

DECEMBER 2 & 3, 2023



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

304 Highway 8 | Stoney Creek, Ontario, L8G 1E6
Phone: (905)-662-8593 | Email: saintfx@cogeco.net
www.saintfxstoneycreek.com



WELCOME to all who have come to worship and pray with us this weekend. We are glad you are here!

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Ross Campbell, Pastor
Fr. Jonathan Reitzel, Associate
Deacon Gian Girolami
Deacon Brian Prieur
Ms. Wes Moga, Youth Minister
Ms. Nancy Meehan, Secretary
Mrs. Jean Goobie, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Pia Pua, Custodian

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Offered during 11:00 a.m. Mass
(Sept - June)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: 8:00 a.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
**Or by appointment*

ADORATION (1 HOUR)

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



PARISH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

St. Francis Xavier(905) 523-2333
St. Martin of Tours (905) 523-2334
St. Agnes (905) 560-7616
St. Clare of Assisi (905) 523-2344
Our Lady of Peace (905) 523-2330

PARISH SECONDARY SCHOOL

St. John Henry Newman (905) 523-2314

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

| | |
|---|---------------|
| TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 + Ernesto Caruso | 8:00AM |
| WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 + Nicola & Filomena Ciccone | 9:00AM |
| WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 - Mass for Parishioners | 7:00PM |
| THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 + Fr. Mike Downey | 8:00AM |
| FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 - Intentions of Doug & Nancy Nix | 8:00AM |

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

| | |
|---|----------------|
| SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 + Anna DiGiovanni + Carmen Colalillo + Cecylia Kulak + Nicola (Nick) Piuanno + Splendora & Michelangelo DiMarco + Maria Princen + Marianna Bozzo + All Souls + Vanessa Sherwin + Franco Silvestri + Deceased Members of the Santini Family + Deceased Members of the De Carolis Family + Pierina DiGregorio + Deceased Members of Luzi Family + Pietro Sorce + Alberto & Enrichetta Grande - In Thanksgiving for prayers answered - Prayers Answered - Intentions of Nicole & Jake - Intentions of the Vickers Family | 5:30PM |
| SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 + Milka Zrinsack | 9:00AM |
| SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 - Mass for the Parishioners | 11:00AM |

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Welcomes YOU!

Whether you are new to our parish, or have been with us for many years, your presence leaves a unique mark on the life of our church. As your Pastor, I am excited you are with us today to build an even stronger parish community now and into the future.



Fr. Ross Campbell

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Monday | Rev. Pierre Caouette |
| Tuesday | Grandparents & Elderly |
| Wednesday | Order of Preachers |
| Thursday | Rev. Donald Sanvido |
| Friday | The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| Saturday | Rev. David Perrin |

OFFERTORY

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Envelope Contributions | \$ 6,272.35 |
| Loose Collection | \$ 555.50 |
| Online Donations | \$ 1,424.83 |
| Total Collection | \$ 8,252.68 |

THANK YOU!

TO DONATE, you can scan this QR Code with your phone camera.



REMEMBER YOUR PARISH Keep your love for your parish alive. Remember St. Francis Xavier Parish in your will and when recommending expressions of sympathy.

DECEMBER 2 & 3, 2023

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4 - ST. JOHN DAMASCENE
Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 9-10;
Matthew 8.5-11, 13++

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5
Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
Luke 10.21-24

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 - ST. NICHOLAS
Isaiah 25.6-10a; Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6;
Matthew 15.29-37

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 - ST. AMBROSE
Isaiah 26.1-6; Psalm 118.1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
Matthew 7.21, 24-27

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 - THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
Genesis 3.9-15, 20; Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;
Ephesians 1.3-6, 11-12; Luke 1.26-38

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 - ST. JUAN DIEGO
Isaiah 30.19-21, 23-26; Psalm 147.1-2, 3-4, 5-6;
Matthew 9.35 - 10.1, 5a, 6-8++

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85.8ab+9, 10-11, 12-13;
2 Peter 3.8-14; Mark 1.1-8



FINALLY SOME GOOD CONSTRUCTION NEWS!

Earlier this year, Fr. Ross applied to the Ex Corde Foundation at the Diocese for grant money so that we could install a very much needed 2nd Bathroom in our Church along with upgrading our current bathroom. We are so pleased to announce that we have been awarded \$15,000 towards this project.

Work has already started and we are so excited and grateful that we are finally able to build this much needed addition to our church.

EARLY OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the Office will close at **3:00 pm** on Thursday, December 7.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Tuesday - 5th | 8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Card Club 7:00 pm - RCIA |
| Wednesday - 6th | 9:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Mass 7:45 pm - Adult Choir Practice |
| Thursday - 7th | 8:00 am - Mass 7:30 pm - K of C (868) Gen. Mtg. |
| Friday - 8th | 8:00 am - Mass & Adoration 7:00 pm - Stations of the Nativity |
| Saturday - 9th | 4:00 pm - Youth Choir Practice 4:30 pm - Confessions |
| Sunday - 10th | 6:30 pm - Christmas Pageant Rehearsal |

Blessing with Relic

December 7 is the Feast Day of St. Ambrose of Milan. There will be a special blessing with a 1st Class Relic (bone) following the Thursday morning Mass.

