



St. Joseph's Parish: an inclusive community

A parish of the Oblates of
Mary Immaculate
Sunday Bulletin

151 Laurier Avenue East, Ottawa ON K1N 6N8 | 613.233.4095 | frontdesk@st-josephs.ca

New Parishioners and visitors welcome! Registration forms can be found at the Welcome Desk.

Register with the Parish to receive envelopes, sign up for autodebit giving, or to volunteer.

December 1st, 2024

1st Sunday of Advent

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Mass Times and Reconciliation

- Weekday Masses Mon-Fri at noon
 - Reconciliation after weekday Mass or by appointment
- Weekend Masses
 - Saturday, 5pm
 - Sunday, 10:30am
 - University Mass: Sunday, 7pm
- Adoration: 1st Friday of the month after noon mass

Front Office Hours

- Sunday: 12-4pm
- Mon, Wed, Fri: 9am-1pm
- Thursday: 2:30-6:30



Advent Reflection 2024

The Advent Season this year is special in that it is pointing to the upcoming Holy Year. In essence, the main message of Advent reminds us that the Lord is coming to be with us, marking the foundation of our hope and spiritual renewal. He always visits us in our lives making Himself close and will return at the end of time to welcome us in His embrace.

The question is, "How does the Lord accompany us in our daily lives?" Pope Francis remarked that for some people, a miraculous sign is needed; yet Jesus reminds his listeners that God will come when we least expect it and in our normal, everyday lives — as in the days of Noah.

The Holy Father shared that God conceals Himself in the most common and ordinary situations in our lives and we need to be constantly aware of this reality, not waiting for an extraordinary event. This can be when we face someone in need, a chance encounter, or even in what might seem like a quiet or dull moment of daily life. It is right there that we find the Lord, who calls to us, speaks to us, and inspires our actions.

It is because of this that we must be awake, alert, and vigilant. As Pope Francis said: "We need to always discern God's presence in our daily lives and not miss this big picture, as can happen when we are distracted by earthly matters only."

May we be helped by the Holy Virgin, woman of waiting, who knew how to perceive the passing of God in the humble and hidden life of Nazareth. Happy Advent season!

— Fr. Robert Laroche, OMI

[Thank you to the Liturgical Environment Ministry](#)

The Liturgical Environment Ministry spent the day at St. Joe's on November 26th getting our church ready for the Advent season. Thank you for the thoughtfulness and great care that all volunteers of this ministry put into ensuring that our liturgical space elevates our experience at Mass!

— Christopher Adam, Executive Director

Ministry Contacts

History Committee:

Terry Byrne
tvb1643@gmail.com

Liturgical Environment

Ministry: Wayne Moyle
waynemoyl8@gmail.com

Refugee Outreach

Committee (ROC): Dona Bowers
donabowers22@gmail.com

Pastoral Visiting Contact:

Mikayla in the Office
613-233-4095 x251
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English Conversation

Group for newcomers:
Michaelrichard2008@hotmail.com

Christian Meditation:

Tom Grace:
613-408-4553 (Mon.)
Tom.grace@sympatico.ca
Beth Smith:
613-563-7091(Fri.)

2SLGBTQ+ Accompaniment

Ministry:
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Grocery Card Program

(OMRA): Donna Rietschlin
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Funeral Ministry:

Dianne Taylor
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Development and Peace —

Caritas Canada:
Joan O'Connell
joanoco@rogers.com

Hospitality Committee:

Kathleen Allan
kathleenallan@magma.ca

Missing information?

To add or update Ministry info, please contact Mikayla at frontdesk@st-josephs.ca or extension 251.

Parish Announcements

Missals and Donation Envelopes

The new Liturgical and Calendar year is HERE!! November 30 (before Mass) and December 1 (before and after the morning Mass) Mikayla the Office Coordinator will be available to help distribute donation envelopes to those who have requested them, and sell the 2025 Liturgical year missals for only \$5 – the Parish buys missals in bulk to pass cost savings on to Parishioners. If you miss this, your envelopes will be available for self-serve pickup at the back of the church, and missals available for purchase in the Front Office during office hours.

