

SEEK FIRST
THE
Kingdom
OF
GOD

December 14, 2025
3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Bulletin

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Christmas Masses

Wednesday, Dec 24: 4:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
9:00 pm
12:00 am (midnight)

Wednesday, Dec 25: 10:00 am

•We are not giving out tickets for Masses

•Overflow from the church will be seated in Tranquille Hall where the Mass will be live-streamed to the screen.

•The 4:00 & 6:30 pm Masses are more suited for young children.

•It is likely that the 4:00 & 6:30 pm Masses will be attended by more people, so you may want to plan to attend one of the other Christmas Masses.

WE NEED HELP Decorating in the church for Christmas, Sunday, Dec. 21, 3 pm. Fluff a Christmas tree, string lights, hang banners, etc. Please join in preparing our church for the season of Christmas.

Prayers for Healing, Thursday, Dec. 18, after 7 pm Mass in church. The Prayer Team prays for all types of healing: mental, physical, emotional, spiritual and even for someone not present through a proxy. Attend Mass and stay for prayer!

Parish Finances

Joanne Chiasson Ext. 227 finance@saintjoseph.ca

Donation options: Envelopes
Tap to Give! in the entrance to the church
PAP (Personally Approved Payments): monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account
Credit Card: monthly donation
Online donation through our website
E-transfer: email to sjc.etransfer@gmail.com

December 14 - 21 Dates to Remember

Sun. 14: 3 pm, Christian meditation, chapel

Mon. 15: 7:30 pm, Voices in the Wilderness concert,
Church

Tues. 16: 5 pm, Ignite Meal for St. Lawrence Centre,
Tranquille Hall Kitchen

Thurs. 18: 10 am - 12 noon, Mom's Group,
St. JP II Room

7:30 pm, Prayers for Healing, after Mass in church

7:45 pm, Ignite Bible & Beer, Mr. Mike's Restaurant

Sun. 21: after 9 am Mass, Sandwich Sunday,
Tranquille Hall

Following 11 am Mass, La Posada, church

3 pm, Christmas Decorating, church

3 pm, Christian meditation, chapel

For Unto Us - A Christmas Concert

presented by Voices in the Wilderness.

Monday, December 15, 7:30 pm, in the church.

Admission with a donation to the Salvation Army Christmas Campaign (monetary gifts or non-perishable food welcome). General seating.

Sponsored in part by County of Grande Prairie No. 1.



Sandwich Sunday, December 21, after 9 am Mass. Bring supplies and/or help assemble sandwiches next weekend.

Faith in Action Men's Conference, Saturday, Jan. 24, in the church. 8 am (doors open) - 4 pm
Theme, **"Lord, teach us to pray..." (Luke 11:1)**, led by Rev. Kristopher Schmitz. Discover how prayer opens the door to receiving God's love and mercy, enriching our personal, family, and professional lives. Tickets: \$35 (includes lunch & refreshments). For info or to register, contact Hervey, 780-228-2199 or herveychabot@gmail.com. Follow **Faith in Action Men's Conference** on Facebook for updates.

Sacraments

Anastasia ext. 228 sacraments@saintjoseph.ca

Parents of School-age Children receiving Sacraments this year (Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation)

If you have not yet registered your child to receive a sacrament this year, please email Anastasia, or call the office, ext. 228.

Baptism Jean-Marc ext. 229 baptism@saintjoseph.ca

Through the Waters of Baptism we welcome Natalie De Guzman to our family of faith. We pray that her journey with our Lord is filled with great joy!

Parents are required to complete Baptism preparation. For information call the parish office or check saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/

Youth Ministry

April ext .232 youth@saintjoseph.ca

Check out our programs for youth at saintjoseph.ca/ministries/youth.



Gr. 7 - 12: 1st & 3rd Saturday Youth Choir and Christmas Party
Pizza at 5:30 pm, choir practice at

6 pm, Christmas party following 7 pm Mass in SJPII Room until 10 pm. Wear your Christmas attire and join us for Christmas themed fun and games. Bring your favourite Christmas baking to join the Christmas baking swap.

Young Adults

@ignitegrandeprairie or StJoesYoungAdults



Ignite Young Adults 18+

Meal for St. Lawrence Centre, Tuesday, Dec. 16,
5 pm, Tranquille Hall Kitchen.

Bible & Beer, Thursday, Dec. 18, 7:45 pm at Mr.
Mike's Restaurant.

