

Pastoral Staff:  
Fr. John N. Burchat, *Pastor*  
Deacon Michael Doherty  
Anda Sprudz  
Mr. Michael Coyne (*seminarian*)

Rectory & Office:  
613-623-2282  
*Admin. Assistant:* Cheryl Sparling  
*Custodian:* Rob Hicke

Office Hours:  
Tues., Wed. & Thurs.  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
*Closed Mondays & Fridays*

## St. John Chrysostom Parish (*est. 1867*)

295 Albert St., Arnprior, ON K7S 2M7

*Home of the Arnprior & District Food Bank 613-668-4462*

www.saintjohnchrysostom.org

www.pembrokedioocese.com

# o Second Sunday of Advent B

*December 10, 2017*

This Sunday's Scripture: The first reading from the prophet Isaiah, which is echoed in the words of John the Baptist in today's Gospel, a voice cries out: "*Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low.*" Advent is a great time for us to clear the ground, to make level the path, so as to facilitate what God, with all his heart, wants to do. From the beginning God has desired to renew the whole of creation because in all things there is no barrier to Love, for God is Love.

Christmas Flower Envelopes: For the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones can be made with the Christmas Flower envelopes now provided at the entrance of the church. The Masses of Christmas will be offered for your intentions.

Advent Confessions: on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. during a Holy Hour with Visiting Priests-Confessors. Whether you go to confession frequently, or haven't been for a long time, please take advantage of this graced moment to receive God's mercy as we prepare for Christmas.

New Ministry Schedules: For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Commentators /Readers and the Weekday Mass schedule, they are ready for pick-up in the Sacristy. Offertory ministers, Greeter/Usher and Money Counters may pick theirs up at the entrance of the church.



## The Pastor's Notes

\* In our prayers: for parishioners who are sick; and those who have died, especially: *Richard Aubin; Jane Carroll*, cousin of Mitzy Bertrand and Bryan Carroll; *Rita Bielawski*, sister-in-law of Laura Egan; *Tom Murphy; Claire Amirault*; and *Dorothy Farrell*, mother of Karen Smith.

- for the 13 infants who were recently welcomed into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism: *Paisley Hannah Stack, Tavon Shokraie Sardari, Tyson Lloyd Hohan Sardari, Eliza Mary Claire Herrick, Olivia Hazel Hisko, Olive Beatrice Schruder, Peyton Malaya Normand, Isla Rose Nicholson, Nate Allan McCaffrey, Aubrey Elizabeth Waring, Norah Alice Boisvert, Alethea Grace Dennison*; and for their parents: that they may respond fully to the promise they made to God and the Church to raise their child in the practice of the Catholic faith, accepting the responsibility of being the first teachers of their children in the ways of Christian faith.

\* I would like to thank those who provided billets and hospitality for The National Evangelization Team this past week. Thank you also to the Catholic Women's League members who coordinated the snacks and lunches, and the Knights of Columbus who covered the NET team stipend. We continue to pray that the experience of these days may spiritually enrich the lives of our young people.

\* Do you want help in keeping a spiritual focus during the season of Advent in preparation for Christmas? Remember that we have Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Mass on Wednesday evenings! What a perfect opportunity for the grace to be ready for the arrival of the Lord.

\* Sunday Missals for personal use and Sunday preparation – containing the Scripture readings for each Sunday and the Order of Mass – are available for purchase on the trolley at the entrance of the church and for a cost of \$5.00. An envelope for payment has been inserted into each missal and can be returned by way of the collection. Readers/Commentators may pick up their free copy in the sacristy. *Please do not remove the missals in our pews which are designated for the hearing impaired.*

\* So that you can plan ahead, here are our Christmas Mass Times this year:

Sunday, December 24th at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 25th at 10:00 a.m.

\* Please pick up your new box of 2018 Offertory Envelopes at the church entrance which are displayed in alphabetical order.

- Please verify your mailing address and note any changes before the tax receipts are mailed.

- Please note that your envelope number will have changed and will probably change from year to year in order to facilitate a simpler process for issuing them.

