



December 19, 2021 —  
Fourth Sunday of Advent



**Pastor:**

Rev. Alex Saurianthadathil

**Administrative Assistant:**

Richard Liskauskas

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday 10:00 a.m. to  
Noon;

12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.;  
Friday 10:00 a.m. to Noon

PARISH OF  
**ST. JEROME**

Roman Catholic Church

26 Carmel Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 3N9  
Phone: 705-949-1072 | Email: [stjerome@diocesessm.org](mailto:stjerome@diocesessm.org)



**Sunday Mass Schedule**

Saturday: : 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: : 9:00 a.m.  
: 11:00 a.m.

**Weekday Mass Schedule**

Wednesday : 9:15 a.m.  
Thursday : 9:15 a.m.  
Friday : 9:15 a.m.

Weekday Mass at St. Gerard Majella, 211 Pentagon Blvd.

**Monday: 9:15 a.m. , Tuesday: 9:15 a.m.**

**Parish Covenant & Mission**

**Covenant:** As a hope-filled, Christ-centered people, the community of St. Jerome Parish will strive to make Christ visible as we reach out to love, serve and support all God's people.

**Mission:** In love and service St. Jerome Parish will seek to meet its covenant commitment through life giving liturgy, religious education, outreach and community building.



## Can you make a gift to your spiritual home?

We thank you all for your continued cooperation, understanding and financial support to our parish during these difficult times. Your love for the parish is greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, our heating system in the church has failed. We are in need of a new heating system. We cannot do it without your help.

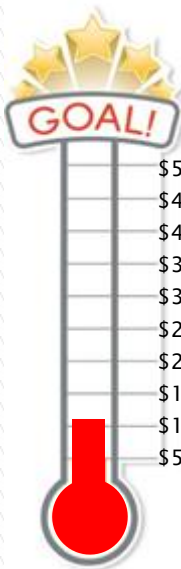
The new heating system will cost approximately \$45000 – \$50000. Would you be able to make a gift to your spiritual home?

Please make cheques payable to St. Jerome Church; include on envelope and cheque: "Furnace Fund".

We are aware of the current financial crisis that is upon you. So, if any gifting is imposing a level of hardship of any kind whatsoever, please do not donate.

*Thank you for your  
generosity!*

### Furnace Fund To-date



## Mass Intentions

### Dec 20 to Dec 26, 2021

† denotes a Mass for a deceased person

♥ denotes a Mass for a living person

#### Wednesday, Dec 22, 9:15 a.m. in Church:

† **Nicholas Jouannet** by Irma Giovannatti-Bré

#### Thursday, Dec 23, 9:15 a.m. in Church:

† **Rebecca Weingartner Wilson**  
by Kim, Scott, Kaitlin, Darren & Carson

#### Friday, Dec 24, 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve in Church:

† **Umberto & Ines Tonello** by the Family

† **Anthony & Josephine Paolucci**  
by Frank, Diane & Family

† **Mary Gualazzi**  
by husband Arthur & Gualazzi Family

#### Friday, Dec 24, 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve in Church:

† **Victor Mizzi** by Linda Mizzi

#### Saturday, Dec 25, 10:00 a.m. Christmas in Church:

† **Souls in Purgatory** by Irma Giovannatti-Bré

† **Barbara & Frank Nichols** by Cathy Nichols

♥ **Intentions of Mike and Linda Sheehan**  
by Linda Mizzi

#### Sunday, Dec 26, 10:00 a.m. in Church:

† **Marty Dumanski** by Linda Mizzi

† **John Majic** by wife Vivian & Family

† **Deceased members of Jim Pighin Family**  
by Ernesta & Jim Pighin

## Sunday Collection: December 12th, 2021

Sunday donations	\$3448.85
Building Fund	\$412.50
On-line giving	\$340.00
Other	\$302.50
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$4503.85</b>
<b>Furnace fund to-date</b>	<b>\$10115.00</b>



Shalom Place will be providing the opportunity for those praying with the "[Journey with St. Joseph](#)" meditations to come together once a week to share their reflections. An open [Zoom link](#) is on our website for anyone who wishes to participate in one or more of these sessions. During the sessions, we will reflect and share on that day's meditation, but you are welcome to share on any other meditation from the week. There is no need to register for these sessions, though it is **strongly recommended** that you **sign up** for the daily meditations [here](#).

**Wednesdays: December 1, 8, 15, 22.**  
**7:00 PM (Eastern Time)**

Each session will be no more than one hour.

