

251 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2T 3Y7
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Most Rev. Gerard P. Bergie D.D. Mass Schedule Diocesan Bishop Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 a.m. **Pastor** Fr. Greg Schmidt frgregoryschmidt@gmail.com Saturday 5:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. (Children's Liturgy of the Word) Sunday **Deacons** Deacon George Newman 11:00 a.m. **Deacon Brian Jeynes** Confessions **Director of Music** Dr. David Holler 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment Saturday Maintenance Jim Salmon Office Hours Administration Christine Buckley Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cheryl Wood



November 27, 2022 First Sunday of Advent

Today we begin the beautiful season of Advent - a season of preparation. For what are we preparing? The celebration of the birth of our Savior, and the anticipation of His second coming. These are weighty tasks with eternal consequences.



So, let us as Christian stewards make the words of the Prophet Isaiah our motto for the season: "Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths." In the weeks leading up to Christmas, it seems everywhere we turn we are pushed to spend more, do more, entertain more, and generally rush around at a frantic pace — all to create a "perfect" Christmas day. In contrast to this worldly pressure, the Church's guidance to use these weeks as a time to focus on our spiritual lives can indeed seem like a mountain climb.

But the intentional and wise use of the gift of time is exactly what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. How can we use our time to prepare for a holy celebration of Jesus' birth on Dec. 25 and for his second coming at a date we do not know?

We can push back against the world's pressure to have the "perfect Christmas." Scale back on the material kind of gift-giving, the complicated menus, the unessential trappings of the season so that we have more time for the spiritual preparations: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, and acts of kindness. In the end, we will be prepared to celebrate a truly meaningful Christmas, we will have become more like our Savior, and we will be ready for Him to come again.

Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Parish Calendar

Monday, November 28 8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - All Souls †

Tuesday, November 29 8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - All Souls † 7:00 p.m. - RCIA

Wednesday, November 30 - No Mass

Thursday, December 1 - No Mass

Friday, December 2

8:30 a.m. (Livestream) - John Bak †
Special Intention
9:00 a.m. (Livestream) - Holy Hour

Saturday, December 3

5:00 p.m. (Livestream) - St. Peter Family Mass Anna Pogacnik † | George Adams †

Sunday, December 4

9:00 a.m. - Mary & Osgoode Darte †
Melanie, Dereck, Jonathan Nogueira †
Fr. Brian Conlon † | Joseph Presse †
11:00 a.m. - CWL Gathering Mass
Mass for the People

Are You Being Called?

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks...."

If you think that God is calling you to serve the Lord of the harvest as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, contact Fr. Greg at the church office, 905 684 5603 or email frgregoryschmidt@gmail.com.



St. Julia SVDP Update

URGENT NEED: The St. Catharines S.V.D.P. Store has notified us of the urgent need of warm winter clothing; both new and gently used, for needy families. Warm clothing including socks, shoes, hats, boots, underwear, gloves, and warm coats are requested. The biggest shortage is for men. Through your generosity, S.V.D.P. has purchased \$500. worth of these items to get them started as Winter has arrived. You may drop off your donations at the store or at the back of our church when you come to Mass. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted.

"What you do unto others you do unto me"



Faith Formation & Catechesis

We welcome you to join our RCIA session for

"The Most Holy Eucharist"

at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 29th in our Divinity Hall.





Become a force for real change AND win a trip to Montreal!

Our movement draws its strength from our 11,000+ members across Canada! Every year, they act for justice by supporting our education, advocacy and fundraising campaigns. This work is critical for our partners, who know that eliminating the root causes of poverty in the Global South requires the dismantling of the structures of colonialism, exploitation and inequality in Canada.



Add weight to our voice. Be part of a family that acts for justice. Join our movement! In addition to being invited to a festive webinar on December 3, 2022, all new members will be entered into a draw.

One lucky member will win a trip to Montreal to meet our solidarity visitors from Colombia and Honduras during Lent. Lifetime membership costs just \$10, and it's free if you're under 35. So, don't hesitate, and sign up at devp.org/joinus!



TRUSTING GOD EVEN WHEN LIFE HURTS

Date: Sat Dec 3 Led by: Anna Racine

Cost: \$70

When bad things happen, what is our reaction? Do we trust God even when we don't understand?

When difficult things happen, we begin to doubt God's concern for us or His control over our lives. But when times are hard, when the world feels like it's caving in on us — it's even more important to trust God.

In this Workshop learn how to trust God In the midst of the "Storms of Life."

Presenter: Anna Racine, adjunct faculty at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, ministers on the St. Thomas More Parish Bereavement Team. She was given the 2015 Niagara Catholic Award of Distinction for her 20 years of service in Church Ministry and with the Niagara Catholic District School Board.



Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre 7020 Stanley Avenue . Niagara Falls, Ontario L2G 7B7 www.carmelniagara.com 905-356-4113

CATHOLIC and LIVING IT!



Catholic Women's League Corner: November 27th, 2022

- * Our second St Julia CWL Blood Donor Clinic is this Saturday, Nov 26. Remember to register before donating.
- * Warm-vember collection of scarves, mittens/gloves and hats continues throughout the month.
- * Poinsettia orders and pre-payment will be taken this weekend and next after all Masses. Pick-up will be the weekend of Dec 10/11.

We thank you for your continued support.

Ways to Give to St. Julia Parish

Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD)

- The easiest way to give, automatically debited from your bank account monthly
- Set it up once and never forget your offering
- · Sustained offering for the parish through regular and consistent giving
- The debit will take place on the 5th day of each month (or on the next business day)
- · Can be altered or stopped at any time

Click Here to print the form. Don't have a printer? Simply email or call the office and we will be pleased to mail you a form. Once completed drop off at the parish office or mail to:

St. Julia Church 16 Adelene Crescent St. Catharines, ON L2T 3Y7

Interac e-Transfer

- Instant offering / transfer of funds from your bank account to St. Julia's account
 - 1. Log in to your online banking
 - 2. Click Interac e-Transfer
 - 3. Add contact name i.e. St. Julia
 - 4. Notify by email
 - 5. Contacts email address
 - Enter in our new stjuliaparishstcgiving@gmail.com email address
 - (you will only have to enter this in for the first time St. Julia will then be a saved contact)
 - 6. Make your donation via your newly set up Interac E-Transfer

Note: Please put your envelope number in the message line There is no password required for St. Julia to receive your donation

The Traditional Envelope

• Tried and true. Offered at the end of Mass or you can mail your envelope to:

St. Julia Church 16 Adelene Crescent St. Catharines, ON L2T 3Y7

CanadaHelps.org

• Instant donation using your credit card. Click Here to donate now.

Note: Tax receipts are issued directly from CanadaHelps.org

Thank you for your configued generally,
God bless you and those that you love.