

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4th, 2022

Isaiah foretells that even though the family tree of Jesse (David's father) has been reduced to a mere stump, nevertheless from that stump a new shoot will spring – a true king filled with the Spirit and endowed with all the virtues of his ancestors. The new king (the Messiah) will be a champion of the poor and will restore paradisaic peace. St. Matthew introduces St. John the Baptist as the herald, foretold by Isaiah, of the long-awaited Messiah, and the one who prepared the people to receive Him. St. Matthew sees Jesus as fulfilling the Old Testament promises. St. Paul also sees Jesus as the One through whom God fulfilled His promises, and at the same time the reading from Roman continues the theme of peace and harmony of the First Reading.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 4 th <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, December 5 th <i>Advent</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, December 6 th <i>St. Nicholas</i>	12 pm	+ <i>John + Rita Black</i>	By John & Christine Dixon
Wednesday, December 7 th <i>St. Ambrose</i>	11 am 4 pm	+ <i>Patricia Gohl</i> <i>All Souls in Purgatory (Linwood)</i>	By Larry & Bonnie Lidstone By Anonymous
Thursday, December 8 th <i>Immaculate Conception of the BVM</i>	8 am	+ <i>Maria Medeiros</i>	By Anonymous
Friday, December 9 th <i>St. Juan Diego</i>	8 am	<i>All Souls in Purgatory</i>	By Anonymous
Saturday, December 10 th <i>Our Lady of Loreto</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Dorothy Comfort</i>	By Bob & Linda Myers
Sunday, December 11 th <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	

Our Saint of the Week: St. Nicholas (270-343) – the absence of the “hard facts” of history is not necessarily an obstacle to the popularity of saints, as the devotion to Saint Nicholas shows. Both the Eastern and Western Churches honour him, and it is claimed that after the Blessed Virgin, he is the saint most pictured by Christian artists. And yet historically, we can pinpoint only the fact that Nicholas was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor. As with many of the saints, however, we are able to capture the relationship which Nicholas had with God through the admiration which Christians have had for him—an admiration expressed in the colourful stories which have been told and retold through the centuries. Perhaps the best-known story about Nicholas concerns his charity toward a poor man who was unable to provide dowries for his three daughters of marriageable age. Rather than see them forced into prostitution, Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man's window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the daughters to be married. Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint's feast. In the English-speaking countries, Saint Nicholas became, by a twist of the tongue, Santa Claus—further expanding the example of generosity portrayed by this holy bishop. The critical eye of modern history makes us take a deeper

look at the legends surrounding Saint Nicholas. But perhaps we can utilize the lesson taught by his legendary charity, look deeper at our approach to material goods in the Christmas season, and seek ways to extend our sharing to those in real need. St. Nicholas pray for us!

ANGEL TREE OF CHARITY – Please consider selecting a tag from our Angel Tree, and providing a Christmas gift to someone in need. Items can be placed under the tree at the front church. Please have gifts returned by Dec. 15th. If you have any questions, or if you know of a person or family in need, please see Stacey Mayer. All requests will be treated with the utmost discretion.

ANGEL TREE OF BAPTISM – If your family has had a baptism at St. Clements this year, you will find an angel ornament with your child's name on it on our Angel Tree to the left of the Sanctuary. Please accept this small token to commemorate a wonderful occasion.

ADVENT RETREAT NIGHT – On Wednesday, December 7th at 7pm, join His Excellency Bishop Wayne Lobsinger for *The Synod on Synodality: What it is and what it is not*. St. Michaels Parish, 80 University Ave. W, Waterloo, ON.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH - Marriage Tip 124 - The culture often pushes us to pursue work, activities and socializing, without keeping us grounded in the fact that there are only 24 hours in a day. When we look at our lives through the lens of both a daily and weekly schedule, we can begin to see where our priorities are focused. Do you spend both quality and quantity time with the one you love? Do you ensure that as a couple you engage in meaningful moments through texts, calls, face to face discussions and sharing meals, social time and other activities with your spouse? Many people feel lonely in their marriages, but loving someone means we spend enough time together to ward off loneliness and in so doing, bond and deepen our love. From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

SAVE THE DATE – THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS IS BACK! Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2023? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, April 16, 2023 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if you require assistance). Registration will be available on line by mid-November at www.hamiltondiocese.com.

VOCATION SEEDS – “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or consecrated virgin in order to help our world of today to truly “prepare the way of the Lord”? If God is calling you, 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. Duy Van Nguyen, Rev. Hayden Starczala, Order of Preachers (Dominican) (O.P.), Rev John Van Hees, Very Rev. James Petrie, E.V., & Rev. Gerald Mulhall.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION – St. Clements: Operating \$2,825.00. Maintenance \$410.00 Thank you for your generosity!