

## Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, December 28, 2025

### Intentions:

December 28 - for the **Parishioners** of St Gabriel & St. Michael parishes.

January 01 - for **Special Intentions** requested by Janne Campbell.

Mass Intentions: \$15.00

### Offertory Collection:

December 21 - \$655.00 Thank You

### December 28



**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph:** Devotion to the Holy Family flourished in the Renaissance. The leading artists of the time - Michelangelo, Raphael, El Greco, Rembrandt, Rubens, to name a few - often portrayed the Holy Family in their work. When this feast day was instituted in 1921, it was originally assigned to the third Sunday after Christmas. It is now observed on the first Sunday following Christmas, unless Christmas itself falls on a Sunday, in which case Holy Family is celebrated on December 30th.

**Holy Innocents:** The “Holy Infants” are the male children recorded slain by King Herod in Matthew’s Gospel. This unique episode in Jesus’ life is not found in any other document, secular or religious, yet this incident, along with the account of the flight into Egypt, presents the ancient tradition of the early Church: Jesus as the “new Israel,” presented and forced to flee, and the “new Moses,” marvelously rescued from the slaughter of the Hebrew children. This feast also points to Jesus as the Messiah and foreshadows the secular opposition Jesus will later meet, culminating in his Passion.

### Pope’s Intentions for the Month of January

For prayer with the word of God: Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

### January 01, 2026 - Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

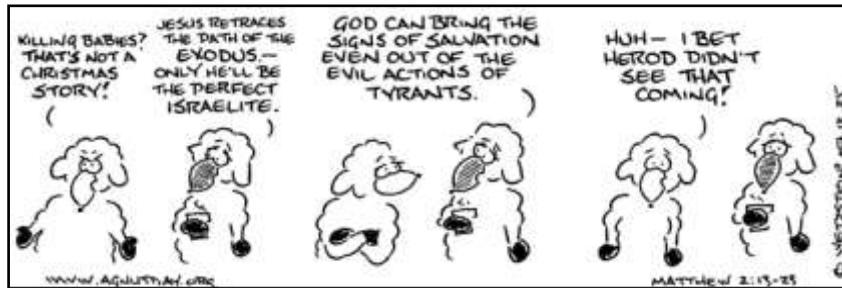
St. Michael’s 9:00 am

St. Gabriel’s 11:00 am

(holy day of obligation in Canada)

**Gospel Reflection:** As parents, Joseph and Mary, were not preserved from hardships. These simple parents surely had apprehensions as they traveled to Egypt. Yet they responded faithfully and obediently to God’s messages. They trusted God’s ways. We too all face challenges in responding to God faithfully and obediently. The holiness of a family is not dependent upon perfection or an easy road. Whether we are a traditional family or a single parent family, whether we have biological or adopted or foster children or no children, whether we live in an expensive home, or a subsidized rental unit makes no difference for living as a holy family. What does make a difference is hearing God’s messages and doing God’s will. Trust in God’s ways. You, too, are a holy family. (Living Liturgy, p.28)

**Vincentian Meditation:** In his faithful response to God’s commands, Joseph also knew how to “listen to the word of God and act on it.” Joseph stands with eager expectation at the threshold of transcendence. From the darkness of his own limited understanding, he is continually peering into the mystery of God. Surely, he cannot fathom the mystery of God’s plan, but with loving compassion he bows in reverence to God’s incomprehensible ways. There is something very beautiful about Joseph’s contacts with the transcendent mystery of God. He was not a monk. He was a carpenter, and he raised his son in the same trade. Yet in the midst of his daily manual labor and family life, Joseph was surrounded by the mystery of God and he penetrated it with faith. He trusted in God’s daily providence. When he read the signs of God’s will, he rushed to put them into practice. (Maloney, Seasons in Spirituality, p.52-53)



**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.*



NOTE:

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

2026 donation envelopes are displayed at the back of the church please take yours home at the end of mass.

From 22<sup>nd</sup> December till 6<sup>th</sup> January the parish office will be closed for Christmas and New Year.

There will be no weekday masses in January 2026. Fr Anthony will be on holiday then.

Readers 1st quarter schedules are available at back of the church.

### BULLETIN BLOOPERS

*The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.*

*Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.*

*The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.*

*Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.*

*The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'*

### Intentions Book:

You are invited to write your prayer requests in our special intentions book in the back of the church - as many and as often as you like. It is important that we verbalize in some form, our desire before God. You are very welcome to be anonymous.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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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Dr. Kelly Graham

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## St. Gabriel's

### Roman Catholic Church

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# All Welcome



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phone (613) 623-3419, fax (613) 623-7282

Web: <http://www.stgabrielparish.ca>

Deacon James Kubina [jgkubina@gmail.com](mailto:jgkubina@gmail.com)

### 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

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

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