

## 2nd Sunday of Advent – Dec 5, 2021

### ST. MARY PARISH

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Dec 7 - 7:00 p.m. Frank Marray Req'd by Mary Tucci  
Wed. Dec 8 - 9:00 a.m. Frank Raftis Req'd by Anna Marie Raftis  
Thur. Dec 9 - 9:00 a.m. Margaret & Leo Coulson Req'd by Wilf Coulson  
Fri. Dec 10 - 9:00 a.m. Louis Williams Req'd by Brenda & Pete Meyer  
Sat. Dec 11 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish  
Sun. Dec 12 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

### LECTORS

Sat. Dec 11 - 4:00 p.m. Evelyn Collins  
Sun. Dec 12 - 9:00 a.m. J.von Westerholt

**CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Mike at: 519-323-1054 ext. 7**

### ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Dec 11 - 5:30 p.m. Emilia Bairos Req'd by Mary & John Bairos

### ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Dec 12 - 11:00 a.m. Special intention

**"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down." -Pope Francis**

**THE 2021 – 2023 SYNOD OF BISHOPS** brings an invitation from Pope Francis to embark on a journey together. How can you get involved? Offer your thoughts on how we can deepen our communion in the Lord and how all members of the Church can participate more fully in its mission.

Visit: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/synod/#about>.

**ADVENT RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES** - The Offices for Liturgy, Youth Ministry and Evangelization and Catechesis are happy to provide a resource for families to encourage prayer and celebration in the home during the Advent Season. Please see <https://hamiltondiocese.com/advent2021/> for suggestions, videos and a prayer to be prayed around the wreath each Sunday of Advent. We invite you to share this resource with those in your communities who may benefit.

### Christmas Lessons

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**Christmas is a special time to give, to serve, to love. It isn't just about yourself, but others that you think of: the presents, the trees, the glowing lights are fun but have no part in what the real meaning of Christmas is...**

**That is in your heart; even if other people don't, you should try to do the things that you would want them to do to you.**

**The holidays are a busy time but they are sometimes good because they keep you thinking about others like you should. So this year try to not think about yourself but think of the things you can do to help others to have a wonderful Christmas and you will find that you will be happy too.**

**-unknown author**

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### Sunday's Readings

**First Reading:** *Baruch 5:1-9*

Jerusalem shall see the splendor of God's glory.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalms 126:1-2,2-3,4-5,6*

A song of praise for God's great deeds

**Second Reading:** *Philippians 1:4-6,8-11*

Paul prays for the Philippians.

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 3:1-6*

John preaches repentance and baptizes in the region of the Jordan.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptizes for repentance and for forgiveness of sins, preparing the way for God's salvation. In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists

the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history. John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.  
<https://www.loyolapress.com>

### The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary- December 08

### The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

This feast celebrates God's choice of Mary to be the mother of Jesus. God preserved Mary from the stain of original sin from the moment of her conception. Thus, Mary was the first to receive the benefit of the redemption that her Son would merit for all.  
<https://www.loyolapress.com>

### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEGUAGE

Dear ladies of the CWL, your dues must be in by the end of the year. Please leave in collection basket to the attention of Colleen Dalla Costa. Thank you.

### Advent Confessions

In preparation for Christmas, we are having Confessions after the weekday and weekend masses during this season of Advent.

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



**Christmas Eve - Fri. Dec 24**  
Mt. Forest at 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.  
Harriston at 6:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day- Sat. Dec 25**  
Mt. Forest at 9:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.  
Harriston at 5:30 p.m.  
Ayton at 11:00 a.m.

### 2022 ENVELOPES

The 2022 contribution envelopes are available for you to pick up this weekend. Please verify that the address shown on your label is correct as it is the address that will be used on your income tax receipt in February. If you do not have envelopes and would like a box, please call the office.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** The Parish Office will be closed over the holidays from Dec. 24, 2021 to Jan.4, 2022. The office will be re-open on Wed. Jan.5, 2022.

### Kindergarten Registration at Wellington Catholic DSB

The Wellington Catholic District School Board will be accepting new registrations for kindergarten at our schools beginning January 3, 2022.

To be eligible for registering in kindergarten, children;

- must be four years of age on or before December 31, 2022 to attend Junior (Year 1) Kindergarten
- must be five years of age on or before December 31, 2022 to attend Senior (Year 2) Kindergarten

During the registration process, school administration is available to assist you with any questions you may have. To assist administrators with registering your child for kindergarten, we ask that you have the following documents available;

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Parent or Child's Baptismal Certificate
- Proof of Tax Support for Families New to the System (i.e. Most Recent Tax Bill)
- Proof of Address (Government Document, Mortgage or Rental Agreement, Hydro Bill, Credit Card Statement)
- Immigration Documentation (If Applicable)
- Custody Documents (If Applicable)

Please note:

- Students currently attending a Wellington Catholic Junior (Year 1) Kindergarten program are **NOT REQUIRED** to register for Senior (Year 2) Kindergarten.
- Should you have any questions about registration procedures or requirements, please contact your local Catholic school.

**Parenting Tip** - The excitement of Christmas begins to build even before Halloween. Children are targeted with ads and commercials to ask Santa for the latest toys, electronic device or game. As parents we love to see the anticipation, but our task is a greater one – it is to keep the reason for Christmas at the forefront of our children's minds and understanding. Are they as excited about the coming of Christ and it's meaning for all people? Do they have a sense that long after every gift they desire from Santa is gone, the truths, love, care, compassion, guidance and stability from God will live on to help each of us to live and, ultimately, receive the gift of eternity? The true gift of Christmas should never be the last one we think of, or getting excited about, since it is indeed the most valuable. Advent is the perfect time to daily bring all of this to light!