



Second Sunday of Advent -Year A

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life". (John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish through the liturgy, faith formation and sacramental life, provides opportunities for members to develop their faith and service to others.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Dec. 7- St. Ambrose

4:30 pm- For the intentions of the Wolfert family by Luke James

Sunday, Dec. 8-Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am- For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

10:45 am- For the intentions of Dini Achtereekte by the Adult Choir

Monday, Dec. 9- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 10

7:00 pm-For the intentions of the Mulholland family by Richard James Jr.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

8:30 am-STA

9:30 am-OLMM

Thursday, Dec. 12-Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 am

Friday, Dec. 13-St. Lucy

9:00 am-For the intentions of Ken Sisk by the CWL members

Saturday, Dec. 14-St. John of the Cross

4:30 pm-For the repose of the soul of Jack Tyo by Pauline and family

Sunday, Dec. 15-Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am-For the intentions of Brianna Hamilton on the occasion of her birthday by her loving family

10:45 am- For the intentions of the Parishioners by the Pastor

~IN OUR PRAYERS~

For the sick among our families and friends especially:

Genny Detillieux, Marie Kirkman,
Theresa Harps, and Alia M.

YOUR OFFERINGS FOR:

December 1st- \$4,060.00

Thank you for your generosity and support

INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR DECEMBER:

The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

Today's Reflection

As we begin the second week of Advent, let us recall our motto for this season: we are climbing God's holy mountain. Our readings give us inspiration and focus for this journey towards holiness.

Our first reading from the Prophet Isaiah continues the theme of journey towards the holy mountain, the Kingdom of God. The prophet gives us a beautiful glimpse of this mountain, where Christ will reign forever. It will be a place of peace, justice, and harmony among all God's creatures. "There shall be no harm or ruin in all my holy mountain... This dwelling shall be glorious."

Our second reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, encourages us to focus on our preparation in this way: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God."

How has Christ welcomed us? By becoming one of us through His incarnation, one with us through the Eucharist, and freeing us from our sins through His death and resurrection so that we can finally live with Him for all eternity in Heaven.

The idea of welcoming others as Christ welcomes us is the essence of Christian hospitality. This kind of hospitality involves seeing people as God sees them and being ready to invite others into our lives whenever and however God asks; it is an attitude we take with us wherever we go, whether at home, at the parish, or out and about at work, school, or in the community.

This kind of hospitality is a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist in our Gospel passage from Matthew. John has the honor of preparing the people for the arrival of the Savior and the coming of the Kingdom of God. His words apply just as much to us in our own Advent preparations today. John says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths."

Though it may not seem obvious at first, there is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality. By recognizing and repenting of our own sins, we become aware of our need for a Savior and His great mercy towards us. With this awareness, and the gratitude to God that comes with it, we are freed to see the good in others and welcome them into our lives just as Christ has welcomed us.

How can we put all of this into action? How can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can (and should) go to Confession this Advent and then make it a regular part of our "Ordinary Time" too. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. We climb farther up God's holy mountain and attract others to join us on the path toward holiness. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.

Blessings,
Have a great week!

December 8, 2019

Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?
WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration form found in the foyer or in the office.
You may bring the completed form to the office

Parish Advent Activities

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Monday, Dec. 9th, 7:00pm
CGS-Advent Presentation/Reflection
Sunday, Dec. 15th, 3:00pm
Advent Penance Service
Thurs, Dec. 19th, 7:00pm

Mark your Calendars!

**WAUPOOS FAMILY FARM
CHRISTMAS HAMPER CONTRIBUTIONS**

For the past 6 years, our parish has generously provided Christmas Hampers for families in need through Waupoos Family Farm (<http://waupoos.com/>). If you would like to buy gifts or gift cards to help a family enjoy a special Christmas, please use the sign up sheet in the foyer to indicate which items you wish to contribute. Please bring your **unwrapped** donation to the church on or before December 22nd.

We hope to include the following items in our hamper(s):
Gift cards for groceries, Walmart, Winners etc;
Ladies' and mens' hats, gloves, scarves, socks;
Childrens' mittens, hats, neck warmers/scarves, socks;
Tea towels, oven mitts, kitchen gadgets;
Bath towels & washcloths;
Craft supplies, drawing paper, colouring books - adults and childrens', pencil crayons, markers, note paper, pens, pencils;
Flashlights, candles, Christmas movies, books, family game;
Gingerbread house kit, cozy fleece blanket;
Magazines for ladies, men, kids, teens, decorations, tree ornaments, "Christmas party crackers" for the table;
Wrapping paper, tape, bows/ribbon, gift tags, festive napkins, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, fancy crackers, cookies;
Boxed/bagged chocolates;
Small gifts or any other creative ideas you may have

Thank you for your generosity!

Have a Blessed Advent.

Carolyn Cogan - 613-608-9502

Karen Urlocker - 613-445-2962

Coffee Sunday: Have you been missing the fellowship from attending coffee Sundays? If so please feel free to sign up and host an up-coming coffee Sunday. Sign up sheets are posted just outside the kitchen. Thank you all in advance.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at www.olmm.ca and our Facebook page
Email: admin@olmm.ca

Please consider giving generously to our parish addition and renovation project.
Please also pray for the success of the much needed up-grades.

Flourishing Congregations Survey: The deadline for collection of information from the parishes for the Flourishing Congregations survey has been extended until December 15, 2019. If you have not done so yet please take a few minutes and fill out the anonymous national online survey at <https://tinyurl.com/fc429c>. Thanks, in advance, for completing this survey!

No plans for New Years Eve???

Join us as we usher in a new decade!

Hosted by your Parish's Social Committee

Where: Parish Hall

When: Tuesday, December 31st from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

How much? \$15 per person (Limited tickets 80 -adult only & BYOB too)

What does the cost include? DJ, cold and hot Hors d'oeuvres, complimentary glass of Champagne, Door Prizes

Why attend? Dancing, great food, drinks and fellowship.

Need A Ride? We can help. Just sign up when you buy your ticket. (Russell, Embrun only) **Tickets on sale now in the foyer or the office.**

CHURCH DECORATIONS & FLOWERS: Parishioners can help beautify the church for Christmas by making a donation for church flowers and decorations in the name of a departed loved one. The names of the donors and the names of their departed loved ones will be published in the church bulletin at Christmas. A special mass intention for the deceased will be Sunday, Dec. 22 at 9:00 am Mass. Envelopes can be found in the pews. Deadline for envelopes to be in is December 15. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th -4:30pm-(STA)

-7:00pm (OLMM)

-9:00pm-(OLMM)

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th-10:00am-(OLMM)

New Years Eve

Tuesday, December 31st -4:30pm

New Years Day

Wednesday, January 1st, -11:00am