St. Joe's Supper Table Community Christmas Dinner: Winter Donations Needed

Each year, St Joe's Supper Table hosts a Community Christmas Dinner for our clients and the residents of Sandy Hill. This year, we want to make it extra special by providing cold weather gear such as hats, mittens, and scarves to each of our clients. You can add donated items to the Supper Table bins at the back of the church, or to the Front Office during office hours.

If you have questions, please contact Kathleen at suppertable@st-josephs.ca.

Please note that we will only be accepting new items.

Welcome Shane! New St. Joseph's and Sacré Cœur Property Maintenance Manager

On December 3, 2024, we will welcome Shane Nichol to the Parish's staff team. Shane will begin his training to become the Parish's new Property Maintenance Manager. In the coming weeks, he will work alongside Nick Cacciato and learn the many facets of this job, which extends not only to our parish's physical plant and to serving as its primary emergency contact, but to the maintenance and landscaping needs of Paroisse Sacré-Coeur as well.



Shane was raised in Ottawa and completed his secondary school studies at St. Pius X Catholic High School in 1999. He worked as a Maintenance Technician for the former Chartwell Riverpark Place retirement residence and more recently for Ottawa Community Housing's maintenance department. In his spare time, Shane coaches hockey. We're excited to welcome Shane to St. Joseph's Parish!

— Christopher Adam, Executive Director

Christmas Memorial Flower Donations

The Parish is inviting parishioners to donate poinsettias to remember a deceased family member or friend, and to help decorate our church for Christmas. Your loved one's name will be included with the poinsettia, as well as in a commemorative list to be published in the Christmas issue of our Parish Bulletin. You may donate a poinsettia or simply make a \$20 donation and we will purchase the plant for you. Please contact Mikayla at the Front Office about poinsettia donations no later than December 19th. Thank you for your support!

Anointing of the Sick Masses

On the Second Sunday of Advent (Saturday, December 7 evening Mass; and Sunday, December 8, morning and University Masses), we will celebrate the Anointing of the Sick.

Join us as we celebrate our faith, acknowledging the healing touch of Christ in our lives.



Parish Announcements (cont'd) | In the Community

STAFF DIRECTORY

Upgrades to the Church's Sound System are Coming!

St. Joe's has long valued excellent music, insightful homilies and reflections, and a meaningful liturgy. We're an engaged parish community that wants to participate fully and actively at Mass. Good sound is indispensable to a quality liturgical experience. Our church's acoustics do pose some challenges, notably that we have a 4-second reverberation. Effective use of microphones by those in ministry is also important. But we're also aware of the fact that our sound system is aging and is in need of upgrades.

Jamie Loback has been working with a sound engineer who knows our system well and has explored upgrades. The Parish Finance Council and Parish Pastoral Council are supportive of proceeding with these improvements in several phases, with the first to be implemented in time for Christmas, followed by further work in 2025. This phased project is an extra capital costs **totaling an estimated \$17,000**. These costs are not covered by regular Sunday collections or other on-going sources of revenue.

As such, we're turning to parishioners to consider supporting upgrades to the sound system through the special **"Step Up — Sound System"** donation envelopes available in the pews and at the Welcome Desk, the **"Building Fund"** envelopes for those who have an annual box of envelopes, or **online through Canada Helps**, by clicking on **"Building Campaign"** in the drop-down menu:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/131771990rr0006-saint-joseph-parish/>

We will continue this special collection through Advent. Thank you for your support!

— **Christopher Adam, Executive Director**

Advent Celebration: Preparing for Christmas



This program is an invitation to come to Galilee Centre as we enter the Season of Hope, Peace, Joy, & Love.