-*If you are a member of the CWL or wish to join, there is an envelope in January that you can use for your dues and then place in the collection basket at Mass on any Sunday. Dues are \$20.00.*

## Second Week of Advent

*December 11 - 15*

- Monday**      11:00 a.m. *Funeral Mass* +Joan Schultz
- Wednesday**    *6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*  
*7:00 p.m. Confessions*  
 7:30 p.m. St. Lucy, virgin, martyr  
 +Deceased members of the McCue Families *by Their Families*
- Thursday**      St. John of the Cross, priest, doctor  
 8:00 a.m.    +Kathy Wagner *by Father John Burchat*  
 (Villa) 11:00 a.m. +Frances Pecoskie *by Jackie & Ed Schroeder*
- Friday**          8:30 a.m.    +Ed Cinkant *by Kristie Stewart*  
 +Tom Murphy *by Bonnie Russell*

## b Third Sunday of Advent B

*Gaudete Sunday*

December 17

- Saturday**      *4:00 p.m. Confessions*  
 (vigil) 4:30 p.m. +Patrick Kavanagh *by Clare Kavanagh*  
 +Dan Herrick *by Mary Herrick*
- Sunday**          *9:00 a.m. Confessions*  
 9:30 a.m. Intentions of the People (*Missa pro populo*)

### Liturgical Appointments

Next Sunday	4:30 P.M.	9:30 A.M.
Commentator	Debbie Valin	Bill Ingram
Reader	Anne Cruickshank	Arlene Holmes
Eucharistic Ministers	Wayne Pickering, Clare Kavanagh	Helen McGregor, Nancy Black
Greeter/Ushers	Linda Chandler, Henry Egan Darryl & Giralne Lacroix	Gilles & Therese Rieux, Jackie Crout, Kristie Stewart
Servers	Please always check in 15 minutes before Mass begins. Everyone is expected to be on the sanctuary.	
Offertory		The Freeman Family
Hospitality: Second Sunday when scheduled:		Children's Liturgy: Roxanne Barr

## Meetings and Gatherings This Week

- Monday**          *Al-Anon Meeting (613-860-3431) - 7:30 p.m.* in church meeting room #1  
*Christian Meditation - 2:00 p.m.* in meeting room #2
- Wednesday**    *Christmas Eve Choir Practice - 1:00 p.m.* in the choir room  
*L'Arche - 4:00 p.m.* in the chapel  
*A.A. Meeting - 8:00 p.m.* in church choir room
- Saturday**        *A.A. Meeting - 8:00 p.m.* in church choir room

**Inclement Weather:** The Diocese of Pembroke and this parish comply with the policy of *Catholic Mutual Canada Insurance* regarding standard practices for snow/ice removal, salting, sanding and the logging of all winter maintenance. However, during the winter months, when Environment Canada has announced a public winter weather warning regarding snow or freezing rain for Arnprior and area, everyone, especially the elderly, ought to exercise their prudence (common sense) in attempting to attend Mass or gatherings of any kind.

**Stewardship: Sunday Offering (December 3)** \$5,878.25

*Thank you for your financial commitment, generosity and sacrificial giving.*

**Church Bell Tower Campaign:** Our parish website now also has a Donate tab that facilitates donations using paypal or credit card. We have already been receiving numerous donations to the Memorial Fund and the Bell Tower Campaign from family and friends who were once members of our parish. Together, we can do it!



**Catholic Women's League**    Nancy Black, *Madame President*

-Remember that the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month is Foodbank Sunday.  
 -Next meeting will be January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**CPR/Defibrillator Certification Training:** December 13 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. @ Knights of Columbus Chambers at the parish hall. Learn how to clear the airway of an infant, child and adult; how to perform CPR on an infant, child and adult; EpiPen training, as well as the operation of the Public Access Defibrillator. Please contact David Sherk @ 613-623-7675 to sign up.

**Knights of Columbus**    Blaine Mullins, *Grand Knight*

www.kofc2082.org

Executive Meeting - *Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>*  
 Business Meeting - *Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>*

Council 2082  
 285 Albert St.  
 Arnprior, ON  
 613-623-2519

**KofC Bingo** – Every Thursday at 6:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall. *Dabber format-jackpot \$1,000 progressive with 100 in attendance.* Doors open at 6:15 p.m. sharp. All over 18 welcome. Team: Dave Sherk

Reconciliation/First Communion:

The next class is Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup>. As the break is long, please continue your joint work with your children for their faith journey and yours!



Confirmation:

The next class and meeting will be January 7<sup>th</sup>. As the break is long, please continue your joint work with your children for their faith journey and yours!