**Facilitator: Burnie Thorp**

*\* Clicking the underlined words above will bring you to the websites needed.*

Your **free will offering** helps us continue the ministry of Shalom Place!

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Christmas 2021 & New Year 2022 Mass schedule

Day	Date	Mass	Time
Fri	Dec 24	<b>Christmas: The Nativity of the Lord</b> Evening Mass Evening Mass <b>Special Mass for International Students in Malayalam language</b>	4:00 pm 8:00 pm 11:30 pm
Sat	Dec 25	<b>Christmas Day: The Nativity of the Lord</b>	10:00 am
Sun	Dec 26	<b>Sunday Mass: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b>	10:00 am
Mon – Thurs Dec 27 –Dec 30 No Scheduled Liturgies			
Fri	Dec 31	<b>New Year's Eve: Mary Mother of God</b>	4:00 pm
Sat	Jan 1, 2022	<b>Sunday Mass: Epiphany of the Lord</b>	4:00 pm
Sun	Jan 2, 2022	<b>Sunday Mass: Epiphany of the Lord</b>	10:00 am

## HELP NEEDED

The decorating Committee needs help to decorate the church for Christmas. We need people to iron, hang drapery, decorate the tree, place flowers, general decorating.

We hope that you will consider helping out. We need some younger men and women to help out as there is some climbing on ladders.

We will decorate **TUESDAY DECEMBER 21 FROM 1:30 TO 4:00 P.M.**



A HUGE thank you to all who contributed to the Giving Tree. Every organization was very grateful and humbled by your generosity. Your kindness will ensure many families will enjoy the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you so much!





**Synod 2021-2023:** Pope Francis is inviting the universal Church to participate in this important Church event. In our diocese, we will mark the opening of the Synod on the third Sunday of Advent. In January 2022, you will be invited to participate during the consultation phase, by sharing your ideas about the Church. Let us pray for the success of the Synod and may we welcome the Holy Spirit to guide us on this synodal journey together.

## Prayer for the Synod

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.  
With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.  
We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the  
wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to  
eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth  
and what is right.  
All this we ask of You,  
who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the  
Son, forever and ever. Amen.*



## Baptisms

Please register your child online on our website at [www.stjeromeparishssm.com](http://www.stjeromeparishssm.com) under the sacrament tab and baptism. Baptisms are being performed individually and not during the regular weekend masses. If you have any questions, please email us at [stjerome@diocesessm.org](mailto:stjerome@diocesessm.org).

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation

Are you still thinking of registering your grade 2 or 3 child for the on-line First Reconciliation preparation course? Registrations are still being accepted. For more information, please call the office (705) 949-1072 as soon as possible.



Donation  
Envelopes for  
2022 are  
prepared.

The Knights of Columbus have graciously agreed to deliver them to your homes before the end of this year. Donations intended for 2021 tax year must be in the office before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Kindly use the mail slot in the Office door.



*Thank you!*

Thank you for the wonderful, successful response in our need for leftover-unused Christmas cards. St. Jerome parishioners are amazing in their continual CWL support in every way. All cards will be gratefully accepted until the end of the year. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed holiday season.

We offer our condolences and prayers to the families of those who have died recently, especially Carla Maria Stephens. May their souls, and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.



The parish office will be closed beginning Thursday December 23 through to January 4



## Change of Mass Times

Due to the rising number of COVID cases, we will only have two weekend Masses: Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for the months of January, February and March.

We will revisit our local and provincial situation in early March with the goal of returning to 3 Masses on weekends in the Spring.

Thank you for your unending support, understanding and cooperation during these difficult times.



## Family and Life

### **Celebrating the *Amoris Laetitia* Family Year**

#### **PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY**

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

The Holy Prayer excerpted from Amoris Laetitia © Libreria Editrice Vaticana.



## Are We There Yet?

**I**t's not only children who are impatient with the lo-o-o-o-ng ride that takes them to a party or an amusement park. Adults can hardly contain themselves as they await the announcement of a winner, the return of an absent loved one, or the birth of a baby. This is the kind of excitement found in today's readings. Micah describes the long-awaited leader promised by God. He will be even more than the people could have imaged: firm, strong, and dependable. They must have asked, "When is he coming?"

By the time the Gospel was written, Jesus' followers knew a lot about him, so they were able to embellish stories a bit, the way we often do to emphasize the greatness of someone. They believed he was so extraordinary that his greatness was recognized even before he was born. His pregnant mother was told, "Blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Luke 1:42). She must have been frequently asked, "When are you due? When is he coming?"

