

**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.
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The Lord is Arriving! Prepare the Way!

From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; December 9, 2018

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

☞ Second Sunday of Advent ☛

December 5, 2021

PANDEMIC PROTOCOL FOR MASSES AT SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM: Face masks are still mandatory at all times in the church, as per the pandemic regulations of the Renfrew County District Health Unit. Please continue to also observe our protocol for hand sanitizing and social distancing.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS: Sunday, December 19 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and visiting priest-confessors. You are invited to this opportunity to receive this beautiful Sacrament of God's mercy as we prepare for Christmas.

PRE-REGISTER FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES NOW:

(December 24 – 7:30 p.m; **(4:30 is FULL)** 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.

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.



Last Sunday, the liturgy invited us to experience the Season of Advent and of anticipation of the Lord with an attitude of vigilance and also of prayer: “be mindful” and “pray”. Today, the Second Sunday of Advent, we are shown how to give substance to this anticipation: by undertaking a journey of conversion, how to make this anticipation concrete. As a guide on this journey, the Gospel presents the figure of John the Baptist who “went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Lk 3:3). To describe the Baptist’s mission, the Evangelist Luke refers to the ancient prophecy of Isaiah which says: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be brought low” (vv. 4-5).

To prepare the way of the Lord’s coming, it is necessary to take note of the requirements of conversion to which the Baptist invites us. What are these requirements for conversion? First of all we are called to fill the ‘valleys’ caused by coldness and indifference, opening ourselves to others with the same sentiments as Jesus, that is, with affection and fraternal attention which takes on the needs of our neighbours. To fill the valleys caused by coldness. One cannot have a relationship of love, charity and fraternity with one’s neighbours if there are ‘gaps’ just as one cannot travel a road with many potholes. This requires a change of attitude. And all this should also be done with special attention to the neediest. Then there is the need to curtail the indifference caused by pride and arrogance. How many people, perhaps without realizing it, are proud, are indifferent, lack that kindly relationship. It is necessary to overcome this by making concrete gestures of reconciliation with our brothers and sisters, asking for forgiveness for our faults. It is not easy to reconcile with another. One always thinks: “who will take the first step?”. The Lord helps us in this if we are of good will. Indeed, conversion is complete if it leads us to humbly recognize our errors, our infidelity and failings.

The believer is someone who, by being close to his brothers and sisters, like John the Baptist, opens pathways in the desert, that is, he indicates perspectives of hope, even in those existential contexts that are arduous, marked by failure and defeat. We cannot give up in the face of negative situations of closure and rejection: we must not allow ourselves to succumb to the mentality of the world, because the centre of our life is Jesus and his word of light, love and solace. It is He! The Baptist invited the people of his time to conversion, with force, with vigour and with firmness.

Today too, Jesus’ disciples are called to be his humble but courageous witnesses in order to rekindle hope, to make it understood that, despite everything, the Kingdom of God continues to be built day by day with the power of the Holy Spirit. Let each of us ask ourselves: how can I change something in my attitude, in order to prepare the way of the Lord?

Second Week of Advent

December 8 - 10

- Wednesday 9:00 a.m.** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass of Thanksgiving *by a Parishioner*
- Thursday 9:00 a.m.** +Pat Maguire *by Rosaleen Howden*
- Friday 9:00 a.m.** +Gerard & Lillian LaForest *by Their Daughter*

☪ Third Sunday of Advent ☪

Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday

December 12, 2021

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

Liturgical Appointments: December 11/12

Next Sunday	4:30 P.M.	9:30 A.M.
Reader	Gerry Whalen	Roxanne Barr
Ministers of Communion	Deacon	Deacon
Greeter/Ushers	Linda Chandler	Carol Marcellus
Music	Anda Sprudz	Stephanie Dean & Anda Sprudz

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- the Evangelization Project in the Diocese of Pembroke;
- parishioners who are sick; and those who have died, especially: *Martyn Brown, Gary McHale, Emile Bernard and Barrie Taylor.*

THE EVANGELIZATION PROJECT: At the entrance of the church is the current issue of our diocesan newspaper, *Ecclesia*, with articles about Synodal Process and Evangelization Project. There are also **prayer cards** for the Evangelization Project, and **collection envelopes** for contributions in support of it. Bishop Desrochers has asked these contributions be taken up on the Sundays of Advent.

SUNDAY OFFERING: November 28- \$4,397.98. Thank you for your continuing commitment during these difficult times!

CHURCH EXTERIOR RESTORATION COLLECTION: The amount of \$4,321.13 from the month of November was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke.

This monthly appeal uses a special envelope and collection dedicated to the Church Exterior Restoration Debt. With the oversight of the Parish Finance Committee and Mr. John Tammadge as its delegated officer and our Diocesan Finance Administrator, these donations are sent to the Diocese on a monthly basis in order to reduce our debt. Now and in the years to come, these Exterior Restoration Debt Donations will not be permitted to be used for regular operating expenses or minor capital expenditures/repairs. The intention of the donor will be respected and regular updates will be provided. Thank you for your generosity!

CWL FUND-RAISING CRAFT & BAKE SALE: at Parish Hall next Saturday December 11 at 10.00 a.m. All crafts or baked goods can be dropped off on Friday December 10 at the Parish Hall between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. 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 quilt raffle draw will be on Sunday morning December 12th at 10:30 am. at the Parish hall.

CWL FOOD BANK PROJECT: Non-perishable goods can be 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, January 5 @ 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, December 27 @ 7 p.m.