

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18th, 2022

All three readings deal with the identity of “the One who was to come”. The identity of the child was vaguely glimpsed in the Old Testament. Isaiah talked about the coming of a very special child (First Reading). But there is no reason to believe that he knew just how special that child would be! No prophecy is fully understood until after its fulfilment. St. Matthew shows that Isaiah’s prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus, and in a far greater way than the prophet could ever have imagined. The New Testament reveals the true identity of this special Child – Jesus! The Second Reading and the Gospel make it clear that Jesus was the Son of David. This was so because Joseph, His legal guardian, was descended from the line of David. But He is more than that... He is the Son of God! A happy & fruitful 4th week of Advent to you!

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 18 th <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, December 19 th <i>Advent</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, December 20 th <i>Advent</i>	12 pm	+ <i>Salvatore Esposito</i>	By Joe Boccanfuso & family
Wednesday, December 21 st <i>Advent</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>John Gray</i> + <i>Margaret Karley (Linwood)</i>	By the Estate By the Estate
Thursday, December 22 nd <i>Advent</i>	8 am	+ <i>Anna Strauss</i>	By Dolores Straus
Friday, December 23 rd <i>St. John of Kanty</i>	8 am	<i>Intentions of Fr. Irenaeus Koziak SAC</i>	By Christian Mothers
Saturday, December 24 th <i>Christmas Vigil</i>	5 pm 7 pm 9 pm	+ <i>Maria Medeiros (Linwood)</i> + <i>Leonard Hergott</i> + <i>Members of St. Clement’s School</i>	By Anonymous By Frances Hergott By Families & Friends
Sunday, December 25 th <i>Christmas – Nativity of the Lord</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	

Our Saint of the Week: St. John of Kanty (1390 - 1473) – John was a country lad who made good in the big city and the big university of Kraków (Jagiellonian University, est. 1364), Poland. After brilliant studies he was ordained a priest and became a professor of theology. The inevitable opposition which saints encounter led to his being ousted by rivals and sent to be a parish priest at Olkusz. An extremely humble man, he did his best, but his best was not to the liking of his parishioners. Besides, he was afraid of the responsibilities of his position. But in the end he won his people’s hearts. After some time he returned to Kraków and taught Scripture for the remainder of his life. St. John was a serious man, and humble, but known to all the poor of Kraków for his kindness. His goods and his money were always at their disposal, and time and again they took advantage of him. He kept only the money and clothes absolutely needed to support himself. He slept little, ate sparingly, and took no meat. He made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, hoping to be martyred by the Turks. Later St. John made four subsequent pilgrimages to Rome, carrying his luggage on his back. When he was warned to look after his health, he

was quick to point out that, for all their austerity, the fathers of the desert lived remarkably long lives. St. John of Kanty is a typical saint: He was kind, humble, and generous, he suffered opposition and led an austere, penitential life. Most Christians in an affluent society can understand all the ingredients except the last: Anything more than mild self-discipline seems reserved for athletes and ballet dancers. Christmas at least is a good time to reject self-indulgence. St. John pray for us!

ANGEL TREE OF CHARITY – If you still have items for the Angel Tree, please bring them to the church and they will be picked up. A special thank you to everyone who has contributed.

ANGEL TREE – If your family has had a baptism or funeral at St. Clements this year, you will find an angel ornament on our Angel Tree to the left of the Sanctuary. Please pick it up to decorate your tree.

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS! – Our Christmas Mass schedule is as follows:

CHRISTMAS EVE – 5pm Linwood, 7pm & 9pm St. Clements

CHRISTMAS DAY – 9am St. Clements, 11am Linwood

NEW YEAR’S EVE – 5pm St. Clements

NEW YEAR’S DAY – 9am St. Clements, 11am Linwood

MIDNIGHT MASS – Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate Christmas Midnight Mass on Sunday, December 25th at 12:00 a.m. The celebration will be livestreamed and can be accessed by visiting the Cathedral’s website – www.ctkbasilica.ca.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY – All children & youth are invited to join us in the parish hall after 9am Mass, until 1pm, for games, crafts, food & a Christmas Movie! Parents don’t need to stay, but are welcome to! A special thank you to Stacey & Sharon of the Christian Mothers for organizing.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CROSBY – Please visit this link [2022 Christmas Message](#) or see the bulletin insert.

VOCATION SEEDS – “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife...When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.” Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or a consecrated virgin, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

DIocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Msgr. Ivan Vuksic, Rev. Pierre Cauoette L.C., Voluntas Dei Institute (i.v.Dei), Rev. Louis DeVaugelas, L.C., Rev. Jerek Scherber, L.C., & Rev. Adam Zettel, L.C.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION – St. Clements: Operating \$2,420.00. Maintenance \$70.00. Thank you for your generosity!