

## 3rd Sunday of Advent – Dec 12, 2021

### ST. MARY PARISH

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Dec 14 - 7:00 p.m. Kay Lehman Req'd by Jean Drewery  
Wed. Dec 15 - 9:00 a.m. Terry McCabe Req'd by Estate  
Thur. Dec 16 - 9:00 a.m. Catherine O'Donnell Req'd by Elizabeth & Roch Gadet & Family  
Fri. Dec 17 - 9:00 a.m. Rosemary Thoms Req'd by Florence & Lorne Moyer  
Sat. Dec 18 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish  
Sun. Dec 19 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

### LECTORS

Sat. Dec 18 - 4:00 p.m. Susan Thurston  
Sun. Dec 19 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Westendorp

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

### ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Dec 18 - 5:30 p.m. Dorothy Bell Req'd by Seifried Families

### ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Dec 19 - 11:00 a.m. Loretta & Jim Murray Req'd by Dot Bourgeois

### The Pope's Intentions

For December -  
**Catechists**  
Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



**REJOICE** in the Lord  
always; again I say,  
**REJOICE.**  
Indeed, the lord is near.  
(Philippians 4, 4-5)

### Sunday's Readings

**First Reading:** *Zephaniah 3:14-18a*  
A savior is promised to Israel.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Isaiah 12:2-3,4,5-6*  
A song of praise to God our savior

**Second Reading:** *Philippians 4:4-7*  
Rejoice always because the Lord is near.

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 3:10-18*  
John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection

with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

<https://www.loyolapress.com>

### 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

### 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.

**HOPE – PEACE- JOY – LOVE**

### Liturgical Calendar

**Mon Dec 13- St. Lucy**

**Tue Dec 14- St. John of the Cross**

### 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. and 1:00 p.m.  
Ayton at 11:00 a.m.

### 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.

### Advent Confessions

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

### 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.

### Operation Christmas Child - Shoe Boxes

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for your support of the Shoe Box Program. Through a combined effort, St. Thomas, St. Peter and St. Mary parishes contributed a total of 37 boxes. In combination, the following counties Bruce, Grey, Huron, Perth, Wellington and Dufferin, donated 6099 boxes. This number of boxes was approximately 1000 more boxes than were donated last year. To all the individuals and families who participated in this program, a sincere "Thank you".