

Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023



EMBRACING
the KINGDOM of GOD

Bulletin

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Christmas Schedule - Feast Day Masses

Sunday, Dec 24: 4:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
9:00 pm
12:00 am (midnight)

Monday, Dec 25: 10:00 am

•We are not giving out tickets for Masses

•Overflow from the church will be seated in Tranquille Hall where the Mass will be live-streamed to the screen.

•The 4:00 & 6:30 pm Masses are more suited for young children.

It is likely that the 4:00 & 6:30 pm Masses will be attended by more people, so you may want to plan to attend one of the other Christmas Masses.

Mary, Mother of God, Eve Mass (New Year's Eve)

Sunday, December 31, 7:00 pm

Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)

Monday, January 1, 10:00 am

New Year's Day is a Holy Day of obligation in Canada. Start your New Year in our spiritual home!

Parish Office Closed: Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26 and Monday, January 1.

Christmas season weekday Masses

Saturday, December 23 9:00 am

Tuesday, Dec. 26 - Saturday, Dec. 30, 9:00 am

Our regular weekday Mass schedule will resume on Tuesday, January 2.

Celebrate the New Year with Archbishop Pettipas!

Archbishop's Levee: January 1st. Join us at 10:00 am in the church as the Archbishop celebrates the Mass of Mary, Mother of God. Afterwards, everyone is invited for cake and refreshments at the Archdiocese Office, 10301 102 St, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm as we look ahead to 2024.

Dates To Remember

December 16 - January 6

Sat. 16: 9:45 - 4:10 pm, Christmas Choir Practices, church

2 pm, Las Posadas (The Inn), Tranquille Hall

5:30 pm, Youth choir pizza & practice, parish office

8 - 11 pm, Youth Christmas Party, St JP11 Room

Sun. 17: after 9 & 11 am Masses, K of C Breakfast, Tranquille Hall

Thurs 21: 10 - 11:30 am, Mom's Group

Fri. 22: 4 - 5:30 pm, Children's Christmas Choir practice, Church

Sat. 23: 10 am - 1 pm, Christmas Decorating, church

10 - 11:45 am, Children's Christmas Choir practice, church

Jan. 5: 7 - 8:30 pm, EDGE. St. JP11 Room

Jan. 6: 5:30 pm, Youth choir, pizza & practice, parish office

8 pm, High School Youth, St JP11 Room

Christmas decorating for the church, Saturday, December 23, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Fluff a Christmas tree, string lights, hang banners, etc. Lots of help needed. Please join in preparing our church for the season of Christmas.

Parish Finances

Joanne Chiasson Ext. 227 sjc-finance@gpcsd.ca

Donations to be included on your 2023 income tax must be received at the parish office before December 29. Donations made after December 29 must be via cheque, dated for December 31, 2023, and received at the office by January 5, 2024.

For donation options see our website or call the parish office.



Sacraments

Beatriz ext 228 sjc-sacrament@gpcsd.ca

This weekend, through the waters of Baptism we welcome Theo Yamat & Ian Rossignol to our faith family. We pray their journey with our Lord is filled with great joy!

Parents are required to complete a Baptism course for each of their children. For information check saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/ or call Beatriz at the parish office, ext. 228.

Family & Children Ministry

Kristen ext 229 sjc-family@gpcsd.ca

Be Part of Our Christmas Spirit!

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Children's Choir Child singers welcome! (ages 4 - 7 and 8 & older)

Email musicstjosephgp@gmail.com

Children's procession at the 4 & 6:30 pm Masses:

If your child wants to carry a candle (electric!) to the altar contact Kristen.

Spread Christmas cheer to our children after Masses.

Help make &/or hand out treats. Contact Kristen.

Mom's Group Thursdays, 10 - 12 noon. Children welcome. Come as you are for faith, fun and fellowship. Next gathering: December 21, St JPll Room



Grade 3 - 6 youth group
2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 - 8:30 pm
Volunteers needed. Have a blessed Christmas! See you in 2024.

Children's Bookshelf Ministry: Help keep books tidy and in good repair. Time commitment: 5-10 minutes before or after your favorite mass.

Strong furniture movers needed after 11 am Mass

Help the Liturgy of the Word with Children team put away tables and chairs after Mass.

Time commitment: 5-10 minutes.

