

Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025

Intentions:

December 14 - For the Holy souls in purgatory and those who have no one to pray for them, requested by Janne Campbell.
Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection:

December 07 - \$415.00 Thank You

Social Sunday: Today is **Coffee Sunday**, so please join us after mass for light refreshments and fellowship.

NOTE:

2025-2026 Sunday Missals are available at the rear of the church. Suggested donation in \$8.00.

St. Michael's School mass this week is Wednesday December 17th.



Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for the sick among our families and friends, especially Roy Campbell, Linda Cassidy, Patricia Cassidy, Suzanne Lafontaine, Priscilla Rowley, and Lorraine Stafford. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

Pope's Intentions for the Month of December

For Christians in areas of conflict: Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

St. Gabriel Christmas Schedule

* Thur	Dec 18	St. Michael	.. Advent Confessions.	7:00pm
** Sun	Dec 21	St. Michael	.....	9:00am
* Sun	Dec 21	St. Gabriel	.....	11:00am
** Thur	Dec 25	St. Michael	.....	9:00am
** Sun	Dec 28	St. Michael	.....	9:00am
* Sun	Dec 28	St. Gabriel	.....	11:00am
** Thur	Jan 01	St. Michael	.....	9:00am
* Thur	Jan 01	St. Gabriel	.....	11:00am
* Regular Masses				
* Christmas & New Years Masses				
* On-Line Masses (StMStG-Live)				

Gospel Reflection: Jesus, in answering John's question gives a most startling answer. He recounts an alternative world vision that is actually taking place because of his ministry: "the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." In other words, he is saying "Don't take my word for it that I am who you are looking for. Look at what I've accomplished! The good news can be seen and touched and felt and heard in the lives of people." This is why doubts can be appeased and all can know that Jesus is, indeed, "the one who is to come." "We are now charged to take up Jesus' ministry. We can't ask people to take our word for it; our actions speak for us—or our non-actions. Either we take up Jesus's ministry or we don't." (Living Liturgy, p. 14)

Vincentian Meditation: John the Baptist makes it very clear that we will live genuinely for Christ only if we are willing to die for him. Only the person who is practiced in the art of daily dying will be able to hand themselves over to God in an act of final resignation, as John the Baptist did. Daily dying consists in pouring out one's energies in the service of the poor, in listening attentively, in praying faithfully, in living harmoniously with others, in seeking reconciliation, in doing penance, in renouncing anything that is an obstacle to following Christ. John the Baptist calls us to prepare the way of the Lord by eliminating from our lives whatever impedes his coming. (Maloney, Seasons in Spirituality, p.48)



Administrator's Corner



Joy in Waiting: Signs of Hope

Advent is a season of waiting. We open our hearts to Jesus, and sometimes that waiting feels long and heavy. The days are dark, the world feels tired, and our spirits can grow weary. But on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, called *Gaudete Sunday* (which means "Rejoice!"), joy breaks in like the sunrise: *even while we wait, joy is possible.*

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Pope Francis reminds us: "We Christians are called to safeguard and spread the joy of waiting: we await God who loves us infinitely and at the same time we are awaited by Him." Waiting is not empty—it is filled with God's love. St. Francis de Sales adds: "The joy of Advent is not in the noise of the world, but in the silence of the heart that waits for God." In the quiet moments, even in doubt, the promise whispers: Jesus is coming.

St. Teresa of Avila gives us a guide: "Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things pass. God never changes. Patience gains all. Who has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices." In waiting, we choose patience, trust God's care, and let joy rise.

Years ago, a college student worked at a museum gift shop. One day, an elderly couple came in with their granddaughter in a wheelchair. The girl had no arms or legs, only her head and torso, dressed in a white dress with red polka dots. As they came to the counter, the student winked at her. She responded with the biggest, brightest smile he had ever seen. In that moment, her disability disappeared in his eyes—he saw only her beauty and joy. Her smile changed him, lifting him out of his unhappiness and showing him a world of love and warmth.

This is what *Gaudete Sunday* reminds us of. The rose candle on the Advent wreath and the priest's rose vestments tell us: even in sorrow and pain, we are called to live with joy.

Think of John the Baptist in prison. He had preached about the Messiah, but now he wondered: "Is Jesus really the One?" Jesus answered by pointing to Isaiah's prophecy: the blind see, the deaf hear the lame walk. These are not just miracles—they are signs of hope, proof that God's promises are real. Where we are broken, Jesus brings healing. Where we stumble, He lifts us up.

On this *Gaudete Sunday*, we are invited to rejoice. Jesus is our Savior. He turns darkness into light, brokenness into wholeness. He does not wait for us to be perfect—He meets us in our waiting. Let us be patient and joyful, trusting that He is near, weaving hope into our lives.

Prayer: Dear God, in the silence of our hearts, fill us with joy. Help us see Your signs: the blind seeing, the deaf hearing, the lame walking. Lead us closer to Jesus, the Weaver of hope. Amen.

Pastoral Directory

Baptisms:	Father Anthony Nwaohiri	623-3419
Financial Council Chair:	Janne Campbell	832-4290
Pastoral Council Chair:	Martine Messier	808-4573
Mass Intentions & Bulletin:	Marilyn Deslauriers	222-3762
Pastoral Care:	Father Anthony Nwaohiri	623-3419
Advertising Ministry:	Lorraine Brisson	832-3351

EMERGENCY: anwaohiri@gmail.com For emergencies, email this address with EMERGENCY in the subject or call the church office at 613-623-3419.

Lost and Found: Periodically, please check the lost and found basket at the church entrance for articles you may have left behind.

Sts Michael and Gabriel helpinghand ministry: Her objective is to serve needy families periodically in a timely and confidential manner. More details will be announced soon. The administrators can be reached at stmichaelshelpinghands@gmail.com or (613) 623-3419.

West Carleton Food Access Centre: (WCFAC) Please remember our local Food Bank each week by donating items to St. Gabriel's grocery cart. Cash donations of \$20.00 and over will receive a tax receipt. Please include your name and address on the envelope. See Suzanne Lee if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.



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Weekly Eucharist

St. Gabriel's (Constance Bay)	St. Michael's (Fitzroy Harbour)
Sunday 11:00 am Mass	Saturday 4:00 pm Mass
	Sunday 9:00 am Mass
	Wednesday 8:00 am adoration/confession, 9am mass
	Thursday 8:30 confession, 9am mass
	Friday 8:30 confession, 9am mass

live streaming link on YouTube St. Michael's Mass at 9 am Sunday
StMStG-Live

Confessions and Sacrament Of the Sick are also available by request.
Please contact Fr. Anthony directly to book an appointment.

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