

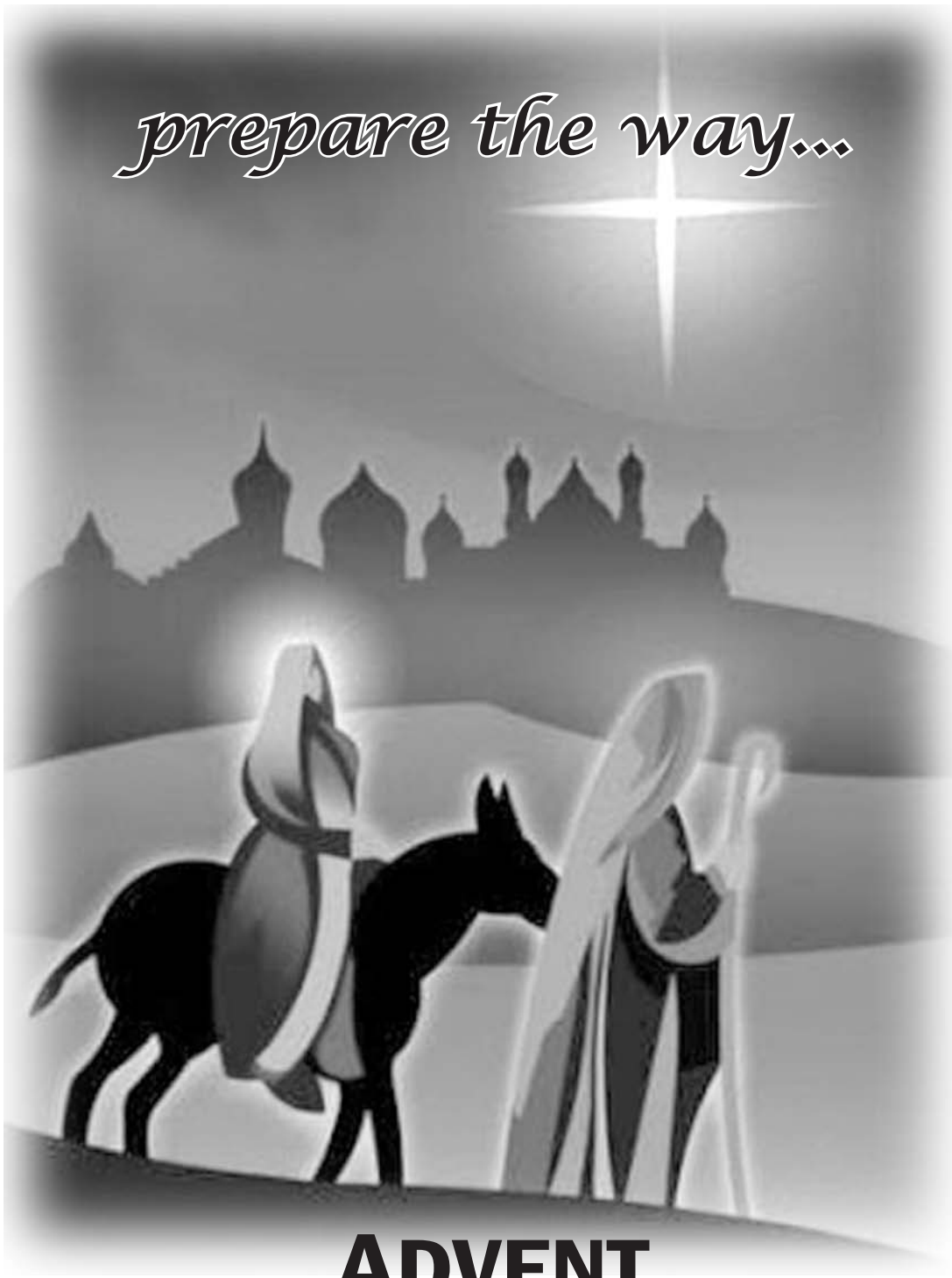
St. Joseph Catholic Parish

409 Paisley Road, Guelph, ON N1H 2R4 519-822-4614
stjosephguelph@rogers.com • www.stjosephguelph.com

PARISH STAFF

Reverend Jeff Bergsma, Pastor
Tracy Bolzon, Office Administrator
Zofia Gadzinska, Bookkeeper

prepare the way...