Do you have a sacred love for supporting children and families with special needs? We need help at our children's programs. Let's talk! Call or see Kristen

Youth Ministry

April ext 232 stjoesyouthgp@gmail.com

Youth Christmas Party (Gr. 7 - 12) Saturday, Dec 16, following 7 pm Mass until 11 pm, St JPll Room
Bring a snack to share.



Gr. 7 - 12: 1st & 3rd Saturday
Pizza: 5:30 pm. Practice: 6 pm.
Next gatherings: December 16 & January 6



Gr. 9 - 12: 1st & 3rd Saturday
8 - 10 pm in St JPll Room
Next gathering: December 16 & January 6



(Gr. 7 - 9) Saturday, December 16. Join us for pizza at 5:30 pm, sing with us in the choir at 7 pm Mass and stay for the Christmas Party.

Next gathering: January 5, 7 - 8:30 pm, St JPll Room

Programs at St. Joseph HS

Music & Muffins: Tuesdays at Focus in the chapel
Encounter (faith leadership): Tuesday at Lunch in room 141

Programs at St. JPll HS

Music & Muffins: Thursdays at Focus in the chapel



Thursdays at lunch: (formerly known as Encounter) focuses on social justice and building awareness within the school and community.

Save your Bottles for our Youth Groups: Drop them at any Bottle Depot with this information on them: St. Joseph Youth Group #1479-2351. Your donations and assistance are greatly appreciated!

Young Adults



Merry Christmas! Check out our new page on the parish website with information and events.

Adult Formation



FORMED - O Holy Night, the King is Born: What Christmas is About - Brother Francis Celebrate the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation of the birth of God's Son! Witness the moving submission of Mary, Joseph and others as they make way for our Savior.

Sign up for FORMED on our website: saintjoseph.ca

Communion Ministry to the Hospital and Homebound: We are forming a team of people to take Communion to people who are sick in the hospital and another team for people in their homes who cannot make it to Mass. If God is calling you to this ministry, please call the parish office.

Mass Intentions

December 18 - January 6

✠ -Mass for someone deceased
 SH - Mass at a Senior's Home
 Mon. 18, 12:15 pm: ✠ Dylan Tremblay
 Tues. 19, 7 pm: ✠ Lukas Heiken
 Wed. 20, 12:15 pm: ✠ Charles Desjarlais & Family
 7 pm: ✠ Maria Bernadette & Tony Hernandes
 Thurs. 21, 12:15 pm: ✠ Frank Vanden Dungen
 Fri. 22, 12:15 pm: ✠ RJ Saptel & Aloysius Saptel
 Sat. 23, 9 am: ✠ Karen Victor
 Tues. 26, 9 am: Johanna Gnass
 Wed. 27, 9 am: ✠ Hank Scheunhage
 Thurs. 28, 9 am: ✠ Judith Radke
 Fri. 29, 9 am: Pat & Bert Hunt
 Sat. 30, 9 am: Kathy Reid
 Tues. 2, 7 pm: Al Luck
 Wed. 3, 12:15 pm: ✠ Betty Lou Lynch Noonan
 7 pm: Cook & Goulet Families
 Thurs. 4: ✠ Bernadette Richie
 Fri. 5, 10:30 am (SH): ✠ Denise Hrushka
 12:15 pm: ✠ Linda Cowell
 Sat. 6, 9 am: Thanksgiving

General Information

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick, especially

Elizabeth Katchie	Koffi Kouadid
Judy Riddle	Roland Maillet
John Zintel	Wilfred Wanihadie
Eileen Walker, mother of Kevin Walker	
Scarlette Piper, granddaughter of Nicole Lafleur	
Kevin Moeller, grandson of Ellen Gerck	
Reena Siemensma, sister of Ivan Romkes	

The deceased, especially

Millie Wrzosek
Tadeusz Wiszowaty, father of Jerzy Wiszowaty

Christmas Choir rehearsals

Email musicstjosephgp@gmail.com for information.

