

**DECEMBER 9 & 10, 2023**



# **ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**

## **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

304 Highway 8 | Stoney Creek, Ontario, L8G 1E6  
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**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

# 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12** 8:00AM  
+ Sabatino & Enrichetta Capretta

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13** 9:00AM  
+ Deceased Members of the Grota Family

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13** 7:00PM  
+ Nicola Noce  
+ Filomena Greco  
+ Adele Granata  
+ Rosa Trotti  
+ Nicola Piunno  
- In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered  
- Intentions of Lucinda Kunkel  
\* Living & Deceased Members of the CWL

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14** 8:00AM  
+ Domenico Villella

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15** 8:00AM  
+ Jan & Katarzyna Przybyl

## 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16** 5:30PM  
+ Stefano Fortunato  
+ Aguinaldo Elias  
+ Jack & Alice Baker  
+ Cecylia Kulak  
+ Giuseppina Fuca  
+ Antonio Placidi  
+ Greg & Laura DiPietro  
+ Vincenzo & Maria Coccaro  
+ Joyce Innocente  
+ Maria Princen  
+ All Souls  
+ Carmelo Pettorossi  
+ Frank Granato  
+ Angela Antonello  
+ Lynn Kindree  
+ Lucia Gallo  
+ Peter Della Nebbia  
+ Mary Silva Banavage  
- In Thanksgiving for prayers answered  
- Intentions of Matthew

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17** 9:00AM  
+ Norman Puhl

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17** 11:00AM  
- Mass for the Parishioners

# 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

<b>Monday</b>	Rev. Andrew Lopatniuk
<b>Tuesday</b>	Married Couples
<b>Wednesday</b>	Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer
<b>Thursday</b>	Rev. Wallace Metcalf
<b>Friday</b>	Rev. Charles Galea
<b>Saturday</b>	Rev. Robert Kiffman

## OFFERTORY

Envelope Contributions	\$ 7,184.00
Loose Collection	\$ 512.85
Online Donations	\$ 1,395.88
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>\$ 9,092.73</b>

**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 9 & 10, 2023

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 - ST. DAMASUS I, POPE**  
Isaiah 35.1-10; Psalm 85.8ab-9, 10-11, 12-13;  
Luke 5.17-26

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 - OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
Revelation 11.19a; 12.1, 3-6a, 10ab;  
Canticle: Judith 13.18abc, 19-20ab; Luke 1.39-47

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 - ST. LUCY, MARTYR**  
Isaiah 40.25-31; Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8+10;  
Matthew 11.28-30

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS**  
Isaiah 41.13-20; Psalm 145.1+9, 10-11, 12-13ab;  
Matthew 11.11-15

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15**  
Isaiah 48.17-19; Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6;  
Matthew 11.16-19

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16**  
Sirach 48.1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80.1ac+2b, 14-15, 17-18;  
Matthew 17.10-13

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17**  
Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11; Luke 1.47-48, 49-50, 53-54;  
1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28

## UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

<b>Tuesday - 12th</b>	8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Card Club 7:00 pm - RCIA
<b>Wednesday - 13th</b>	9:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Mass 7:45 pm - K of C & CWL Social
<b>Thursday - 14th</b>	8:00 am - Mass 6:00 pm - SSVP General Meeting
<b>Friday - 15th</b>	8:00 am - Mass & Adoration 7:00 pm - Stations of the Nativity
<b>Saturday - 16th</b>	8:30 am - ABLAZE Group Service Day 4:30 pm - Confessions 6:30 pm - Christmas Trivia Night (Youth Ministry)
<b>Sunday - 17th</b>	6:30 pm - Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

## Blessing with Relics

We are so blessed to be able to celebrate 3 Saints this week with a special blessing with a 1st Class Relic (Bone)

**Wed. Dec. 13 - St. Lucy** - Patron Saint of the blind and those with eye trouble; epidemics; throat infections and writers.

**Thurs. Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross** - Patron Saint of Mystics, Contemplatives and of Spanish Poets.

**Fri. Dec. 15 - St. Virginia Centurione Bracelli** - Foundress of the Sisters of Our Lady of Refuge in Mount Cavalry.

A special blessing with the Relic of each Saint will be given after each of the daily Masses.

## THANK YOU

The CWL would like to thank everyone for their help with last week's Bake Sale. Thank you to the bakers as well as to the parishioners who purchased the goodies. It was a magnificent success.

## BAMBINELLI SUNDAY 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St.

Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the 'Bambinelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene

is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to our Lord's Day Masses next weekend to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day and as you lay Jesus in the manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

There is a storybook entitled "Bambinelli Sunday" that tells the story of a little boy named Alessandro and the lessons he learns about family, faith and love on this special day. If you are interested in the story you can order it on Amazon.



# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATION 2023

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## CHRISTMAS TRIVIA NIGHT

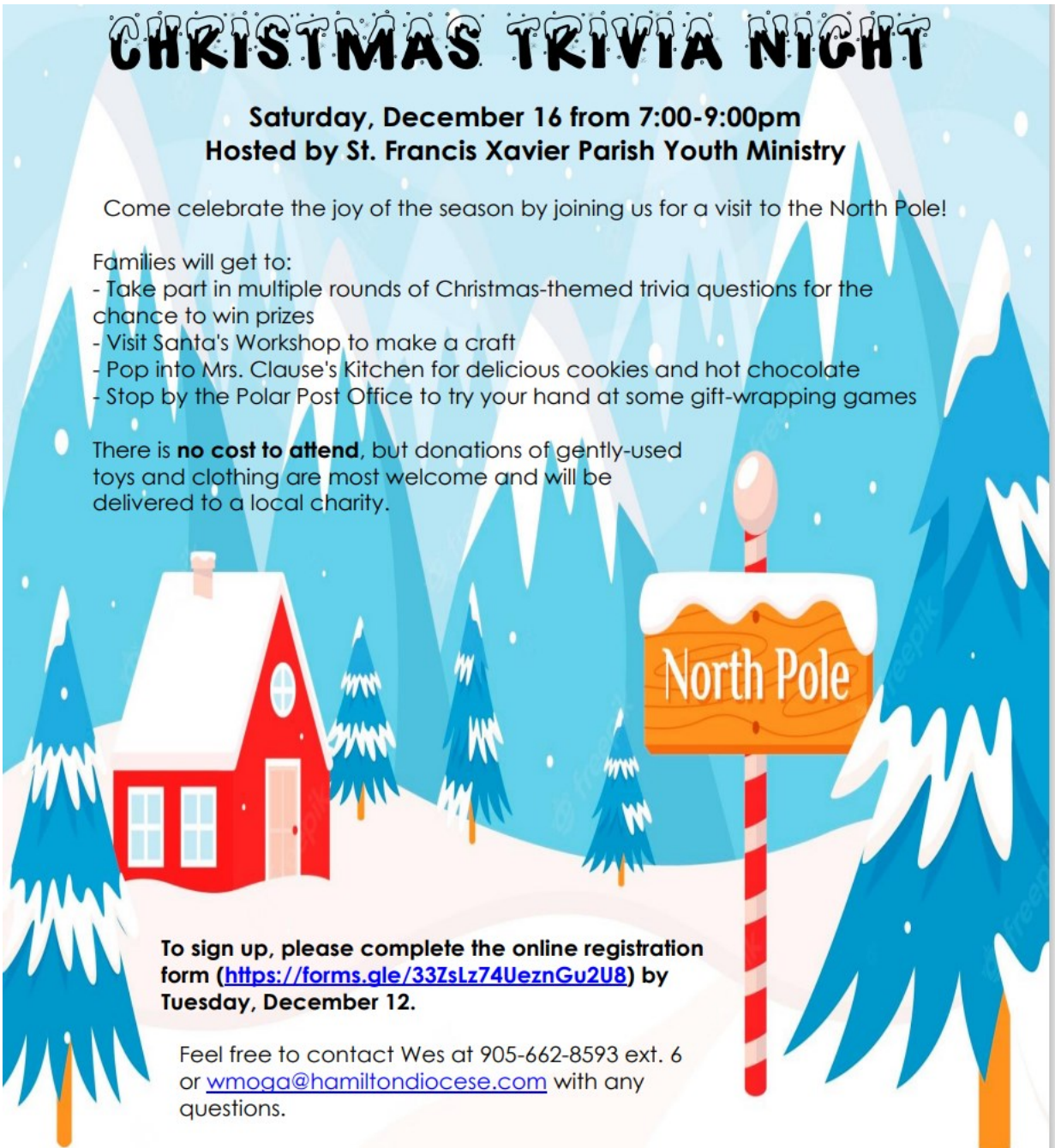
Saturday, December 16 from 7:00-9:00pm  
Hosted by St. Francis Xavier Parish Youth Ministry

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](mailto: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. 15<sup>th</sup> & Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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
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### New Year's Day - January 1

Monday 11:00 am	Mass
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## SSVP - JESSE TREE



Thank you to everyone for their incredible kindness and generosity. We received an overwhelming response to the Jesse Tree this year and are able to help so many of our neighbours have a wonderful Christmas with dignity & love.

*Thank you for helping us serve in hope.*

## 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.

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Our annual Christmas pageant will be taking place once again this year on Christmas Eve! The pageant tells the story of Jesus' birth, read aloud from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, with students in Grades 3-7 playing the roles of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, wisemen, angels, scribes, and King Herod, as well as serving as our readers.

The Pageant will begin at approximately 3:30 pm on Christmas Eve, followed by a few songs led by our Youth Choir, before Mass commences at 4:00 pm. Our young people invite you to join them as they celebrate the birth of our Saviour!

## FOOD DRIVE

**The Knights of Columbus Council 7969**

Just a reminder that **Sunday, December 10** is the last day to drop off your donations to this year's Food Drive.

All non-perishable items are needed and appreciated. Donations can be left in the Narthex.

Thank you for your generosity.

# CHRISTMAS NOVENA

**Novena Begins:** December 16, 2023

**Feast Day:** December 25, 2023

Incarnate Savior, You were born in darkness: come into my darkness, my doubts, and whatever makes me despondent and depressed.

You were turned away by the innkeeper: turn me out of my resistance to God and whatever keeps me closed in on myself.

You came in the piercing cold: come into my soul made cold by my sins.

You were born in a stable: come into everything in my life that is unstable.

You came cared for by Joseph: come into my fears, my hurts, my regrets, my disappointments, and whatever makes life seem meaningless.

You came born of Mary: come into my loneliness with the love with which Mary loves You.

You came to the heralding of angels: come into my cynicism, and let me adore Your mystery.

You came as an infant, lest I be terrified. Full of trust, I offer You my intentions:

*(mention your request here).*

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



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