Sacramental Preparation classes are on hiatus until January 2018, and because the break between classes is quite long, if at all possible, please look over Sacramental Preparation materials before the next class, so that the class on return doesn't feel like the first class. Blessings to you and yours.

Scripture Study: The book of Psalms is a unique collection of the song-prayers of Israel. To study Psalms is to study prayer, ultimately to enter into prayer. The study will challenge you to reflect on your own prayer and life experiences. This study, Psalms 1, focuses on a selection of twenty-eight psalms and will run on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. beginning on January 25<sup>th</sup> for 7 weeks. To register or for more information please contact Joan Kelly at 613-623-7575. You can also call the church office at 613-623-2282 to register.

Day of Reflection on Contemplative Prayer: at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Braeside, on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Beginning with Mass at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 2:30 p.m. with a Holy Hour. Fr. Matthew Whale LC will be the celebrant and speaker. Please bring your own lunch. Cost will be a free will offering. Hosted by St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe Fraternity.

St. John Chrysostom Parish Hall Rentals: We have the largest and brightest hall in Arnprior at 285 Albert Street, the only hall with a full stage area and seating for up to 400, air conditioning, a large kitchen, a fully licensed bar and ample parking. It is available for wedding receptions, anniversaries, stag & does, wedding showers, birthdays, fundraisers, conventions, training sessions, etc. Local Event Planners who are familiar with the hall can courteously provide initial consultation and are available for full planning. For bookings call 613-623-2282. Only \$400.



## G The Sacraments at St. John Chrysostom Parish

Pastoral Visits To The Hospital: Because of the Privacy Act, to be sure you receive a visit from Fr. Burchat and the Pastoral Care Team, *please notify the parish office. We do not know if you or a loved one is at the hospital unless we are informed.*

Pastoral Care of the Sick & Homebound: Please notify the parish office for a pastoral visit and monthly reception of Holy Communion on First Fridays when you are no longer able to attend Sunday Mass.

The Sacrament of the Sick: This sacrament is normally administered when someone is in danger of death, undergoing a major operation or suffering from any serious illness.

Pastoral Care of the Dying: The Church desires that her faithful know spiritual strengthening and healing from sin through the Sacraments when they are dying. Be sure to ask your family to honour your desires when it is time to call a priest in order to prepare for a Christian death.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m., Saturdays at 4:00 p.m., Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Sacrament of Reconciliation Room at the church entrance, and anytime by request or appointment.

Are You Interested in Becoming a Catholic? *Do you want to be baptized a Christian in the Catholic Church? Are you a baptized Christian but not Catholic and desire to begin receiving Holy Communion in the Catholic Church?* If you know of anyone who has been hesitant, encourage and accompany them in coming to speak to any member of the pastoral staff at any time. The process of Christian initiation can take place in many ways, "privately" or publicly.

Sacrament of Baptism: To arrange for the Baptism of your child please first meet with Fr. Burchat after either Sunday Mass at which you are in attendance. Catechetical instruction normally takes place the Sunday before baptisms. The next date for baptisms: January 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Sacrament of Marriage: Christian Marriage requires preparation and those scheduling their marriage are asked to personally speak to Fr. Burchat after any Sunday Mass and generally at least six months before a proposed celebration. Catholics living in "irregular" situations should consult with a priest so as to discern how they can begin to return to full communion with the Church.

Catholic Funerals: Funeral Liturgies for the faithful departed should be celebrated in a Catholic Church. However, as you consider funeral costs and family needs know that there are various ways that the rituals of the Church can be adapted in consultation with your Pastor. Funeral arrangements are made concurrently by the Funeral Home and the parish priest with the direct involvement of the family. *The Catholic Funeral is always a celebration of life, remembering that our loved ones are created in the image and likeness of God and redeemed by the life, passion, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Prepare the Way of the Lord  
*From an Angelus Address by Pope Benedict XVI; December 4, 2011*

This Sunday marks the second stage of the Season of Advent. This period of the liturgical year brings into the limelight the two figures who played a preeminent role in the preparation for the historic coming of the Lord Jesus: the Virgin Mary and St John the Baptist. Today's text from Mark's Gospel focuses on the latter. Indeed, it describes the personality and mission of the Precursor of Christ (see Mk 1:2-8). Starting with his external appearance, John is presented as a very ascetic figure: he was clothed in camel-skin and his food was locusts and wild honey that he found in the Judaean desert (see Mk 1:6).