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass: children aged 4 - 8 sing 2 pre-mass songs. Youth aged 8 and older sing during Christmas Mass. The first practice is in the Grouard Room. Practices are

	Age 4 - 7	Age 8+
Dec. 16	2:45 - 3 pm	3:10 - 4:10 pm
Dec. 22	4 - 4:15 pm	4:20 - 5:30 pm
Dec. 23	10 - 10:20 am	10:30 - 11:45 pm

Other Christmas Mass Choir practices:

Saturday, December 16, in church
 6:30 pm Choir (Adult/Young Adult/Youth): 1 - 2:25 pm
 9:00 pm Choir: 9:45 - 11:15 am
 Midnight Choir: 11:25 am - 12:50 pm
 Christmas Day (10 am) Choir: 2:40 - 4:10 pm



Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Sunday, December 17, following the 9 & 11 am Masses in Tranquille Hall. Gluten free available.

Ladies' Bible Study, Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11 am, St. JPII Room. Next gathering, January 10.

Quilting Bee-Levers will resume in the new year. All are welcome. No sewing skills required. If you are interested in joining contact the office for formation.

St. Joseph CWL Student Funding for Christian-based volunteer work. For information contact Lorraine, marting6@telus.net. *Deadline: January 15.*

Gift Shop Volunteers needed after all weekend Masses. If you are interested in helping, contact Theresa, threejtr@telusplanet.net

2024 Donation envelopes will be available in the Grouard Room the weekend of Jan. 6/7, or stop by the office during office hours. Also available: Automatic Withdrawal forms for Sunday & special collections.

18 Wheels of Christmas 2023 Food Drive

Saturday, Dec 16. & Sunday, Dec. 17, 10 am - 6 pm Superstore parking lot. Help fill the 53' trailer to donate to local community Food Banks. Accepting nonperishable food items, baby food/formula, diapers and new toys for boys & girls of all ages.

Church Fully Alive: "What return can I make to the Lord?" With rising costs in insurance, utilities and all other areas of life, parishes in our archdiocese are in need of more support than ever. Watch the video from the Archdiocese with important messages from the Archbishop and parishioners from across the archdiocese addressing the financial health of our church communities: archgm.ca/churchfullyalive

Warm Winter Woolies Collection - Sundays during Advent. Help to make winter a little more bearable for those who have less. Warm winter wear is sorely needed in our community, especially during extreme cold. Donations of new socks, mitts, gloves, toques & scarves are welcome. A collection bin will be in the entrance to the church.

Sunday Readings

Third Sunday of Advent Bringing Joy Through Justice

Isaiah 61: 1 - 2a, 10 - 11. The mission to the afflicted
1 Thess. 5:16 - 24. Christian conduct; blessing
John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28. John as witness to the light

Key Passage: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation. *Isaiah 61:10*

Question: What work of justice could you do this week to bring someone joy?

Reprinted with permission from *Heritage of Faith*, by Jo McClure Rotunno. Copyright ©2004; all rights reserved. Published by Twenty-Third Publications, New London, CT 06355.

Annual **LIVESTREAMED** Archbishop's Dinner

Friday, Jan. 26. Special guests, a delicious meal, on-line auction and much more. If you, your group, or business are interested in donating items for the auction, e-mail comdirector.agm@outlook.com or contact the parish office. Stay tuned for details.

Frequently Asked Questions

Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30 am - noon, 1 - 5 pm

Regular Mass Schedule (September - June)

See front page of the bulletin for Christmas Season Mass times

Monday, Wednesday & Friday	12:15 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday	7:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am

Senior's Lodge Masses at 10:30 am:

1st Tuesday - The Gardens
1st Friday - Heritage Lodge
2nd Friday - Wild Rose Manor
3rd Friday - Pioneer Lodge

Sunday Masses

Saturday evening	7:00 pm
Sunday morning	9:00 & 11:00 am

Confessions: Saturday evenings, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, or by appointment (call the parish office)

Devotions to our Mother of Perpetual Help at Wednesday Masses.

Baptism for Infants & Young Children:

saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/ or contact Beatriz at the Parish Office (even prior to the birth of your child) about Baptism Preparation for parents.

Marriage: Couples wishing to be married in a Catholic Church must begin preparation *at least 8 months* prior to their wedding date.

Call Darlene, ext. 224, or email sjc-marriage@gpcsd.ca

Interested in joining the church or completing sacraments? Contact ext. 224, or email

sjc-ocia@gpcsd.ca

Religious Gift Shop/Library: Open after weekend Masses

Prayer Chain Requests: Confidentiality assured. stjosephprayers@gmail.com, or call the parish office.

Parish Pastoral Council: st.joes.ppc@gmail.com