



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT –
CHRISTMAS – HOLY FAMILY 2025
EPIPHANY 2026**



*“Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb...
Let us go to Bethlehem...they went with haste and found
Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.”*

Announced Mass intentions

Sat., Dec. 20 5:00PM Mass: +Kenneth Burgess
+Araceli Pepito

Sun., Dec. 21 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
8:00AM Mass: Intentions of Holy Cross
Parishioners
10:00AM Mass: +Meliane Rosemond
+Baltazar Almeida
Intentions of Hilda LaBrosse

Wed., Dec. 24 **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
Christmas Eve 4:00PM Mass: +Garry Brown
+William & +Mary-Ann Labadie
7:00PM Mass: Intentions of Holy Cross
Parishioners

Thur., Dec. 25 **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
Christmas Day 10:00AM Mass: Souls in Purgatory
+Vivian Braganza

Fri., Dec. 26 11:00AM **ADORATION until 12 noon**
12:15PM Mass: +Oswald & +Kay Muldoon
+Bernard & +Doris Muldoon

Sat., Dec. 27 5:00PM Mass: +Martha Thibault
+Solange Dumoulin

Sun., Dec. 28 **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
AND JOSEPH**
8:00AM Mass: Intentions of Holy Cross
Parishioners
10:00AM Mass: +Helga Wilson
+Saga Derar

Wed., Dec. 31 **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**
New Year’s Eve 5:00PM Mass: Intentions of Holy Cross
Parishioners

Thur., Jan. 01 **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**
New Year’s Day 10:00AM Mass: Souls in Purgatory

Fri., Jan. 02 11:00AM **ADORATION until 12 noon**
12:15PM Mass

Sat., Jan. 03 5:00PM Mass

Sun., Jan. 04 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
8:00AM Mass – Intentions of Holy Cross
Parishioners
10:00AM **FAMILY MASS**

Wed., Jan. 07 12:15PM Mass: Intentions of Mario and
Barbara Costanza

Thurs., Jan. 08 12:15PM Mass: +George Acres

Fri., Jan. 09 11:00AM **ADORATION until 11 am**
12:15PM Mass

Sat., Jan. 10 5:00PM Mass: +George Acres

Sun., Jan. 11 **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
8:00AM Mass: Intentions of Holy Cross
Parishioners
10:00AM Mass: +Braganza Family

Events Calendar ...

Sat., Dec. 20 9:00AM Choir Practice – Church
4:40PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Dec. 21 10:00AM Children’s Liturgy
12:00PM Choir Practice – Church

Sat., Dec. 27 4:40PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Dec. 28 10:00AM NO Children’s Liturgy
11:00AM Baptisms – Church

Sat., Jan. 03 4:40PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Jan. 04 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
10:00AM NO Children’s Liturgy

Wed., Jan. 07 1:00PM Faith Study – Rm. A
1:30PM Children’s Liturgy mtg – Library
6:30PM Choir Practice – Church
7:00PM K of C Executive meeting
7:00PM St. Vincent de Paul meeting

Sat., Jan. 10 4:40PM Rosary – Church

Sun., Jan. 11 10:00AM Children’s Liturgy

Words from the Pastor . . .



‘The grace of God has appeared’. His grace is the gift of unconditional love for all of us in the birth of the child of Bethlehem. May we embrace Jesus, the Word made flesh in the mystery of the Lord’s love as we journey together in faith and hope.

Merry Christmas and health and peace to all.
Msgr Joseph Muldoon and Staff

“The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwell in the land of gloom a light has shone.” Isaiah voices a message of hope and peace for us this night; our darkness and gloom will turn to light and joy. When hope is refreshed we can bear up under hard times – and more. It is hope that renews and energizes us to continue our efforts to bring about the peaceable kingdom Isaiah envisions. Write down the prophet’s vision and live by it, “For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames.” Can I name the gloom in my own life and then invite Christ, the newborn light, to enter? How can I be a light for those who “walk in darkness...and “dwell in the land of gloom?”

ST. TERESA OF KOLKATA: *"My prayer for you is that when Christ comes to you in Christmas, He may find in you a warm home, warm love like that of a heart full of love, like that of a simple shepherd who was the first one chosen to see Christ."*

WE WILL BEGIN to interview candidates for the position of Choir Director for the New Year.

