

The Kid's Bulletin and a weekly coloring handout, depicting a theme from our liturgical season or the gospel reading, is available on the bulletin table in both churches! Our kids and their parents are encouraged each week to help themselves!

SUNDAY OFFERING - Arnprior:December 18: \$4,587.55Acknowledged with manySUNDAY OFFERING - Braeside:December 18: \$2,651.00thanks!

CHURCH EXTERIOR RESTORATION COLLECTION: The amount of \$5,613.25 from the month of November was recently sent to the Chancery Office in Pembroke. Thank you for your continued support!



2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your box at the Church Entrance. Please write your full address on the first few envelopes of the year so that tax receipts are mailed to the proper address. Your envelope number may have changed from last year.

RENFREW COUNTY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD: Kindergarten registration at Renfrew County Catholic District School Board is opening soon! From Janurary 23rd to February 3rd go to <u>www.rccdsb.ca</u> to enroll your child and learn more about our inclusive, caring and engaging Kindergarten programs. Then make an appointment with your designated school to finalize your registration. Come learn, laugh, pray and play at RCCDSB! Truly Schools to believe in!

IMAGE OF GOD MONTHLY MEN'S & WOMEN'S SESSIONS:

Next session – Wednesday, January 11th at St. Francis Xavier Parish, Renfrew. Join us for IMAGE OF GOD monthly evening sessions for Men and Women from 7-9 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier parish. (Men 7-8 pm, Women 8-9 pm). This is a new initiative from the Office of Family Life, Youth and Young Adult Ministry in the Renfrew deanery, but open to all, to reach adults who wish to grow in their faith. Hosted by Patrick Sullivan, Lay Evangelist and Yvette Bourque, each evening has a different topic and will include time for questions. Topic for January – Do you really know them? Here is what can dramatically improve the relationships in your life and family. Please enter through the small Parish Hall doors. For more information contact Yvette Bourque at yvettebourque@pembrokediocese.com.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: parishioners who are sick and their caregivers; for those who have died, especially Ruby Butler, sister in law of Betty Dunlop

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ARNPRIOR & BRAESIDE



St. Joseph, lead us to Bethlehem

St. John Chrysostom Parish Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

₩ NATIVITY OF THE LORD ₩ DECEMBER 25, 2022

Pastoral StaffOffice & PropertyFr. Dan Kelly, AdministratorOffice Administration: Ms. Cheryl PetersDeacon Christopher BarrettCustodian: Mr. Rob Hicke

Tel. 613-623-2282

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Website: www.saintjohnchrysostom.org

catholicarnprior@gmail.com

perpetualhelp@bell.net

St. John Chrysostom Parish is the Home of the Arnprior & District Food Bank 613-668-4462, Al-Anon & A.A.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL:

There are four Masses that are celebrated for the Feast of Christmas and each is given its own set of readings to help us contemplate Christ's birth. The Gospel for the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve is taken from the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew. The Mass at midnight proclaims the birth of Jesus through the Gospel of Luke. The Mass at dawn on Christmas morning continues the story of the birth of Jesus as found in Luke's Gospel, ending with the shepherds' visit to the infant Jesus. In each of these Gospel readings, we hear portions of the infancy narratives with which we are familiar.

The Gospel for the Christmas Mass during the day is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel, but this part of John's Gospel is not an infancy narrative like those found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Instead, John's Gospel starts at the very beginning and presents the Creation story as the framework for announcing the Incarnation. John's opening words echo the first verse in the Book of Genesis. This framework invites us to view Jesus' birth from God's perspective. Each of the Gospels makes clear that Jesus' birth was the result of God's initiative. John's Gospel, however, emphasizes that Jesus' birth was the divine intention from the moment of Creation.

As we observe in today's reading, the Gospel of John includes highly philosophical and theological language. One example that particularly stands out in this Gospel is John's repeated references to "the Word" in the opening verse. This expression (logos in the Greek) borrows from a concept found in both Jewish and Greek thought. Jews used this phrase to describe God's action in the Creation story, for example, and in the Wisdom literature. In Greek thought, the logos was understood as an intermediary between God and humanity. John and others in the early Church adopted this language to describe God's incarnation in Jesus. As the term was used to express the Trinitarian faith of Christians, the Word came to be equated with the Second Person of the Trinity.

In this prologue to the Gospel of John, we also hear the main themes that will be developed in his Gospel. These are often presented as dualities: light and dark, truth and falsehood, life and death, and belief and unbelief. We also hear in this prologue a unique aspect of John's Gospel, the theme of testimony. John the Baptist was sent by God to testify to Jesus, the light. Others in this Gospel will also offer testimony about Jesus. The reader is invited to accept this testimony, which bears witnesses to Jesus, the Son of God. But even more directly, Jesus' action and words will testify to Jesus' identity as God's Incarnate Word.

Thinking about Jesus' birth in these theological and cosmological terms is particularly appropriate as we celebrate the Feast of Christmas in the darkness of winter. At this time, nature itself seems to remind us of the darkness of sin. Into this darkness, in the midst of our sinfulness, God comes to dwell among us. John's Gospel reminds us that through the Incarnation, God saves us from the darkness of sin and makes us his children.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 28 - 31, 2022 JAN 1, 2023

Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Braeside	Shirley McGonigal by Clare Kavanagh
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Arnprior	For the Intentions of Andre Arsenault
			by Monique Perry
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Arnprior	Lucille Desormiers & Deceased Blais Members
			by Bonnie Blais
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Arnprior	Suzanne Mullins by Blaine & Family
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Arnprior	Missa Pro Populo
	10:30 a.m.	Braeside	Deceased Members of the Fitzmaurice & Farrell
			Families by Pat & Bernice Fitmaurice

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JAN 4 - 8, 2023

Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Braeside	Deceased MacKey & Daly Families
			by Anne & Stewart Daly
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Arnprior	Ken Marcellus by Carol Marcellus
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Arnprior	For Donors to the Memorial Fund
			& Those Named in Memoriam
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Arnprior	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Arnprior	Kevin & Joshua Trudeau by Tom & Lyla Trudeau
-	10:30 a.m.	Braeside	Christel Rick by Joe Rick

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – December 31 & January 1

4:30 p.m. – Arnprior – Music CWL & Maxine Reader Rich Peters Ushers – Linda, Denis, Clare +1 Ministers of Holy Communion Cheryl, Clare 10:00 a.m. Arnprior – Music Knights of Columbus Reader Roxanne Barr Ushers – Lynn, Golda, Savio + 1 Ministers of Holy Communion Golda, Savio 10:00 a.m. Braeside Music James Hrkach Reader Ellie Hrkach Ushers – Andy Prince, Garry Fisher Ministers of Holy Communion Delia Burns

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – January 7/8

4:30 p.m. – Arnprior – Music Deacon Chris Reader Debbie Ushers – Linda, Denis, Clare +1 Ministers of Holy Communion Joan A., Clare 10:00 a.m. Arnprior – Music Anda Reader Betty Ushers – Theresa McLeod & Family Ministers of Holy Communion Christine 10:00 a.m. Braeside Music James Hrkach Reader Beth Johnson Ushers – Andy Prince, Garry Fisher Ministers of Holy Communion Delia Burns