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



MONDAY, December 23rd
7:00pm In Thanksgiving

TUESDAY, December 24th – Christmas Eve
5:00pm + Gerrit Kistemaker
7:00pm Intentions of Peter Tran
12midnight + Isagani Banez

WEDNESDAY, December 25th
8:30am Living and Deceased Members of Martinello Family
10:15am + Felice Scarozza
12noon + Sophie Harr

THURSDAY, December 26th - St Stephen
9:00am Intentions of Stephanie Quintano

FRIDAY, December 27^h – St John the Apostle
8:00am Deceased Members of Forester Family
7:00pm + Siva Anton Pararjasingham
7:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

SATURDAY, December 28th – Holy Innocents
9:00am + Norberto Simpao
5:00pm Intentions of Therese Tran

**SUNDAY, December 29th – Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph**

8:30am + Ronald Lefneski
10:15am Intentions of Tran Family
12noon + Leon Suzon
4:00pm Hungarian Mass



May God's peace be with those who have recently died, and those being persecuted for their faith & race, and those killed in natural disasters & their families. Please remember our parishioners who are sick and homebound and those in our Prayer Network in your prayers.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 22, 2024

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love? Contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

SANCTUARY CANDLES

Week of December 22, 2024

Candle #1 – INTS of NANCY LITWAK

Candle #2 – + RAY LITWAK

Please use the envelopes provided request intentions for the Sanctuary Lamps, which are lit at the tabernacle. The requested offering is \$10 each. You may place the envelope in the collection or drop it in the Parish Office.



COLLECTIONS FOR THE PAST WEEK

Sunday Offering December 14/15, 21/22, Dec 28/29 and January 5, 2025 will be posted January 12th due to deadlines for submissions of our bulletin over the next few weeks. Thank you for your contribution and God Bless!
Thank you for your contribution and God Bless!

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from December 25 to January 1st. The office will reopen on Thursday January 2nd with regular office hours 9am to 5pm.



Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th: 5:00pm, 7:00pm, and 12:00am (Midnight Mass)

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25: 8:30am, 10:15am, 12:00(noon)

Boxing Day – St Stephen

Thursday December 26th: 9:00am

Mary Mother of God (New Year's) Mass Schedule

Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 31st: 5:00pm
Wednesday, January 1st, 2025: 9:00am and 11:00am



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

One morning, while sitting in the Church, I was thinking of how many Christmases I have had as a priest (20 (15 as a Pastor)). My thoughts turned to how I have been celebrating Christmas over my years of priesthood. Have I taken the time to engage in the mystery that we celebrate, or have I just been focused on the Masses that need to be said? I am not sure I have a good answer to that yet. However, the banners in the Church helped me to focus on the symbols during Advent. The banner with the star reminded me that the light of Christ should guide me during Advent and Christmas

(and the rest of the year). Like the magi, following the star leads us to the baby Jesus in the manger and to Christ in heaven. When things are getting busy for us during Advent and Christmas, the star will focus us on the meaning of Christmas, the meaning that gift-giving and sharing with family and friends is an important way in which to show the love of Christ to others. The candles on the other banner give us an essential path on how to live Advent, Christmas, and, in fact, year-round, living our faith in hope, peace, joy and love (which the candles represent). During the activities of Advent and Christmas, let us use the candles to remind us of the hope we have in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Let the peace of Christ quiet our hearts when we need it and bring that peace to others. During our dinners and family gatherings, let our families and friends see the joy of being loved by Christ. Most importantly, let us share Jesus' boundless love for us throughout Christmas.

For those who are experiencing their first Christmas after the death of a loved one and all who are saddened by a loved one not being present because of death, please know that God's love is present to you to bring you consolation and peace. For those who may be alone or abandoned, let the birth of Jesus remind us that God has not abandoned us or humanity. Instead, he has come to share his life in Heaven with us, and this is the "little love" that God offers with the birth of Jesus.

On behalf of Fr. Don, Tracy, Zofia, and Kevin, may God give you many blessings this Christmas. I wish you all a very Holy Christmas and a blessed New Year. Fr. Bergsma

P.S. What did Adam say the day before Christmas?
It's Christmas, Eve!

