AT THE BEGINNING OF ADVENT

We may think that we give glory to God only by our worship and prayer, or simply by following certain ethical norms. It is true that the primacy belongs to our relationship with God, but we cannot forget that the ultimate criterion on which our lives will be judged is what we have done for others. Prayer is most precious, for it nourishes a daily commitment to love. Our worship becomes pleasing to God when we devote ourselves to living generously, and allow God’s gift, granted in prayer, to be shown in our concern for our brothers and sisters.

Similarly, the best way to discern if our prayer is authentic is to judge to what extent our life is being transformed in the light of mercy. For “mercy is not only an action of the Father; it becomes a criterion for ascertaining who his true children are”. Mercy “is the very foundation of the Church’s life”. In this regard, I would like to reiterate that mercy does not exclude justice and truth; indeed, “we have to say that mercy is the fullness of justice and the most radiant manifestation of God’s truth”. It is “the key to heaven”.

Rejoice and Be Glad (104-105)
Francis, Bishop of Rome
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

**Monday, December 3, 2018**  3:00 PM  Rosary (Christ the King Chapel)  
*St. Francis Xavier (Priest) (Memorial)*  
Intention of Reverend Robert Champagne

**Tuesday, December 4, 2018**  
12:00 PM  Eucharist (Christ the King Chapel)  
1:30 PM  Development & Peace (KC218)  
7:00 PM  Wrapping Party (Vitali Lounge)  
*St. John Damascene (Priest, Doctor) (Memorial)*  
Intention of Janet Loo

**Wednesday, December 5, 2018**  
10:00 AM  All Day Confessions (see times below)  
12:00 PM  Last Baby Group for 2018 (Parish Hall)  
7:00 PM  Eucharist (Christ the King Chapel)  
Intention of Reverend Dwayne Adam

**Thursday, December 6, 2018**  
12:00 PM  Eucharist (Christ the King Chapel)  
*St. Nicholas (Bishop) (Memorial)*  
Intention of Reverend Robert Weaver

**Friday, December 7, 2018**  
12:00 PM  Eucharist (Christ the King Chapel)  
*St. Ambrose (Bishop, Doctor) (Memorial)*  
Intention of Deacon Lyle Lalonde

**Saturday, December 8, 2018**  
5:00 PM  Coffee House (St. Joseph’s Hospitality Centre)  
The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Intention of Reverend Bernard Pinsonneault, CSB

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**SUNDAY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** The 2019 Sunday offertory envelopes may be picked up at the back of the church.

**ST. JOSEPH’S HOSPITALITY CENTRE:** Volunteers are needed for either the 5:00 to 7:00 PM or 7:00 to 9:00 PM shifts on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at the Hospitality Centre to serve, prepare food or play music. Donations of healthy snacks, baked goods (store-bought or home-baked), sandwiches, cheese and fruit are needed. Non refrigerated foods can be dropped off Friday in Wemple room 139 and all other food can be dropped off at the Hospitality Centre at 5:15 PM on December 8, 2018. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Annette at 519-963-1477 or at annette.donovanpanchaud@kings.uwo.ca.

**DAY OF CONFESSIONS:** On Wednesday, December 5, 2018, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation in our community. Father Bechard will be at Windermere on the Mount from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Father Baillargeon will be at King’s University College from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Both priests will be at King’s from 1:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

**FLOWER DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS:** If you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of flowers for our Christmas celebrations in memory of your loved ones and/or for the needs and intentions of friends and family, please use the designated envelopes that are available at the entrance of the church. You can also see Annette Donovan Panchaud or call Lisa Caeiro in the Parish Office at 519-963-1477. Your name and the name of the individuals you would like to remember will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Thank you for your generosity and support.
WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE HOLY DAYS

STEP INTO CHRISTMAS is our Christmas initiative in conjunction with our outreach program at the St. Joseph’s Hospitality Centre. We invite you to fill shoeboxes with socks, gloves, hats, toiletries and other items for those who are in need. These boxes will be distributed to people during our December visit at the St. Joseph’s Hospitality Centre. Unwrapped shoeboxes can be left at the Marion altar between now and December 3, 2018.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are looking for volunteers willing to come and assist with wrapping our Step Into Christmas shoeboxes on December 4, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Vitali Lounge at King’s University College. If you are interested, please contact Annette Donovan Panchaud at annette.donovanpanchaud@kings.uwo.ca.