2025 Donation envelopes available in the Grouard Room until the weekend of Dec. 22/23, or stop by the office during office hours.

Special collection envelopes also available for those who do not use assigned envelopes to donate.

Family & Children Ministry

Kristen ext. 230 family@saintjoseph.ca

Be Part of Our Christmas Spirit!

Children's procession at the 4 & 6:30 pm Masses:

If your child wants to carry a candle (electric!) to the altar, contact Kristen at the parish office.

Spread cheer to our children after Christmas

Masses. Help make and/or hand out treats.

Contact Kristen at the parish office.

The Inn - Las Posada, Sunday, Dec. 21, after 11 am Mass. Join us at this traditional Latin American celebration as we journey with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Come dressed as your favourite nativity character, farm animal or in your favourite PJ's. We will be breaking a piñata in honour of Jesus' birth.

These ministries rely on many volunteers. Time commitment can be as little as 5 - 10 minutes, a few times per year. Speak to Kristen if interested. We are grateful for any and all help.

Liturgy of the Word with Children (ages 4 - grade 3)

7 pm Saturday and Sunday 9 & 11 am Mass.

Older kids, youth & adult volunteers needed.

Mom's Group - Thursdays 10 am - 12 noon.

Women and children welcome! Play, visit and pray!

Children's Bookshelf - Prayerful books to help your little ones encounter God's love during Mass.

Work Bees - Thursdays 10 am - 12 noon (RSVP Kristen if you plan to come!)

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, for children 3, 4 & 5 years old. CGS is a Montessori-based international program for children to grow in relationship with God. Register on parish website under [Ministries](#).

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick, especially

Ivan Romkes Amanda Sideroff

Joyce Halwa Bert Hunt

Kendra McKenna John Glodek

Emma Wilson Terry Ward

Denise Kohlman Jane Haley

Yvonne Chabot, mother of Hervey Chabot

Barbara Schaefer, sister of Helen Walker

Dorothy Duhaime, mother of Annette Dechant

Danilo Rimando, brother of Tessie Rimando

The deceased, especially Josie Cuthill

General Information

Christmas Choir Rehearsals

All rehearsals are in the church.

Please register [here](#) or via QR code.

Christmas Eve 4 pm Children & Youth Rehearsals:



	Age 4 - 7	Age 8+
Dec. 20	11:15 - 11:45 am	11:45 - 12:45 am
Dec. 22	2:45 - 3:15 pm	3:15 - 4:30 pm
Dec. 23	2:45 - 3:15 pm	3:15 - 4:30 pm
<i>Other Christmas Eve/Day Choir rehearsals</i>		
Dec. 17	9 pm Choir	7:40 - 9 pm
Dec. 20	6:30 pm Choir	9:45 - 11:00 am
Dec. 20	10 am Christmas Day	4:15 - 5:30 pm
Dec. 22	Midnight	7 - 8:45 pm

St. Joseph Young Adults New Year's Eve Soiree

Dec 31, 7:00 pm-12:30 am 18+ event

Begins with Mass at 7 pm. Party to follow in Tranquille Hall. Cash Mocktail bar.

Formal/Creative Formal/Festive Black Tie (Come dressed up for Mass.)

Tickets \$25, available after Mass.

Questions? Email stjosephsNYE@gmail.com

St. Joseph CWL Youth & Young Adult Funding for

Christian-based volunteer work. For information contact Lorraine, marting6@telus.net.

Deadline: January 15.

Know someone who can't come to Mass due to illness or infirmity? Our Communion Team takes the Blessed Sacrament to those who are homebound, in the hospital and senior's homes. For information please call the parish office.

Mass Intentions

December 15 - 20

✠ -Mass for someone deceased

SH - Mass at a Senior's Home

Mon. 15, 12:15 pm: ✠ Linda Cowell

Tues. 16, 7 pm: ✠ Richard Lachance

Wed. 17, 12:15 pm: ✠ Philip Fonseca

7 pm: ✠ Mabel, John & Michael McNeil, Stacey Hagg

Thurs. 18, 7 pm: ✠ Dylan Tremblay

Fri. 19, 10:30 am (SH): ✠ Richard Lachance

12:15 pm: ✠ Oliver & Warren Pinto

Sat. 20, 9 am: ✠ Frank Vanden Dungen

Ladies Bible Study, Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11 am, St. JPll Room. All ladies welcome.

