

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 14th, 2025

Isaiah uses the image of the desert, made fertile by rain, to portray the confident hope that God would restore His people, crushed by misfortune. Their most crippling disabilities – blindness, deafness and lameness – will be relieved when God sends salvation to His people. John the Baptist’s image of the Messiah was that of a stern judge who would execute a fiery judgment. But Jesus did not fit this image. Hence, John’s doubts about Him. Jesus dispelled John’s doubts by showing that He was doing precisely the kind of things that had been predicted for the messianic times (by prophets such as Isaiah). Once again, St. Matthew sees Jesus as the One who fulfills the messianic prophecies. James is talking about the Second Coming of Jesus. He urges the kind of patience and hope farmers show in waiting for the harvest, and which the prophets of old showed as they waited for the promises to be fulfilled.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 14 th <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, December 15 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	Intentions of Juan Pablo Baldizon	By the Family
Tuesday, December 16 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	+ Henry & Irene Brenner	By Jim Brenner
Wednesday, December 17 th <i>Advent</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ Irene Kuntz + Jerry Cronin	By the Kuntz family By Chris & Barb Runstedler
Thursday, December 18 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	+ Shirley Hehn	By Jim Hehn
Friday, December 19 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	+ Luize Venner	By the Barrett family
Saturday, December 20 th <i>Advent</i>	5 pm	+ John Miller + Rita Miller	By Tom Miller
Sunday, December 21 st <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	

History of the Catholic Church (#96) – In the meantime, theological reflection on the nature of the Holy Spirt was stimulated by the whole controversy. Here also St. Athanasius’ contribution was decisive: the Spirt, he asserted, was consubstantial with Father and Son. His work was completed by the Cappadocian Fathers Basil the Great (d. 379), Gregory of Nazianzus (d. 389), and Gregory of Nyssa (d. 395). The difficult problem of how the Spirit was distinct from Father and Son while sharing the same essence was solved by differentiating between their modes of origins; the Son is generated, but the Spirt proceeds. Unity was then restored to the Church at the Counsil of Constantinople in 381, which reaffirmed the Nicene faith and endorsed the consubstantiality of the Spirit, thus giving the doctrine of the Trinity its definitive form.

2025-26 MISSALS – The new missals are available for a purchase price of \$7. See Fr. Irenaeus in the sacristy after Mass or stop by the office. Please bring exact change.

LA POSADA: A MEXICAN ADVENT TRADITION – Sun., Dec. 21, 4pm – Come and join us at St. Mary's in Linwood for Vespers, a procession, and a re-enactment of St. Joseph and St. Mary's search for an inn when they arrive in Bethlehem. (Outdoors - dress for the weather.) Followed by a potluck and pinatas in the church hall.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE – Come Home for Christmas!

Christmas Eve: 5pm in Linwood, 7 & 11pm in St. Clements
Christmas Day: 9am in St. Clements, 11am in Linwood
New Year’s Eve: 5pm in St. Clements
New Year’s Day: 9am St. Clements in 11am Linwood

ANGEL TREE - This year we have more than 15 local families on our Angel Tree! We hope to fulfil some Christmas wishes with your help. We ask that the gifts be returned by December 18th at the very latest. If you need your gift picked up, please call Stacey Mayer at 519-465-3473.

USHER SCHEDULING – After many years of service, Jim Hehn would like to pass on the responsibility of organizing the usher schedule. If you are able to take this on, please contact the office. Thank you, Jim!

CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, January 3rd at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino, Rev. Stanley Nwokeji, Voluntas Dei Institute, ivDei, Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski, Rev. Donald Sanvido, & Rev. David Weise.

VOCATION SEEDS – “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION – St. Clements \$6,045.00. Thank you for your generosity!