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Some 50 years ago, I had a profound spiritual awakening. Being touched by the Holy Spirit in such a real and deep manner compelled me to enthusiastically go and share the experience with everyone. In today's Gospel we are privileged to witness just such a movement of the Spirit in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth. Luke gives us an insight into the heart and person of Mary: prompted by the Spirit, she unselfishly forgets her own needs and visits her cousin who has miraculously conceived in her old age. Mary did not think twice, but in haste took the arduous journey to share the joy of her own impending motherhood. We are also given a glimpse of the Spirit at work in the heart of Elizabeth who cannot contain her joy but must bestow blessings upon her young cousin.

The Gospel invites us to journey with Mary into the Judean hill country – a journey that will continue with Joseph to Nazareth, in flight after the Nativity and ultimately to the Cross. When our own journey is challenging, we can take heart from Mary. She followed the promptings of the Spirit, found the strength to carry out her journey and received blessings in return. In this holy season, may the intercession of Mary and the saints give us a deeper intimacy with the Holy Family. *Excerpt from Living with Christ.*

Christmas—The First Day

The purest of Virgins gave us our God, who was this day born of her, clothed in the flesh of a Babe, and she was found worthy to feed him at her Breast: let us all adore Christ, who came to save us.

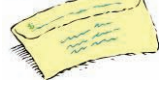
Ye faithful people, let us all rejoice, for our Savior is born in our world: this Day there has been born the Son of the great Mother, and she yet a pure Virgin.

O Queen of the world, and Daughter of a kingly race! Christ has risen from thy womb, as a Bridegroom coming from the bride-chamber: He that rules the stars lies in a Crib. —Antiphon from the ancient Church of Gaul

2025 SUNDAY ENVELOPES

Sunday Offertory Envelopes are **NOW READY** for you to pick up in the Parish Hall. If you do not presently use envelopes and would like to have a set, please contact Tracy at the parish office at 519-822-4614 or fill out the registration form located at the back of the church or on our website www.stjosephguelph.com. You can drop off the registration forms at the office or via email at stjosephguelph@rogers.com.

Offering Envelopes



CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS' NIGHT

During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, January 4th** at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Kindergarten Registration at Wellington Catholic DSB

The Wellington Catholic District School Board will be accepting new registrations for kindergarten at our schools beginning January 6, 2025!

To be eligible for registering in kindergarten, children;

- must be four years of age on or before December 31, 2025, to attend Year 1 Kindergarten
- must be five years of age on or before December 31, 2025, to attend Year 2 Kindergarten

To register we ask that you visit

https://www.wellingtoncadsb.ca/registration/kindergarten_registration and complete the online student pre-registration form. Once you have completed this form you will receive a follow-up email to complete the registration process. We ask that you have the following documents available;

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Parent Or Child's Baptismal Certificate
- Proof of Tax Support for Families New to the System (i.e., Most Recent Tax Bill)
- Proof of Address (Government Document, Mortgage or Rental Agreement, Hydro Bill, Credit Card Statement)
- Immigration Documentation (If Applicable)
- Custody Documents (If Applicable)

During the registration process, school administration are available to assist you with any questions you may have.

Please note:

- Students currently attending a Wellington Catholic Year 1 Kindergarten program are NOT REQUIRED to register for Year 2 Kindergarten.
- Should you have any questions about registration procedures or requirements, please contact your local Catholic school.



CERAMIC DECOR
TILE & STONE PROFESSIONALS
987 York Rd. 519-836-7060

VETTOR
SMALL ENGINE & BICYCLE
5032 Whitelaw Rd.
519-836-6441

Steve Ireland ELECTRIC
Residential • Commercial
Service Upgrades & Rewiring
Serving Guelph & Area For Over 25 Yrs
519-821-0594

MOTION PLUS PHYSIOTHERAPY
Orthopaedic, Sport & Neurological Physiotherapy
Denise Fogal-Smith B.Sc. (P.T.) M.Sc.
35 Harvard Road 519-767-7587
Campus Estates Plaza
www.motionplusphysio.com

BARZOTTI WOODWORKING
Custom made Kitchen Cupboards and Vanities
2 Watson Rd. 519-821-3670

Farnworth Memorials
Quality Memorials | Experts in Design
755 Woolwich St. opp. Woodlawn Cemetery
Visit us at SuperiorMemorials.com
519-763-4567

Victoria Furdul B.Eng.
Sales Representative
519.821.3600 Bus
519.546.1754 Cell
VictoriaFurdul.com
VICTORIA FURDUL Vision-Focused Real Estate
COLDWELL BANKER NEUMANN REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGE



TAMBRO CONSTRUCTION LTD.
• general contracting
• design - build
• build to lease
1 Taggart St., Unit 1
519-766-1234

TRIANGLE Sewing Centre
SALES & SERVICE
386 Woolwich St. 519-822-9910
Nancy Caravaggio
386 Woolwich St. 519-822-9910

Sylvan Learning Free Assessments
Grades K-12 All Subjects
Mention St. Joseph's for 1st class free
519-823-5711
sylvan.guelph@gmail.com

Nana's Quilt Shop
Custom Machine
Quilting & Embroidery
Donna Haley
519-831-6451

BPMG CONTRACTING
Bathroom Renovations & Tile Installation
226-337-9168
info@bpmgcontracting.ca

AERO WINDOW CLEANING "Your trusted partner for reliable, professional and exceptional service."
• Exterior Window Cleaning & Skylights • Gutter Cleaning
• Interior Window Cleaning • Siding
• Pressure Washing • Steam Cleaner
519-831-5126
info@aerocleaning.ca

HANDYMAN GUELPH
You Can Trust Us For
High-Quality Services Reliability Professionalism Fair Pricing
519-546-8181 www.HandymanGuelph.com

IRELAND IRELAND
A TRUSTED NAME IN REAL ESTATE SINCE 1998
COLDWELL BANKER NEUMANN REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGE
519 835 SOLD (7653)

Rob Fischer Repairs, Handyman Service
Over 16 years of industry experience
Call or email today!
519-496-9619
robfisherrepairs@gmail.com

Wilson Li Realtor
519-820-9247
I'll find the home, you write the stories
www.wilsonlirealestate.ca
COLDWELL BANKER NEUMANN REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGE



McELDERRY & MORRIS
Barristers & Solicitors
Practice Established in 1921
Sergio J. Manera, B. Math, LL.B.
Patrick G. Morris, B.A. LL.B.
Gregory G. Matthews, B.A., M.B.A., LL.B.
Elliott Braganza, M.Mus., J.D.
Hayes Murphy, (1936-2022)
Jerry W. Matthews, (1927-2018)
Patrick J. Morris, (1923-2012)
84 Woolwich St. GUELPH
519-822-8150

WILLOW WEST DENTAL OFFICE
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
Orthodontics, laughing gas, wisdom teeth removal, implants
Call today to book: 519-836-1077
Mon/Fri 8am-6pm, Tue 7am-6pm Wed/Thu 7am-8pm
106 Silvercreek Pkwy. N. Unit 4 (Shoppers Drug Mart Plaza)

Real Estate and Wills Powers of Attorney
David Cameletti, Lawyer
548 Woolwich St 519-823-1157
david@cameletti.ca

WILL LENSSEN, Broker
Special Parishioner Offers
will.lenssen@exprealty.com
C: 519-830-4799
www.guelphwellingtonrealestate.com
exp REALTY BROKERAGE K of C Council 10631



STEFFLER HEARING AID SERVICE
Complimentary Hearing Tests
Jennifer Steffler
200 Yorkshire St. N.
519-823-8235

Call 1-800-268-2637 for this space

GILBERT MACINTYRE & SON
DUBLIN CHAPEL 519-822-4731
HART CHAPEL 519-821-5077
www.GilbertMacIntyreAndSon.com
SINCE 1933

Paul Gazzola AMP
Mortgage Broker
Lic. #M08005234
3 Speedvale Ave. E.
519.763.6436
www.tobemortgagefree.com

PROFESSIONAL HOME CLEANING
House, Condo & Apartments
Windows • Ovens • Refrigerators
Deep Cleaning or Scheduled
Call Danuta for a Free Estimate
905-781-1737

CENTURY 21 Heritage House Ltd.
Independently owned & operated
Lynda Thian - Broker
Tel 519-767-2100 or Cell 519-835-2852
www.century21.ca/heritagehouse www.Lynda-Thian.c21.ca



WALL-CUSTANCE FUNERAL HOME
Locally Owned & Family Operated
\$5995 + HST - service with casket included
519-822-0051
www.wallcustance.com

DAVE MERKLEY Roofing Ltd.
FREE ESTIMATES • 36th Anniversary
519-822-0027

Brombal FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CARE
Dean Brombal President & Managing Director
519-824-0031 www.Brombal.ca
Family Owned & Operated since 1932