

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. John N. Burchat, *Pastor*
Fr. Peter G. Proulx, *Associate Pastor*
Ms. Anda Sprudz
Deacon Michael Doherty
Deacon Christopher Barrett

Office & Property:

Office Admin: Ms. Cheryl Peters
Custodian: Mr. Rob Hicke

Office Hours:

Tues., Wed., Thurs.
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
613-623-2282
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Take Heed! Look Up! Redemption is Arriving!

From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; December 2, 2018

Today Advent begins, the liturgical time which prepares us for Christmas, inviting us to lift our gaze and open our hearts to welcome Jesus. During Advent we do not just live in anticipation of Christmas; we are also called to rekindle the anticipation of the glorious return of Christ — when he will return at the end of time — preparing ourselves, with consistent and courageous choices, for the final encounter with him. We remember Christmas, we await the glorious return of Christ, and also our personal encounter: the day in which the Lord will call.

During these four weeks we are called to leave behind a resigned and routine way of life and to go forth, nourishing hope, nourishing dreams for a new future. This Sunday's Gospel goes in this very direction and puts us on guard against allowing ourselves to be oppressed by an egocentric lifestyle or by the phrenetic pace of our days. Jesus' words resonate in a particularly incisive way: "take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly ... But watch at all times, praying" (vv. 34, 36).

To be mindful and to pray: this is how to live the time between now and Christmas. To be mindful and to pray. Inner listlessness comes from always turning around ourselves and being blocked by our own life, with its problems, its joy, and suffering, but always turning around ourselves. And this is wearying; this is dull, this closes us off to hope. Here lies the root of the lethargy and laziness that the Gospel speaks about. This is a favourable time to open our hearts, to ask ourselves concrete questions about how and for whom we expend our lives.

The second attitude to best experience the time of awaiting the Lord is that of prayer. Arise, "look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (v. 28), the Gospel of Luke cautions. It is about standing up and praying, turning our thoughts and our hearts to Jesus who is about to come. One stands when awaiting something or someone. We await Jesus and we wish to await him in prayer which is closely linked to vigilance. Praying, awaiting Jesus, opening oneself to others, being mindful, not withdrawn in ourselves. But if we think of Christmas in the light of consumerism, of seeing what I can buy in order to do this and that, of a worldly celebration, Jesus will pass by and we will not find him. We await Jesus and we wish to await him in prayer which is closely linked to vigilance.

But what is the horizon of our prayerful anticipation? Today it is that of Jeremiah who speaks to the people who had been harshly tried by exile and who risked losing their very identity. We Christians too, who are also the People of God, run the risk of becoming worldly and of losing our identity, indeed of 'paganizing' the Christian way. Therefore, we need the Word of God through which the prophet proclaims: "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made ... I will cause a righteous Branch to spring forth for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land" (Jer 33:14-15). And that righteous branch is Jesus. It is Jesus who comes and whom we await.

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.pembrookediocese.com

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

PRE-REGISTER FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES NOW:

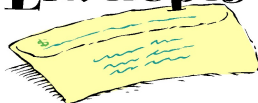
(December 24 @ 4:30 & 7:30 p.m; December 25 @ 9:30 a.m).



Please contact the parish office and provide your name, phone number and number of people in your household/bubble wishing to attend Mass. Everyone will be required to check in at the church doors and have their attendance and seating confirmed.

2022 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your new box at the church entrance which are displayed in alphabetical order. Please write your full address on the first few envelopes of the year so that tax receipts are mailed to the proper address. Please note that your envelope number will have changed from last year.

Offering Envelopes



ATTENTION: Would the family that has been using envelope number 33 in 2021 please call the parish office to verify your mailing address.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS: for the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones can be made with the envelopes provided at the entrance of the church. The Masses of Christmas will be offered for your intentions. Donations must be submitted by Tuesday, December 21 in order to have loved ones listed in the Christmas bulletin memorial page.



First Week of Advent

December 1 - 3

- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** +Gordon Schlievert *by His Wife*
- Thursday 9:00 a.m.** +Michael McGonigal *by His Mom*
- First Friday 9:00 a.m.** **St. Francis Xavier, priest**
+For Donors to the Memorial Fund & Those Named in Memoriam

☞ Second Sunday of Advent ☛

December 5, 2021

- Saturday 3:45 p.m.** *Confessions*
- 4:30 p.m.** +Sandra Leduc by Denise Leduc
- Sunday 9:30 a.m.** Intentions of the People (*Missa pro populo*)

Liturgical Appointments: December 4/5

Next Sunday	4:30 P.M.	9:30 A.M.
Reader	Carol Marcellus	Bill Ingram
Ministers of Communion	Deacon	Deacon
Greeter/Ushers	Linda Chandler	Carol Marcellus
Music	Anda Sprudz	Knights of Columbus

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- parishioners who are sick; and those who have died, especially: *Martyn Brown, Gary McHale, Emile Bernard and Barrie Taylor.*

ADVENT CANDLES: are available by arrangement through the parish office.

SUNDAY OFFERING: November 21- \$6,337.75. Thank you for your continuing commitment during these difficult times!

CHURCH EXTERIOR RESTORATION COLLECTION: This monthly appeal uses a special envelope and collection dedicated to the Church Exterior Restoration Debt. The amount of \$4,087.00 from the month of October was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke. Thank you for your generosity!

CWL FUND-RAISING CRAFT & BAKE SALE will be held at the Parish Hall on Saturday December 11th at 10.00 a.m. All crafts or baked goods can be dropped off on Friday December 10th at the Parish Hall between 6:00 and 8:00 pm. or Saturday after 8:30 a.m. This is a good opportunity to share your baking talents and try new and different goodies from other parish families. The CWL ladies appreciate all the support from our parishioners for our fund-raising activities. The draw for our raffle will be on Sunday morning December 12th at 10:30 am. at the Parish hall.

CWL CHRISTMAS FOOD BANK GIFT BAGS: Product donations can be dropped off at the Parish Hall on Thursday November 25th and Thursday December 2nd from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., or at our regular meeting on Wednesday December 1st. Bags will be filled at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday December 5th at the parish hall. Cash can be placed in an envelope marked CWL gift bags and put in the basket at church or dropped off at the parish office.

Items needed for woman: shampoo (no conditioner), deodorant, razors, toothpaste, toothbrush and bodywash **Items needed for men:** shampoo (no conditioner), deodorant, razors, toothpaste, toothbrush and shaving creme. Once again we will be collecting socks for the Food Bank.

CWL FOOD BANK PROJECT: We are asking for non-perishable goods to placed in boxes at the church entrance. Cash can be placed in the collection baskets. December 12th will be the first collection, and then the second weekend of each month going forward.



Catholic Women's League

Nancy Black, *Madame President*

Next Meeting: *Wednesday, December 1 @ 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall*



Knights of Columbus

Bob Lee, *Grand Knight*

www.kofc2082.org

Council 2082
P.O. Box 426
Amprior, ON
K7S 3L9

Business Meeting: *Monday, December 6 @ 6 p.m.*

Executive Meeting: *Monday, November 29 @ 7 p.m.*