ADVENT DRIVE FOR YOUNG FAMILIES: Imagine what it would have been like for Mary and Joseph: to be young, in a foreign land and with no place to give birth. Then imagine what an honour it would be to provide them with necessary provisions and refuge. For Advent, our faith community will be welcoming donations of diapers, clothing, sleepers and other items needed for the care of infants. Please bring your unwrapped and new gifts to honour the Christ-Child. Donations can be left at the side altar under the statue of St. Joseph. Your gifts will be given to the London Crisis Pregnancy Centre, to assist families who struggle with the financial obligations of raising a child.

THE ADVENT PARTY IS BACK!: The Eighth Annual Advent Party will take place on Sunday, December 9, 2018 from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Children ages 4 to 12 will take part in preparing for our Lord’s birth, by sharing food, making crafts, doing activities and reflecting on this time of the year. To register and provide what items you would like to contribute to the pot-luck lunch, please contact Maija Wilson at maija.wilson@kings.uwo.ca by Wednesday, December 5, 2018.

CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE

Vigil of the Lord’s Nativity
Monday, December 24, 2018 at 7:30 PM
Carol Service at 7:00 PM

Day of the Lord's Nativity
Tuesday, December 25, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Tuesday, January 1, 2018 at 10:00 AM

COMMUNITY MEALS: Our community meals following the 5:00 pm liturgy will continue in the new year. We warmly encourage parishioners to contribute to our potlucks, to consider sponsoring a meal ($500) or to join with another family to prepare a meal for those gathered. For more information, contact Annette at 519-963-1477 or at annette.donovanpanchaud@kings.uwo.ca.
The place where we gather for worship and mission is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to the land and region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London.

**HYMNS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT (C)**

**10:00 AM**
- **Gathering Hymn:** CBW 317
- **Kyrie:** Missa Simplex
- **Psalm 25:** CBW 16
- **Gospel Acclamation:** CBW 248
- **Meditation:** Freedom is Coming (South African)
- **Preparation of Gifts:** CBW 312
- **Acclamations:** Missa Simplex
- **Communion Hymn:** CBW 319
- **Concluding Hymn:** CBW 310

**5:00 PM**
- **Gathering Hymn:** CBW 317
- **Kyrie:** Missa Simplex
- **Psalm 25:** CBW 16
- **Gospel Acclamation:** Mass of Renewal
- **Meditation:** Ready the Way (Stephan)
- **Preparation of Gifts:** CBW 312
- **Acclamations:** Mass of Spirit and Grace
- **Communion Hymn:** CBW 319
- **Concluding Hymn:** CBW 310

**NORTHERN CALENDARS:** Last year, our parish sold **IMAGES OF THE ARCTIC**, a calendar using photos taken by Bishop Jon Hansen CSsR of the Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith, NWT. The calendars will be available again this year for $20. All the proceeds from this project will support the very basic needs of parishes of the northern missions. These calendars will be available at the back of The Chapel.

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA PROGRAM:** St. Mary School has begun the application process for entrance to Grade 5 for 2019/2020. Brochures with application forms are available in all elementary schools. Please contact your Principal for further details of the application and audition process or call St. Mary School at (519) 675-4423. Applications are due back to St. Mary School by December 21, 2018. Application to the program is open to all Grade 4 Students of the London District Catholic School Board. All applicants must meet the admission requirements.

**VERITAS SERIES FOR FAITH AND CULTURE**

Archbishop Donald Bolen

Conversations over the Fence: Creative Initiatives in Ecumenical and Inter-faith Relations

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019, 7:30 PM, KENNY THEATRE
FREE / ACCESSIBLE

Since the Second Vatican Council, we can say with confidence that dialogue is constitutive of the Church’s life in the world. Dialogue and relationship building takes many shapes, and some of those creative efforts, including receptive ecumenism, scriptural reasoning, dialogue with Indigenous spiritual traditions, and interfaith conversations in the sphere of culture.

Pope Francis appointed Bishop Bolen, as the eighth Archbishop of Regina, on Monday, July 11, 2016. Born in Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, he studied English and in Religious Studies at the University of Regina and theology at the University of Saint Paul in Ottawa, obtaining the License in Theology. He then transferred to Oxford University in England to further his studies in ecumenism and the documents of the "Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission." Archbishop Bolen is a Member of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity, Co-Chair of the International Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission, and Co-Chair of the Joint International Commission for Dialogue between the World Methodist Council and the Catholic Church.