SSVP - JESSE TREE



The last day to drop off your gifts (with the tags attached) is this Tuesday, **December 5th**. You can drop them off either at the Church or at the Office.

Thank you for helping us serve in hope.

2024 DONATION ENVELOPES

2024 Donation Envelope Boxes are now available for pick up in the Narthex. If you do not currently have envelopes and would like to start using them please contact the office.

Anyone using pre-authorized debit is asked to please contact the office to ensure that their information is current and accurate.

2023-2024 SUNDAY MISSALS

The new Sunday Missals are still available in the Narthex and in the office. The cost is still only **\$5 each**.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATION 2023

Your Name:

Your Phone Number:

Your Address:

In Loving Memory of:

OR

In Honour of:

Amount of Donation

\$

Envelope Number:



CHRISTMAS TRIVIA NIGHT

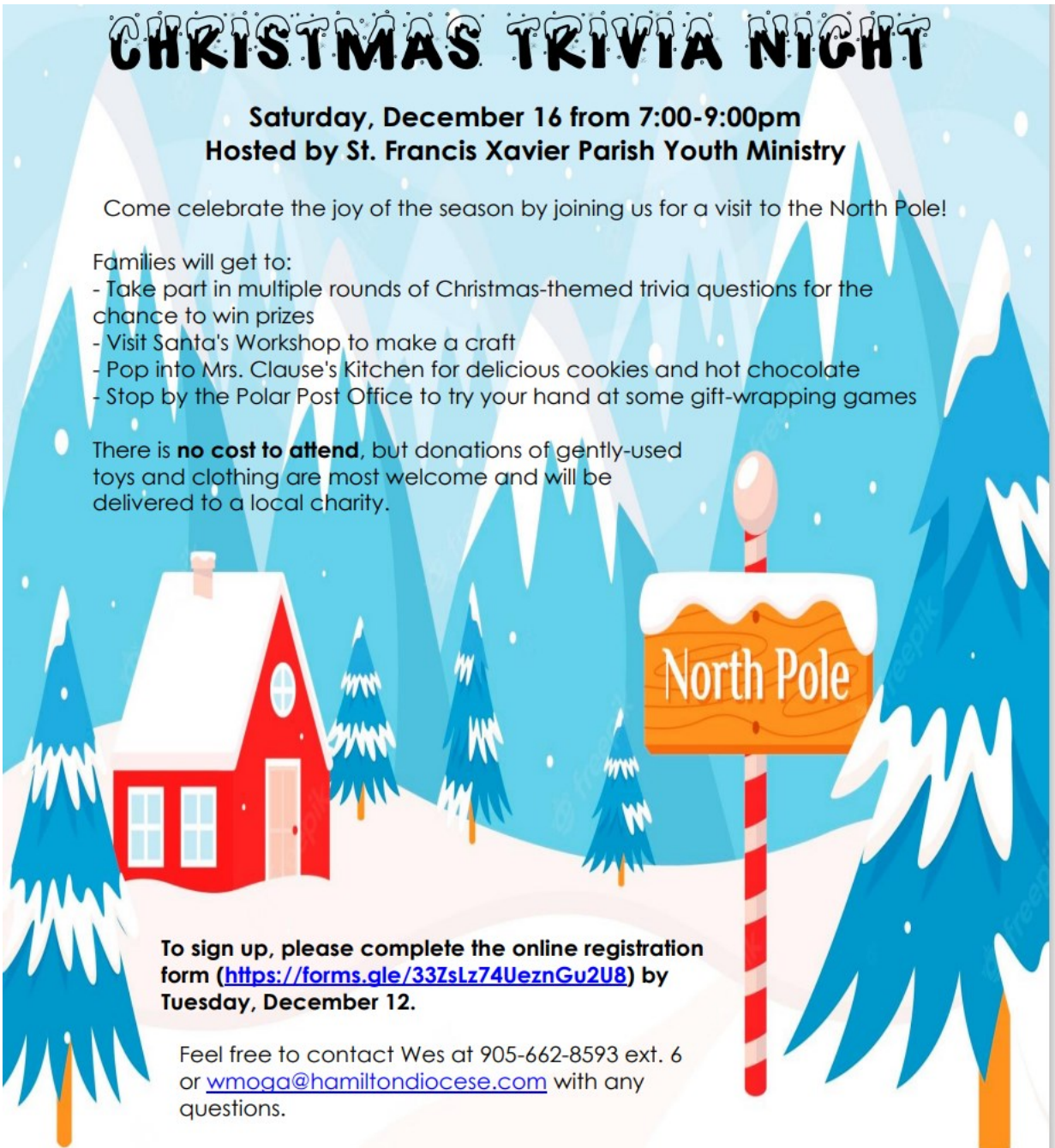
Saturday, December 16 from 7:00-9:00pm
Hosted by St. Francis Xavier Parish Youth Ministry

Come celebrate the joy of the season by joining us for a visit to the North Pole!