Jesus himself once compared him to the people "in kings' houses" who are "clothed in soft raiment" (Mt 11:8). John the Baptist's style must remind all Christians to opt for a lifestyle of moderation, especially in preparation for the celebration of the Christmas festivity, in which the Lord, as St Paul would say, "though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor 8:9).

With regard to John's mission, it was an extraordinary appeal to conversion: his baptism "is connected with an ardent call to a new way of thinking and acting, but above all with the proclamation of God's judgment" (Jesus of Nazareth, I, p. 14; English translation, Doubleday, New York, 2007) and by the imminent appearance of the Messiah, described as "he who is mightier than I", who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit" (Mk 1:7, 8).

John's appeal therefore goes further and deeper than a lifestyle of moderation: it calls for inner conversion, based on the individual's recognition and confession of his or her sin. While we are preparing for Christmas, it is important that we reenter ourselves and make a sincere examination of our life. Let us permit ourselves to be illuminated by a ray of light that shines from Bethlehem, the light of the One who is "the Mightiest" who made himself lowly, "the Strongest" who made himself weak.

All four Evangelists describe John the Baptist's preaching with reference to a passage from the Prophet Isaiah: "A voice cries: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God'" (Is 40:3). Mark also inserted a citation from another prophet, Malachi, who said: "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way" (Mk 1:2; see Mal 3:1).

These references to Old Testament Scriptures "envisage a saving intervention of God, who emerges from his hiddenness to judge and to save; it is for this God that the door is to be opened and the way made ready" (Jesus of Nazareth, I, op. cit., p. 15).

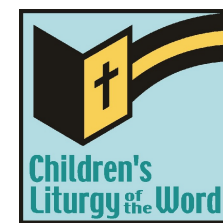
Let us entrust to Mary, the Virgin of expectation, our journey towards the Lord who comes, as we continue on our Advent itinerary in order to prepare our hearts and our lives for the coming of the Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Eucharistic Adoration: on Wednesday evenings and First Fridays. There is an important intrinsic relationship between celebration and adoration of the Eucharist. The Holy Eucharist is an ineffable Mystery of Faith, both in the celebration of the Mass itself and in the worship of sacred species of the Blessed Sacrament, which are preserved after Mass to extend the grace of the Sacrifice. In Eucharistic adoration, a prolonged mutual presence becomes union, union with the living Lord and his Mystical Body.



St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe Fraternity: The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in meeting room #2. The meeting will begin with recitation of the Holy Rosary at 9:30 a.m., followed by the meeting which commences at 10:00 a.m. following the "Ritual of the Secular Franciscan Order." Enquirers are welcome to attend.

EDGE Youth Ministry @ St. John Chrysostom: If you are in grade 5, 6, 7 or 8 and you have questions about God, life and faith, and are looking to have some fun (activities and sports) with other youth on a Saturday night, then come out to our bi-monthly youth nights (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays) at St. John Chrysostom Parish. Mass and then food, faith and fun until 7:30 p.m. The next Edge Youth Night is January 13<sup>th</sup> beginning with Mass at 4:30 p.m.



Children's Liturgy of the Word: All children from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 are welcome to attend their own Liturgy of Word during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. The Gospel is proclaimed and explained in a way appropriate to the age of the children. In such a way, they are given the opportunity to understand the teachings of Jesus and participate more fully in the church's Liturgy and Christian living. The priest will normally send forth with a blessing after the Collect (Opening Prayer).

Is Someone Contemplating Euthanasia? Available Prevention Resources: Helpline: 1-855-675-8749; Compassionate Community Care (CCC) is a national service for people who are seeking advice, help & support regarding euthanasia & assisted suicide prevention, and/or end-of-life treatment issues or concerns.

Journey of Hope: A Program for Separated and Divorced Catholics: Six week sessions for women (Tuesdays, Mar. 20 – Apr. 24, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.) and men (Thursdays, Mar. 22 – May 3, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.). Cost: \$25. At Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish Hall, 20 Grant St. Register by Mar. 16: [www.journeyofhopeottawa.com](http://www.journeyofhopeottawa.com); Mary Jane Manley (613-294-1308).