The reading from Hebrews does not provide specific details of Jesus' coming. Rather, it tells us why he came: "I come to do your will, O God" (10:7). That is what the people of Micah's era were really longing for—not simply a leader, but one who did God's will and who would lead them to do it too. We're now on the threshold of the fulfillment of that promise. Are you excited? Are we there yet?

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *For which of God's promises are you excited?*
- ✦ *Open your mind and heart to our firm, strong, and dependable leader.*

*But you, Bethlehem-Ephrathah  
least among the clans of Judah,  
From you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel.*

MICAH 5:1





# Dear Padre,

**I just learned there are two versions of the Christmas story in the Bible. How can that be? What's the difference?**

**O**ne Christmas story is in Matthew, and the other is in Luke. They differ on some details—but at their hearts, the teaching is the same. In both, Mary is a virgin betrothed to Joseph but not yet living with him, and Jesus is conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit. Both also have Jesus born in Bethlehem.

In Matthew, the angel announces Jesus' birth to Joseph; in Luke, Mary receives the announcement. Jesus is named by Joseph in Matthew and by Mary in Luke.

The biggest difference involves the Christmas visitors. Matthew's Magi were educated Gentiles from a pagan country.

They worshiped Jesus and brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, showing us at the start of the Gospel that Jesus is King, Priest, and Savior. Luke is always partial to the poor, so he has shepherds rather than Magi witness to Christ.

The Christmas stories are different because the authors and their audiences were different. But there's no need to get lost in the details. Read both accounts and allow God's grace to deepen your faith.

*Fr. John Murray, CSSR / [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)*

**Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE / BOB ROLLER



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*[Jesus] did not wait until we were good before he loved us, but gave himself freely to us. May we not wait for our neighbors to be good before we do good to them, for the Church to be perfect before we love her, for others to respect us before we serve them.*

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS, DECEMBER 24, 2019

## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 20  
Advent Weekday  
Is 7:10–14  
Lk 1:26–38

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 21  
Advent Weekday  
Sg 2:8–14 or  
Zep 3:14–18a  
Lk 1:39–45

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 22  
Advent Weekday  
1 Sm 1:24–28  
Lk 1:46–56

### Thursday

DECEMBER 23  
Advent Weekday  
Mal 3:1–4, 23–24  
Lk 1:57–66

### Friday

DECEMBER 24  
Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1–5,  
8b–12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67–79

### Saturday

DECEMBER 25  
Nativity of the Lord  
(Christmas)  
Is 52:7–10  
Heb 1:1–6  
Jn 1:1–18 or  
1:1–5, 9–14

### Sunday

DECEMBER 26  
Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary, and Joseph  
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 or  
1 Sm 1:20–22, 24–28  
Col 3:12–21 or 3:12–17  
or 1 Jn 3:1–2, 21–24  
Lk 2:41–52

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## HOW TO REGISTER FOR FORMED AS A NEW PARISHIONER

•Go to FORMED.ORG, Click 'SIGN UP', Select "Sign up as a parishioner", Type in '**St. Gerard & St. Jerome Parishes**' by name, (NB: "211 Pentagon Blvd. Sault Ste. Marie ON" will appear next to the names) Type In your name & email address, Click 'SIGN UP'

## HOW TO SIGN IN IF ALREADY REGISTERED WITH OUR PARISHES

•Go to FORMED.ORG, Click 'SIGN IN' (Top Right of Page), Enter Your email address & click 'Next', Check Your email Address, Click 'Sign In' and 'Start Watching'

Please send an email to;

[stjerome@diocesessm.org](mailto:stjerome@diocesessm.org) so we can have your email address on our parish register. If you would like to receive the bulletin weekly through email and have not yet signed up, please email the office.

## ST. JEROME'S CHURCH PROTOCOLS

The church will be open 30 minutes before the scheduled Mass is set to begin. The **south entrance (Carmel Road entrance) will remain closed**. People are asked to line up and **enter the church through the north entrance**.

Attendance is **first come first serve** with **100 people** being the **maximum** number who can attend. Parishioners must **sanitize their hands** at one of the sanitizing stations. All **people must wear a mask** in order to enter the church.

Parishioners attending Mass will be asked to give their **contact information (name and telephone number)** to a volunteer in the north foyer of the church. Please **observe social distancing** maintaining a physical distance of **2 metres or 6 feet**.