Families will get to:

- Take part in multiple rounds of Christmas-themed trivia questions for the chance to win prizes
- Visit Santa's Workshop to make a craft
- Pop into Mrs. Clause's Kitchen for delicious cookies and hot chocolate
- Stop by the Polar Post Office to try your hand at some gift-wrapping games

There is **no cost to attend**, but donations of gently-used toys and clothing are most welcome and will be delivered to a local charity.



To sign up, please complete the online registration form (<https://forms.gle/33ZsLz74UeznGu2U8>) by Tuesday, December 12.

Feel free to contact Wes at 905-662-8593 ext. 6 or wmoga@hamiltondiocese.com with any questions.

THE STATIONS OF THE NATIVITY



**Find the deeper meaning of Christmas
participating in this wonderful tradition!**

Here is a brand new way to celebrate Advent. As in the Lenten Stations, fourteen scenes from Jesus' life are used as opportunities for prayer. The familiar scenes here are those surrounding Christ's birth, beginning with the Annunciation. A short scripture verse and reflection will bring out the meaning of the scene for our own lives today.

The Stations of the Nativity are beautiful enough to be understood by children, and rich enough to be inspiring for adults. The Stations of the Nativity is the perfect way to focus on the mystery of Jesus as *Emmanuel*, "God with us."

Join us praying the Stations of the Nativity each Friday of Advent:

Dec. 8th — Dec. 15th — Dec. 22nd

The Stations start at **7:00 p.m.** & coffee and treats to follow afterwards.

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23 & 24

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Saturday 5:30 pm | Mass |
| Sunday 9:00 am | Mass |
| Sunday 11:00 am | Mass |

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - December 24

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday 3:30 pm | Children's Nativity Pageant |
| Sunday 4:00 pm | Mass |
| Sunday 7:00 pm | Mass |
| Sunday 12:00 Midnight | Mass |

Christmas Day - December 25

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Monday 9:00 am | Mass |
| Monday 11:00 am | Mass |

Christmas Week Schedule

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| December 26 | No Mass |
| December 27 | 9:00 am Mass (no evening Mass) |
| December 28 | 8:00 am Mass |
| December 29 | 8:00 am Mass (no Adoration) |

Feast of the Holy Family

December 30 & 31

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Saturday 5:30 pm | Mass |
| Sunday 9:00 am | Mass |
| Sunday 11:00 am | Mass |

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve - December 31

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Sunday 5:30 pm | Mass |
|----------------|------|

New Year's Day - January 1

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Monday 11:00 am | Mass |
|-----------------|------|

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

In addition to regular Confession times, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be celebrated on:

Wednesday, December 13 from 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm
 Wednesday, December 20 from 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

NEW THIS MONTH (PAMPHLETS)

New for December is "ADVENT". Take one home to help you celebrate Advent with your family and also learn a few "fun facts" about the meaning behind some of our popular traditions.



November 25, December 3, December 10, 2023

ITEMS IN NEED OF;

Cereal, jam, juice cans & boxes, pancake mix, peanut free school snacks, instant oatmeal, tomato sauce & pasta, crackers, coffee, tea, sugar, salt, flour, cooking and olive oil.

Hygiene products such as new tooth brushes, toothpaste, bathroom & facial tissue, bar soap, shampoo, adult & children diapers, dish soap.

All proceeds will go to the local Stoney Creek Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity and support.

For more information or to arrange for donation pick ups, contact Mario at 905-662-1287

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2024

The Office is now taking requests for Mass Intentions for 2024.

Thank you to everyone who have already requested their 3 Masses for 2024.

The process went much smoother this year and we have been able to accommodate more requests in a timely manner.

As of this Friday, December 1, you may come back and book the remainder of your requested Masses.

December 2023

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

NOVENA TO ST. LUCY

Novena Begins: December 4, 2023

Feast Day: December 13, 2023

Saint Lucy, your beautiful name signifies light. By the light of faith which God bestowed upon you, increase and preserve this light in my soul so that I may avoid evil, be zealous in the performance of good works, and abhor nothing as much as the blindness and darkness of evil and sin.

By your intercession with God, obtain for me perfect vision for my bodily eyes and the grace to use them for God's great honor and glory and the salvation of all people.

Saint Lucy, virgin and martyr, hear my prayers and obtain my petitions.
Amen

(Mention your request here...)

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory Be...

There will be a special blessing with a 1st Class Relic of St. Lucy following both Masses on Wednesday, December 14.

WEEKLY RECIPE

MIRANDA MURACA'S PEANUT BUTTER BALLS

Ingredients:

- 4 cups peanut butter
- 4 cups icing sugar
- 8 Tbsp softened butter
- 6 cups Rice Krispies
- 300 g pkg semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 2 (300 g) pkg butterscotch chips

Directions:

Stir together first four ingredients in a large bowl. Put in freezer for 1 hour for easier handling later.

Roll into small balls and freeze for 1 hour.

Melt all the chips and mix thoroughly. Dip each ball into chocolate and place onto waxed paper-lined cookie sheets.

Freeze for 1 hour.

Makes about 100 tim-bit- sized. Enjoy!

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Carla Barichello,
Investment Advisor & Financial Planner
Tel: 905-662-4905
carla.barichello@nbpccd.com

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