

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2025

Intentions:
December 21 - In loving memory of **Roger St. Martin**, requested by Avelina Bercades.
December 24 - For the **parishioners** of St. Gabriel & St. Michael parishes.
December 25 - For those who have no one to pray for them and the holy souls in purgatory, requested by Janne Campbell.
 Mass Intentions: \$15.00

Offertory Collection:
 December 14 - \$1389.00 Thank You


December 21
Saint Peter Canisius: Peter was born in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in 1521. He joined the Jesuits and worked in Germany, Austria, Bohemia and Switzerland as a leader of the Counter-Reformation. Peter educated Catholics with his popular and influential catechism. Although he worked in a time of conflict with growing Lutheranism, he remained moderate and courteous. Peter died in Fribourg in 1597. He was canonized and declared Doctor of the Church in 1925.

"If you have too much to do, with God's help you will find time to do it all."
 ~ Saint Peter Canisius ~

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

Christmas Schedule					
*	Thur	Dec 18	St. Michael	... Advent Confessions.	7:00pm
=	Sat	Dec 20	St. Michael	.....	4:00pm
**	Sun	Dec 21	St. Michael	.....	9:00am
=	Sun	Dec 21	St. Gabriel	.....	11:00am
**	Wed	Dec 24	St. Michael	.....	4:00pm
=	Wed	Dec 24	St. Gabriel	.....	6:00pm
**	Thur	Dec 25	St. Michael	.....	9:00am
*	Thur	Dec 25	St. Gabriel	.....	11:00am
*	Sat	Dec 27	St. Michael	.....	4:00pm
**	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 Year Masses					
+ On-Line Masses (StMSG-Live)					

Gospel Reflection: The gospel for this Fourth Sunday of Advent helps us to reflect on the relationship between Jesus' conception by the Holy Spirit and his birth, as both are clothed in the mystery of God's revelation and presence to us. Two names are given the One incarnated in Mary's womb: Jesus, meaning "God saves the people from their sins" and Emmanuel, meaning "God is with us." The names reveal that the presence of God among us is experienced most profoundly in the forgiveness of our sins. This is the deepest mystery that we celebrate as we see how the joy of Christmas connects and points to the triumph of Easter. Not even the compassionate, righteous Joseph could imagine such a merciful work of God. It is to dream the impossible: God with us (*Emmanuel*) not as a condemnation but as Savior (*Jesus*). (Living Liturgy, p.18)

Vincentian Meditation: The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. The purpose of the coming of Christ was to speak to us humans about the love which the great, eternal, and all-powerful God has for us short-lived, weak, fragile and sinful human beings. A newborn infant calls forth from our hearts love. The language of God at Christmas is one of love. Our vocation as Vincentians is to continue learning the language of love, not only at Christmas but throughout our lives. It is the language that we must learn to speak if we wish to draw near to the poor. (McCullen, *Deep Down Things*, p.509)



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.

Administrator's Corner



GOD'S FAITHFULNESS: TRUSTING IN HIS PLANS.

On this last weekend of Advent, we're invited to reflect on the theme of trusting God's plan. The readings of this Sunday remind us that God keeps His promises, and we're encouraged to rely on Him instead of fear. The story of Ahaz and Joseph are powerful reminders of the importance of trust and obedience.

Ahaz, the king of Judah, is a complex figure. He's faced with a daunting challenge: the threat of invasion from the Assyrian empire. In his fear, he's tempted to seek help from the Assyrians themselves, rather than trusting in God's promise to protect him. But God, in His faithfulness, offers Ahaz a sign: a child will be born, and He will be called Emmanuel, "God with us".

In contrast, Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus, is a model of trust and obedience. When he's faced with the unexpected news of Mary's pregnancy, he's initially unsure of what to do. But when the angel of the Lord appears to him in a dream, he's quick to obey, trusting that God's plan is greater than his own understanding.

As we reflect on these stories, we're reminded that God's plan is not always easy to understand. It can be tempting to try to take control, to try to fix things ourselves, rather than trusting in God's goodness and sovereignty. But the message of Advent is clear: God is with us, and He is faithful.

As St. John Chrysostom reminds us, "God's promises are like anchors in a storm; they hold us fast and keep us safe." And St. Teresa of Avila echoes this, saying, "Trust that God will provide what is best for you, even if it doesn't feel like it."

So, what does it mean to trust God's plan? It means recognizing that He's in control, even when things seem uncertain or chaotic. It means trusting that He's working all things for our good, even when we can't see the bigger picture. It means surrendering our own desires and plans, and instead, embracing His will for our lives.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let's ask ourselves: Are we trusting God or letting fear hold us back? Are we willing to be instruments of God's salvation in our daily lives?

Let's take a moment to reflect on our own lives. Where are we struggling to trust God's plan? Where are we letting fear or uncertainty hold us back?

May we be like Joseph, trusting and obedient, even in the face of uncertainty. May we remember that God is with us, and He is faithful. May we surrender our lives to Him, and trust in His plan for our salvation.

As we close, let's take a moment to pray:
 "Lord, help us to trust your plan, even when things seem uncertain. Give us the courage to surrender our lives to You, and to be instruments of Your salvation in the world. 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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All Welcome



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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.

Pastoral Directory on inside flap