

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – Nov 28, 2021

### ST. MARY PARISH

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Nov 30 - 7:00 p.m. Lucille Horsburgh Req'd by Mary & Leo Heffernan  
Wed. Dec 1 - 9:00 a.m. Elaine, Mike & Rosemary Dinnen Req'd by Bernard Dinneen  
Thur. Dec 2 - 9:00 a.m. Braedon Coburn Req'd by Adell Mueller  
Fri. Dec 3 - 9:00 a.m. Marion O'Grady Req'd by Betty Mogensen & Family  
Sat. Dec 4 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish  
Sun. Dec 5 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

### LECTORS

Sat. Dec 4 - 4:00 p.m. Luis Arruda  
Sun. Dec 5 - 9:00 a.m. Debra Ross

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

### ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Dec 4 - 5:30 p.m. John Canning Req'd by Angela & Dan Seifried

### ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Dec 5 - 11:00 a.m. Special intention Req'd by Parishioner



Advent wreaths are circular, representing God's infinite [love](#), and are usually made of evergreen leaves, which "represent [the hope of eternal life](#) brought by [Jesus Christ](#)". Within the Advent wreath are candles that generally represent the four weeks of the Advent season: Hope-Peace- Joy- Love as well as "the [light of God](#) coming into the world through the [birth of Jesus Christ](#)"

**CHRISTMAS IS MEANT TO BE A TIME OF HOPE**, but for those who are coping with separation or divorce, it can also be a time of great challenge. The Family Ministry Office invites anyone in this situation to join them on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. for a ZOOM session offering practical tips and ways to find joy this holiday season. For more information check out [Upcoming Events](#) on our website.

**ST. MARY AND THE MISSIONS PARISH IN OWEN SOUND** is presenting an Advent retreat online. All are welcome to join the livestream on the four Wednesday evenings of Advent (December 1, 8, 15, 22), at 7:00 p.m. Join the program live or watch it later. ([YouTube channel](#)).

First Sunday of Advent – "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life." Are worldly cares dragging you down? Be a follower of the Master. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988).

### Sunday's Readings

**First Reading:** *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalms 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14*

The Lord will teach us his paths.

**Second Reading:** *1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2*

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 21:25-28, 34-36*

Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year C. The Advent season

includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle C). Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow, and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world. <https://www.loyolapress.com>

### Food Bank – Harriston

The food bank in Harriston is looking for donations of food, in particular, canned foods and toiletries. If you are able to contribute it would be appreciated.

### CWL Membership Dues

CWL dues for 2022 are \$25.00 and must be paid before the end of the year 2021. Please use the blue envelopes in your boxes or any envelopes and address to Colleen Dalla Costa 519- 323-9112

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**  
We pray for all our sick parishioners

**Parenting Tip of the Month** - For Catholics, Christmas is about so much more than gifts: it is the promise, through the birth of Jesus, of goodness and light coming into our lives. Do your children know this is the focus of Christmas? Advent and Christmas are perfect times to highlight the "reason for the season". Read stories about the Advent wreath so they understand what each candle symbolizes; read the story of the Nativity (more than once!); be sure the tree is adorned with symbols of the faith; read family Advent reflections daily during Advent; attend Mass and reflect on the readings each week, including Christmas Day. Faith sets a foundation on which to stand and Christmas is a perfect time to bring Christ into your family activities!

### 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.

**HOPE – PEACE- JOY – LOVE**

**THE ADVENT VIDEO SERIES**, prepared annually by the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis at the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), features Regina Archbishop Donald Bolen this year. He focuses his five presentations on current Indigenous concerns leading to healing and reconciliation. The first two talks are already available on the CCCB [website](#). This series is a prayerful way for Catholics to prepare for Advent and for the Indigenous Delegation to Rome, December 12, 2021.