Dates: Sundays in December (December 1, 8, 15, 22)

Times: 2 pm – 4 pm

Location: 398 John Street North, Arnprior, ON

Registration is required, call the Galilee Centre at 613-623-4242 x 21 or do so online

<https://www.galileecentre.com/products-page/advent-celebration/>

Archdiocese Youth Retreat

The Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall is inviting grades 9-12 to a diocesan NET retreat on Dec 7th from 10:00am-4:30pm. The goal is to provide an opportunity for high schoolers to grow in their faith and connect with other young Catholics. See here for details: <https://ottawacornwall.ca/news/promotional-kit-gr-9-12-diocesan-net-retreat/>

Community Concerts featuring Members of our Congregation

CORO VIVO OTTAWA
presents / présente :
...a child is born!
...un enfant est né!
Friday, December 6 & Saturday, December 7, 2024
Le vendredi 6 décembre et le samedi 7 décembre 2024
7:30pm / 19 h 30
Orleans United Church
1111 Orléans Blvd/boul. Orléans

RIDEAU CHORALE PRESENTS
FANTASIA
on Christmas Carols | Ralph Vaughan Williams
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 7:30PM
Southminster United Church 15 Aymer Ave. Ottawa ON
J.B. Bask: Conductor 122 0 240 - Conductor: Kevin Reeves, Soprano: Kathleen
Karin Reeves: Organist/celebration Musical - Radio, Tenor: Adam Scery, Bass: Philip Holmes
Andrea Agre: Christmas Medley - with strings, voices, and orchestra
rideauchorale.com/fantasia

<https://www.eventbrite.com/c/a-child-is-bornun-enfant-est-ne-3768523>

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/fantasia-tickets-1028959915807>

PASTORAL

Executive Director

Christopher Adam x223
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Pastor

Fr. Robert Laroche x222
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Parish Pastoral Council

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Music & Liturgy Director (concert and rehearsal rentals)

Jamie Loback x228
jamieloback@yahoo.ca

Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry & Faith Formation

Paul Dansereau x235
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MINISTRIES

Supper Table Manager

Kathleen Strader x221
suppertable@st-josephs.ca

Women's Centre Director

Jennifer Clark x226
jclark@st-josephs.ca

ADMINISTRATION

Bulletin, General Enquiries, Sacraments, & Rentals

Mikayla Odut
613-233-4095 x251
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Finance Coordinator

Georgeta Mutu x229
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FACILITIES

Maintenance Manager
Nick Cacciato x230, 220
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LOCATION

Church & Hall
174 Wilbrod St.
Office Entrance
151 Laurier Ave. E.

In anticipation of this years' Lessons and Carols service, we talked to Kathleen Strader, Supper Table Manager; and Jamie Loback, Director of Music and Liturgy.



Presented by
the Parish Choir of St. Joseph's Church - Ottawa

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

3PM Sunday, December 22, 2024

St. Joseph's Parish
174 Wilbrod St.
Ottawa, ON

Refreshments to follow

A collection will be taken to support St. Joe's
Supper Table and Food Bank

it seemed natural to host this liturgical event in support of this essential ministry for so many in our downtown community.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is popularly associated with King's College in Cambridge England where it began, and has become a tradition in Christian communities around the world. By integrating our Parish community and choir members to lead and participate in the readings and music, the service tells the story of humanity's fall, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. The biblical texts are taken from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and choir anthems.

St. Joe's is very fortunate to have our various ministries work together and support each other! Thank You to Jamie Loback and all volunteers of the Music Ministry for organizing the event, the Supper Table staff Kathleen Strader (Manager) and Will Matthias (Assistant Manager); and to all parishioners and visitors for your support!



Your generous contributions are much appreciated! Individual event donations above \$20 per person will have the remainder tax receipted. Donations are accepted at the door, and every contribution directly supports St. Joe's Supper Table - Sandy Hill's Food Bank and Community Meal Programme.

We are also the only Parish in Ottawa-Cornwall to offer such services.

If you can't make it, please still consider supporting the Supper Table this Christmas season through an in-kind or monetary donation at <https://www.st-josephs.ca/donations/>

Each year, Lessons and Carols supports St. Joe's Supper Table. We talked with Kathleen to understand how this event serves the vital mission of assisting those with food insecurity.

Lessons and carols gives us options to buy fresh produce, expand the meal program, and gives us flexibility to subsidize what we get from the Ottawa Food Bank to support our need, which has increased exponentially. If we are extremely successful, this will help us to get the Food Bank in Ottawa Community Housing back up and running.

The Food Bank in Ottawa Community Housing is located in Strathcona Heights. It is closer to 70% of clients than our main location, and has been out of service due to a flood earlier this year. We have offered expanded hours at our main location and home delivery to accommodate; but these options are not sustainable or in the best interest of the clients we serve long term.

