



# 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](mailto: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 or our e-bulletin, sign up for autodebit giving, or to volunteer.

## December 22nd, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

- 1 Christmas Message from the Executive Director
- 2 Parish updates
  - Hospitality Committee
  - Welcome Ministry
  - New Instagram
  - Sound System Campaign
- 3 Upcoming, Library, Financial Stewardship, & Noon Masses



## A Christmas Message from the Executive Director — Works of Mercy and St. Joe's

In our faith tradition, Advent is a time for Corporal Works of Mercy. There are seven of these and they include calls to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. This Fourth Sunday of Advent is an opportunity to reflect on how we've lived these seven works of mercy — not just during the Advent season, but throughout the year. As a parish community, St. Joe's outreach programmes and ministries have touched on six of the seven works of mercy. When we look around our engaged and compassionate parish, I'm certain that across the broad spectrum of our parishioners, the faithful have been active in all seven areas.

The last full week before Christmas has been a particularly busy time in the St. Joe's Supper Table and St. Joe's Women's Centre. Numbers tell that story as well as words. At the time of publication, the Supper Table distributed grocery gift cards to 67 households in need, helping 210 individuals. We purchase these gift cards through OMRA, using support from the Ottawa Food Bank. Both the Supper Table and Women's Centre organized Christmas lunches in the Parish Hall for the guests and participants of these programmes. Nearly 150 guests registered to attend the Supper Table Christmas meal, while 100 registered for the Women's Centre's holiday lunch and celebration. Guests of both celebrations enjoy a traditional Christmas meal, holiday music and receive gifts.

One of my favourite authors is Graham Greene. He was a novelist, travel writer, journalist, adventurer, an advocate for the poor, a civil servant and, for a time, a spy. His life spanned almost the entire twentieth century. Greene was also a Catholic -- in a genuine, yet complicated way. I expect he would have attended St. Joe's on account of our commitment to the poor, had he ever lived in Ottawa. In what is considered his masterpiece, *The Power and the Glory*, Greene once suggested that when we visualize another person, particularly when they are suffering, we intrinsically feel compassion. This, according to Greene, is a quality that serves as evidence that we are all made in the image of God.

*Merry Christmas to all in our parish community!*

— **Christopher Adam, Executive Director**

### 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
- see back page for amendments*

## Ministry Contacts

### History Committee:

Terry Byrne  
[tvb1643@gmail.com](mailto:tvb1643@gmail.com)

### Liturgical Environment

**Ministry:** Wayne Moyle  
[waynemoyle8@gmail.com](mailto:waynemoyle8@gmail.com)

### Refugee Outreach

**Committee (ROC):** Dona Bowers  
[donabowers22@gmail.com](mailto:donabowers22@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Visiting Contact:

Mikayla in the Office  
613-233-4095 x251  
[frontdesk@st-josephs.ca](mailto:frontdesk@st-josephs.ca)

### English Conversation

**Group for newcomers:**  
[Michaelrichard2008@hotmail.com](mailto:Michaelrichard2008@hotmail.com)

### Christian Meditation:

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

### 2SLGBTQ+ Accompaniment

**Ministry:**  
Eleanor Rabnett  
[rabnete@gmail.com](mailto:rabnete@gmail.com)

### Grocery Card Program

**(OMRA):** Donna Rietschlin  
[dbrietschlin@hotmail.com](mailto:dbrietschlin@hotmail.com)

### Funeral Ministry:

Dianne Taylor  
[taylorld@bell.net](mailto:taylorld@bell.net)

### Development and Peace —

**Caritas Canada:**  
Joan O'Connell  
[joanoco@rogers.com](mailto:joanoco@rogers.com)

### Hospitality Committee:

Kathleen Allan  
[kathleenallan1903@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenallan1903@gmail.com)

To add or update Ministry info, please contact Mikayla at [frontdesk@st-josephs.ca](mailto:frontdesk@st-josephs.ca) or extension 251.

## Parish Announcements

### [A Message from the Hospitality Committee](#)

Thank you to the Hospitality Team for their generosity each 3rd Sunday of the month, offering goodies and refreshments to parishioners and visitors alike. The happy buzz of those who stay is a testament to its success. Plan to join in again, connecting with the community after Mass on January 19th!



**The Welcome Ministry** needs more volunteers for the 10.30am Sunday Mass.

Can you help us?

Duties are minimal and take very little time:

- Arrive 20 minutes before Mass.
- Set up Welcome Desk items.
- Set up 'My Little Church' area - activities provided
- Greet Parishioners (answer questions and give directions as needed).
- Put items away afterwards.



If you can help us, please speak to someone at the Welcome Desk on Sunday or email Mikayla at the front office who will put you in touch with the Welcome Ministry. Thank you!

### [New Parish Instagram!](#)

The Parish is just starting an Instagram account! Join us there for another way to keep up with what's happening at St. Joe's.

<https://www.instagram.com/st.josephs.parish/>

### [Update on Campaign to Improve the Church Sound System](#)

Recently, we turned to our Parish community with plans to upgrade the church's aging sound system in two phases: initial improvements are in progress and will be complete before Christmas and a second phase of upgrades in 2025.

**What does the work look like?** The two phases of work are the following:

- Phase 1 of the upgrade includes new wiring and re-angling some of the speakers.
- Phase 2 of the upgrade includes the purchase and programming of a new sound processor and amplifier. These elements of our sound system are over 30 years old and are at the end of their life.
  - We are also exploring the possibility of purchasing a set of assisted listening devices, to be available at the Welcome Desk for parishioners who may need them at Mass.



**The total estimated cost of these upgrades is \$17,000.** As this is a capital expense and not covered by regular income from Sunday collections, we created special offering envelopes labelled "Step Up — Sound System" which are available at the Welcome Desk or in each pew.

The special offering envelopes will be available throughout Advent and Christmas, and we will track our total progress each week in the Parish Bulletin (see the back page). To make an offering to this campaign electronically, please use Canada Helps and select "Building Campaign" from the drop-down menu:

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

Thank you for helping to make our liturgies more accessible to all!

**--Christopher Adam, Executive Director**

Starting the week of  
Christmas...

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JOE'S?



	Monday 23rd	Tuesday 24th
<b>Office Hours</b>	1-4:30pm	1-3pm
<b>This Week</b>	(no Christian meditation) - LEM 10-4 - Parish choir rehearsal 7pm	- Christmas Eve service with Children's Pageant, 5pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight service, 9pm

*You'll notice the calendar is quite small in this edition - there will be another Bulletin published before Christmas detailing everything between Christmas and New Year's.*

*The next regular bulletin will be published January 3, 2025. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! -Front Desk*

*Begun 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.*

Books about CHRISTMAS include – Lewis, S.M. Living in joyful hope: Advent & Christmas meditations (BX2170.A4L495 2005), Monasterio, E. God's nativity scene (PZ7.M613 2012) & Loder, T. Tracks in the snow: tales spun from the manger (PS3562.0296T7 1997).



## Our Financial Stewardship



December 14-15: \$6,060

Step Up - Sound System Campaign: \$3,145 of \$17,000  
(December 14-15 weekend sound system: \$1,175)

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

## Sound System Campaign Progress



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

Please contact the Front Desk or use the link below for arrangements.

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/mass-intentions>

Weekday Masses and their intentions will resume on Thursday, January 2, 2025.



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.

**Prayers for those who are ill:** Carol Giampaolo, Deanna Dunn, Ken Fox, & Agnes Laurin.

**Prayers for those who have died:** Julie McLaughlin & Tony Clarke.