CHOIRS: We encourage more men, women and youth to join the choirs on Saturday at 5 pm or Sunday at 10 am. Everyone is welcome. Please contact the Parish Office and leave your name and contact information.

The **CLOISTERED CARMELITE SISTERS** in Almonte have supplies of food and cleaning agents. Thanks for your generosity.

THANK YOU! A huge thank you to those who donated **TOILETRIES** throughout the month of December for St. Joe's Women's Centre and Shepherds of Good Hope. Your donations helped many in need.

NO SCENT IS GOOD SCENT! PLEASE refrain from using perfumers or other scents as it causes allergy reactions to some.



**2025 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
FROM ARCHBISHOP DAMPHOUSSE
ARCHDIOCESE OF OTTAWA-CORNWALL**

Dear brothers and sisters,

On this Christmas day, our eyes turn toward the manger, toward the Child who is so poor and yet so rich in love. By becoming small and vulnerable, Jesus teaches us to see differently those who live with fragility, need, or loneliness. He reminds us that the greatest treasure is often found where the world does not look.

The Child of Bethlehem shows us that true wealth is not found in what we possess, but in what we share. Every act of solidarity becomes a real way of welcoming Christ into our lives. In this way, Christmas is not only a feast to celebrate; it is a call to live charity in concrete ways.

In this season of joy, I invite you to take simple yet essential actions: visit someone who is alone, extend a helping hand to a family in need, or offer a bit of your time to those who lack it the most. These gestures, sometimes quiet and unnoticed, truly change the world—one heart at a time.

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who already give of themselves generously in service to others. Your commitment is a living witness to the Gospel. You are the face of God's goodness amid our people.

This Christmas, may our homes open wide, may our hearts grow larger, and may the light of charity illuminate our daily lives far beyond the holiday season.

I wish each of you a Christmas filled with peace, simplicity, and generosity.

✠Marcel Damphousse

Parish News and Community Life ...

BIRTHDAY CARDS FOR JESUS: Children are invited to make a birthday card for Jesus and bring it to Mass on Christmas Eve/Day. They will be invited to leave it in a basket near the nativity scene.

SACRAMENTS – IMPORTANT NOTICES TO PARENTS

FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION: Children who are already registered are invited to the **WELCOMING CEREMONY (Enrolment) on Sunday, January 18 at 10 am.** Please arrive **20 minutes before Mass begins** to sign-in your child's name at the entrance of the Church.

CONFIRMATION: PREPARATION SESSION #1 will be held on **Tuesday, January 20 at 6:30 pm (SHARP)** for those children who already registered for this Sacrament. Please arrive at 6 pm to sign-in your child as we will promptly start at 6:30 pm.

YOUR 2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available for pick up on the table at the back of the church. When you begin using your **Initial 2026 Offertory Envelopes**, please put your name and address and phone number on the back of the envelope to help us keep information up to date for tax receipts. **Thank you for your generosity throughout 2025.**

Social Justice...

THANK YOU from Nina Chung of Elimu. Over \$1,200 was raised through Holy Cross towards their target of \$12,000 for December. Another \$7,000 was raised from other sources. You can still make your contribution at www.Elimu.ca or by cheque made out to Elimu and mailed to P.O. Box 38144, Ottawa, ON K2C 3Y7. All donations are tax receipted.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS: There will be **NO COLLECTION OF DONATIONS** until the weekend of January 03/04 before all Sunday Masses. Many thanks and blessings to you for your support of these vital services during 2025. The food banks wish you the very best in this Christmas season!

WEEKDAY MASSES will be celebrated on **Friday, December 26 and Friday, January 02.** They will begin with **Adoration at 11 am** followed by **Holy Mass at 12:15 pm.**

OUR CHRISTMAS BULLETIN will cover a two-week period. **Our regular weekly bulletin will resume on January 11.** Deadline for submissions is on Tuesday, January 06 by 12 noon.

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S OFFICE HOURS: The office will be closed between Christmas and New Years and will **reopen on Monday, January 05.**

Food For Thought †

"Let this Christmas be for us a turning point... Let us become small enough to kneel at the crib and big enough just to reach the level of the Baby's eyes. Let us look into them—and catch sight of Love Incarnate! Then we shall be made whole again, and our hunger will be filled." (Moments of Grace from the writings of Catherine Doherty)

Unto us a Child is born

