

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

During the Advent Season you are invited to spend time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Lady Chapel. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for a time of continuous Adoration following Mass on Monday mornings, and conclude with Benediction at noon on Fridays. Please sign up for a time of Adoration each week, or just stop by any time and spend some time with the Lord.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be celebrated:

Tuesday Evenings of December	6:00 - 6:45pm
Saturday Afternoons of December	4:00 - 4:45pm
Saturday, December 1	8:00 - 9:00am
Saturday, December 15	8:00am - 10:00am
	3:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday, December 22	8:00am - 10:00am
	3:00pm - 5:00pm

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office Will Be Closed from 4:30pm on Friday, December 21 until 8:30am on Thursday, December 27, and again from 12:00noon on Monday, December 31 until 8:30am on Tuesday, January 2 to enable our parish staff to spend time with their families over the Christmas holidays.

“GOD BLESS US EVERYONE”



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2018 AT ST. ANN'S

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Advent is a joyful season of longing and expectation. The word "Advent" means "coming", or "to come before". During these weeks of Advent we prepare to celebrate the great event of our redemption, the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Mary. What a wonderful opportunity we have to wait in joyful hope with Mary as our model and our companion on this journey of faith. During Advent let us remember in a special way that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

I invite you to take part in some of the events happening in our parish this Advent season. We will honour the Lord's coming with time before the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers drawn from the Liturgy of the Hours, with reflection upon the Word of God, and with opportunities for charitable giving. To find some peace in the midst of the bustle of this season you may like to stop in and spend a few quiet moments with our Lord in preparation for Christmas.

Please take advantage of the extra times for confession, and make sure to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent. Any of these events or practices can help us to "Keep Christ in Christmas".

May God Bless You and Your Families
During The Advent and Christmas Seasons,

Fr. Ian, Fr. Joseph, and the Parish Team

Lauds and Mass on Saturdays

During the Season of Advent, and the Octave of Christmas, there will be Mass celebrated at 9:00am on Saturday mornings. Lauds (Morning Prayer) from the Divine Office will be prayed in the Church at 8:40am on the Saturdays of Advent.

Advent Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 2 at 7:00pm

The weeks before Christmas are usually a hurried time of shopping, preparations, and card writing. For Christians, however, these weeks should be marked by prayerful preparation for the Feast of Christmas. Plan to attend our annual *Advent Service of Lessons and Carols*, as a way to begin this season in prayer and recollection. This service will be a reflection on the Season of Advent through Scripture, song, and Christian fellowship. We are pleased to welcome the clergy and faithful of St. John's Anglican Church, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and Ancaster Village Church for this service. Seasonal refreshments will be served after the service. Please come and bring a friend!

Visio Divina with the St. John's Bible

Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00pm

Draw nearer to the Lord during the Advent season by spending an evening with the Word of God. "Visio Divine" (Holy Seeing) is a way of praying with Scripture that invites us to reflect upon the spoken and written Word, and upon the beauty of the illuminations in the St. John's Bible, the first hand written and illuminated Bible since the reformation. We will reflect upon the Nativity Narrative as we prepare for the great Feast of Christmas. Seasonal refreshments will be included, and there is no charge. To register please call David at the parish Office.

Christmas Week Schedule

Christmas Eve **Monday, December 24**
There will be no morning Mass on December 24
Mass with Children's Pageant 5:00pm (*Pageant at 4:45*)
Vigil Mass of Christmas 7:00pm
Midnight Mass of Christmas (*Incense*) 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day **Tuesday, December 25**
Christmas Mass at Dawn 9:00am
Mass During the Day 11:00am

The Octave of Christmas
December 26 *The Feast of St. Stephen* 9:00am
December 27 *The Feast of St. John the Divine* 9:00am
December 28 *The Feast of the Holy Innocents* 9:00am
December 29 *The Feast of St. Thomas Becket* 9:00am

Feast of the Holy Family **Sunday, December 30**
Saturday Evening Mass (*Dec. 29*) Confessions at 4:00pm
Mass at 5:00pm
Sunday Masses (*Dec. 30*) 9:00am & 11:00am

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God **January 1, 2019**
Monday, December 31 5:00pm
Tuesday, January 1 9:00am & 11:00am

*The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is a Holy Day of Obligation
Please note that there will be no morning Mass on Monday, Dec. 31*