As the manager of the Supper Table, Kathleen enjoys being able to support this ministry through music. Kathleen sings in the church choir on Sundays and looks forward to Lesson and Carols.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols started at St. Joe's during the Covid-19 Pandemic as a ray of hope, sparking togetherness. Previously, the Parish Choir produced a Christmas concert, but the timing was right to change to the Carol Service. With St. Joe's Supper Table facing adverse hardship during this time,



Week of
December 2nd to 8th

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JOE'S?



	Monday 2nd	Tuesday 3rd	Wednesday 4th	Thursday 5th	Friday 6th	Saturday 7th	Sunday 8th
Office Hours	9am-1pm	CLOSED	9am-1pm	2:30-6:30pm	9am-1pm	CLOSED	12noon-4pm
This Week	- Christian Meditation 9:30am, Library - RCIA 7pm, Oblate Lounge	- Campus Chaplaincy 3pm, Oblate Lounge	- Weekday Mass: 12pm - Marriage Prep 7:00, Oblate Lounge	- Weekday Mass: 12pm - AA, 7pm, Oblate Lounge	- Weekday Mass: 12pm, followed by the Adoration of the Eucharist - Christian Meditation 7pm, Oblate Lounge	- Weekend Mass, 5pm - Christian Meditation 7pm, Library - Ewashko Singers Concert 7:30pm	- Sunday Mass, 10:30am - University Mass 7pm - Young Adults 8pm, Oblate Lounge
A look ahead		- Bible Study 7pm, Oblate Lounge; Dec 10	- Planting Seeds International 9am, Parish Hall; Dec 11				- Hospitality Sunday: cookies and coffee after the morning Mass, Dec 15

Begin in November 2012, the Library collection has increased steadily through book donations and now contains over 3000 titles. The collection covers books on Christianity, published since Vatican II, in English. Borrowing is on a self-serve honour basis, with a one month loan period. See <https://www.st-josephs.ca/rentals/resource-library/> for more information.

Library books about ADVENT include - Koellhoffer, C. Pope Francis: Living Advent with joy and peace (BX1999.21.F813 2015), Mongeau, G. Called to pray, Advent and Christmas (BX2170.A4C35 2011) & Pennoyer, G. God for us, rediscovering the meaning of Christmas (BV40.G58 2014).

LAST CALL for FREE books - available at the back of the Church near the Welcome Table!



Our Financial Stewardship

November 24: \$6,235

Thank you for your generous contributions to the operations and social outreach programmes of St. Joe's!

Mass intentions are available Wednesday through Friday during the Noon Mass for a recommended contribution of \$15.00.

Please contact the Front Desk for arrangements.

To add a name to the prayers for sick or those who have died: notify the Front Office. We pray for those who are listed during the Prayers of the Faithful.



Wednesday Dec 4th: Theresa Odut †
Thursday Dec 5th: Chuck Lemire †
Friday Dec 6th: Lucille Elizabeth Cowen †

Prayers for those who are ill: Gilles Touchette, Olivia Harvey, and Corey Riches.

Prayers for those who have died: Albert Lafleche, the Honourable Murray Sinclair, and Julie McLaughlin.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

24-25 ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

ORGAN PRELUDE BEGINS 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO EACH SERVICE

FIRST-THIRD SUNDAYS OF ADVENT	SATURDAY, NOV 30; DEC 7, 14 AT 5PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 8, & 15 AT 10:30AM & 7PM
RECONCILIATION SERVICE	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 12:00 NOON
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 5PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 AT 10:30AM FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS AT 3PM
CHRISTMAS EVE: NATIVITY OF THE LORD	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5PM - WITH CHILDREN'S PAGEANT TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 9PM CHORAL PRELUDE AT 8:15PM
CHRISTMAS DAY: NATIVITY OF THE LORD	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 AT 10:30 AM
HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28 AT 5PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 AT 10:30AM
MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31 AT 5PM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 AT 10:30AM
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	SATURDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 5PM SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 AT 10:30AM & 7PM

NO WEEKDAY MASSES BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS' DAY
NO UNIVERSITY MASS DECEMBER 22-29 (SEE ABOVE TO CONFIRM)