratias.....\$315.00
Total to Date.....\$2,350.00
Cathedral Restoration.....\$100.00
Total to Date.....\$26,131.50

OFFERING FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

Offertory:

140 Envelopes.....\$3,672.00
Loose\$289.80
Total Offertory.....\$3,961.80

Special Collections:

Deo Gratias.....\$5.00
Total to Date.....\$2,355.00
Cathedral Restoration.....\$0.00
Total to Date.....\$26,131.50

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our Parish

DID YOU KNOW.....

...that the sacrament of reconciliation washes away our sins and reconciles us with God? I personally think that this is one of the most beautiful sacraments, for just like erasing a chalk board, once we have confessed our sins and have completed our penance, in the eyes of God, these sins no longer exist, and our souls are wiped clean. What a wonderful feeling! The result? We return to a state of grace, and once again share in the supernatural life of God. I have had the privilege to work with our Grade 2 classes in preparing for this beautiful sacrament, and it has been a strong reminder for me of the power of this sacrament. One student after receiving their first reconciliation proclaimed "I am sin free!" Wow! In the coming weeks our parish will have multiple opportunities to celebrate this sacrament in preparing ourselves for the coming of our Lord this Christmas. Won't you join me?

1,000 HAIL MARY'S IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Join us in honouring Our Lady of Guadalupe on her Feast Day, Thursday, December 12, beginning with 8:30 a.m. Mass, followed by constant prayers to Our Lady, until 2:30 pm. There will be a brief lunch break at noon (bring your own lunch), after which prayers will continue. A special image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, donated by Bishop Bergie, will be on display. Please join us for all or part of the day to pay homage to Our Blessed Mother.



"I am truly your merciful Mother, yours and all the people who live united in this land and of all the other people of different ancestries, my lovers, who love me, those who seek me, those who trust in me. Here I will hear their weeping, their complaints and heal all their sorrows, hardships and sufferings."

Our Lady of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego.

ST. JULIA ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The St. Julia Church Choir and Dr. David Holler will be presenting their annual Christmas concert "*Christmas at St. Julia*" on Sunday, December 15th, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. Please join us for an afternoon of music celebrating the seasons of Advent and Christmas. A reception will follow in the parish hall – all are welcome! A free-will offering will be collected at the door to support the music program at St. Julia.

ONGOING FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

We welcome you to join our RCIA session this week for "*Mary | The Saints | Eschatology*" at 7:00 pm, Monday, December 9th in our parish hall.

ALTAR SERVER CHRISTMAS LUNCH

All new and current altar servers are invited to attend an altar server refresher to tune-up our altar serving on **Saturday, December 14th, 2019 @ 10:30 am** in the Church followed by a pizza Christmas Lunch in our parish hall to thank you for your service to our parish.

PASTA NIGHT BIG THANKS!

It is with sincere thanks that I thank all those that made our first Family Pasta Night a tremendous success. A wonderful meal and a blessed opportunity to come together as a parish family to enjoy each other's company and to bring us together. A big thanks to Donna White for spearheading this night and for sharing her gifts and talents with us. We also wish to thank our organizing team, all of the wonderful volunteers from our parish and the exceptional student volunteers from Denis Morris who represented themselves and the school community so well. *Thank you, thank you, thank you!* And thank you our parish community and friends for coming out to support our gathering! We look forward to future events and opportunities to gather in 2020! **God bless!**

ST. JULIA CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 12:30 pm @ Johnny Rocco's,
271 Merritt St. Please contact
Karen Wright at 905-688-1724 to reserve your spot.

ST. JULIA FACEBOOK PAGE



Visit our new Facebook page! Sign into your Facebook page, search St. Julia Roman Catholic Church, "like" this page and you will see posts and receive notifications about our church community including Mass readings and upcoming events.

Liturgical Ministries		December 14 – 16, 2019	
	5:00 pm	9:00 am	11:00 am
Eucharistic Ministers	L. Docherty P. Docherty R. McLean	A. Alderson L. Gilmore E. Ward	M.J. Modolo L. Flynn M. Epstein
Readers	St. Peter Grade 7 Students	J. Kerry D. Coppola	N. LaSelva M. Galliera

Counters: B. Abramsek & W. Szymiski (Dec. 16)