Christian Meditation - Sundays at 3 pm in the chapel. All are welcome for this prayer of silence, stillness and simplicity. For information contact Mia, miklge@telus.net

Quilting Bee-Levers, meet Mondays in the new year to make quilts which are donated to community organizations who help those in need. Do you have any Fortrel fabric? Yes, they make those quilts that our grandmothers made that last forever.

Be Involved

Call the parish office for these, and more, volunteer opportunities.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - We are looking for people to set up for Adoration, which takes place the first Friday of every month. Training provided. Please contact the parish office.

Holy Communion to the Sick - Take Holy Communion to those who are homebound, in the hospital and other care centers.

Mentors on the OCIA journey are indispensable.

Active parishioners: Is God calling you as a sponsor/companion? Deepen your own faith as you help others discover the incredible love of our God.

Adults needed to assist in parish-based classes. (*All programs involving children require 2 screened adults to be present.*) Share & grow in your faith, and help children to grow in theirs. Call Anastasia, ext. 228.

Screen Volunteers - Operate our projector screens at Sunday Mass. No experience necessary. Training provided. For information email mcibach@telus.net

Gift Shop Volunteers - Help people with purchases after 7 pm Saturday Mass & Sunday 9 & 11 am Mass.

Offertory Gift Bearers bring the Bread & Wine to the altar during Mass. Families and individuals welcome.

Occasionally provide bag lunch supplies for our emergency food service. These lunches contain specific items, so please do not drop off a donation without calling first.

Catholic Family Services Annual Christmas Hamper Program welcomes donations in many forms. Please call 780-532-9381 to learn how you can help bring hope and joy to local families in need this Christmas. *Deadline for donations: Monday, December 22*

St Joseph Seminary is hosting a Come & See Weekend, January 23 - 25. For all men (grade 12 or older) open to discerning the priesthood. For more information and to register go to www.archgm.ca/comeandsee Interested in attending? Please contact Msgr. Charles Lavoie, vicargeneral.agm@outlook.com Registration deadline: January 12

Our Emergency Food Service, Samaritan's Basket, gratefully accepts gift cards for grocery stores and toiletry items for both men & women. (Travel and regular sizes: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrushes, etc.)

Warm Winter Woolies Collection during Advent. Warm winter wear is especially needed in our community. Please drop donations of new socks, mitts, gloves, toques & scarves in the collection bin at the entrance to the church. (*We cannot accept clothing.*) Any monetary donations will be used to purchase more socks, mitts etc. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday Readings

Third Sunday of Advent

Actions Worthy of Praise

Isaiah 35:1 - 6a, 10. Israel's deliverance

James 5:7 - 10. Patience

Matthew 11:2 - 11. Christ's witness to John

Key passage: [Jesus said,] "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." Mathew 11:11

Question: What would Jesus see to praise about you right now?

Child: What good things have you done during Advent to be like Jesus??

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Frequently Asked Questions

Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30 am - noon, 1 - 5 pm

Sunday Masses

Saturday evening 7:00 pm

Sunday morning 9:00 & 11:00 am

Daily Masses (September - June)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:15 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am

Senior's Lodge Masses at 10:30 am:

1st Tuesday - The Gardens 1st Friday - Heritage Lodge

2nd Friday - Wild Rose Manor

3rd Friday - Pioneer Lodge

Confessions: Saturday evenings, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, or by appointment (call the parish office)

Devotions to our Mother of Perpetual Help at Wednesday Masses

Baptism for Infants & Young Children:

Check saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/ or call Jean-Marc, ext. 228 (even prior to the birth of your child) about Baptism preparation for parents.

Marriage: Couples wishing to be married in a Catholic Church **must begin preparation at least 8 months** prior to their wedding date. Call Karen G, ext. 224, or email adultsacraments@saintjoseph.ca

Interested in joining the church or completing Sacraments for adults? Contact Karen G, ext. 224, or email adultsacraments@saintjoseph.ca

Parish Pastoral Council: st.joes.ppc@gmail.com

Catholic Women's League: cwlstjosephgp@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus: kofc3241gp@gmail.com

Prayer Chain Requests: Confidentiality assured. stjosephprayers@gmail.com, or call the parish office

Religious Gift Shop/Library: Available after weekend Mass.

Information Centre in church New? Know of any newcomers/visitors to our parish? Questions/need information? On weekends see volunteers at the Centre.

Event Promotion: Fill in a Request to Promote form on our website saintjoseph.ca/contact/promote/. Bulletin submissions due noon Wednesdays. Maximum poster size 8.5 X 11. All requests subject to approval.