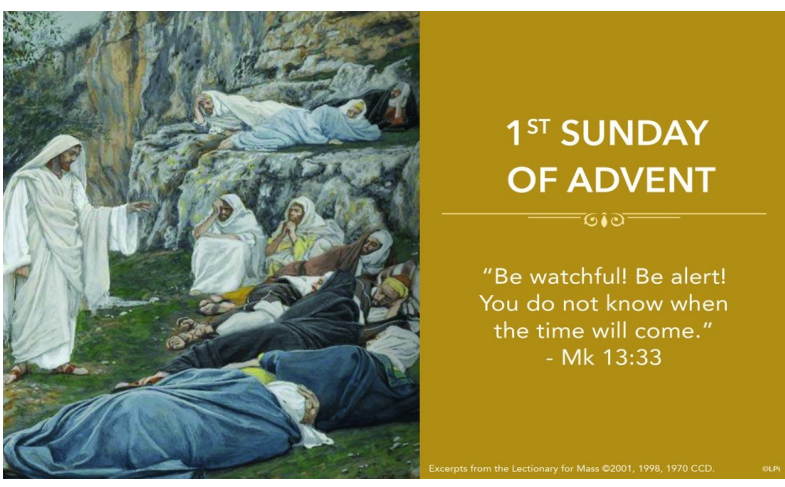


Rev. Jacek Kryn, S.A.C.  
Pastor

Liliana Haynes  
Office Administrator



# Sunday, December 3rd, 2023



## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Be watchful! Be alert!  
You do not know when  
the time will come."  
- Mk 13:33

Sat. Dec 2	8:00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions Mass
	9:00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
	4-4:45pm	First Sunday of Advent
	5:00pm	✠ Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo)
Sun. Dec 3	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Stefan Hozjan (Maria Hozjan & Family)
Mon. Dec 4	9:30am	No Mass
<u>Please Note that Masses from Tues to Thurs this week are CANCELLED. Fr. Jacek will celebrate them privately.</u>		
Tues. Dec 5	9:30am	✠ Antonio Addario (Vince Addario)
	7-8pm	HOLY HOUR & Confessions CANCELLED
Wed. Dec 6	9:30am	✠ Cecil Shannon (Racz Family)
Thurs. Dec 7	9:30am	Intentions of Vern & Donna Walters (Colin & Teresa Walters)
Fri. Dec 8	9:30am	David Mesina (Adelaine Nohara) Elizabeth Jaski (Jaski Family)
		✠ Kazimiera Mazur (Danuta Mazur)
Sat. Dec 9	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
	5:00pm	✠ Helen Albanese (Vince Addario)
Sun. Dec 10	9:30am	Health & Blessings for Stan Fiedorek (Jane, Randy & Maryla Carnegie)
	11:00am	Missa Pro Populo

Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses.

## First Sunday of Advent

Lately I've been listening to a science-based podcast on healthy daily living. The host frequently discusses the wide range of health benefits of sleep. So, each night I'm trying to get more, and better, slumber, and it's helping me feel energized. So, why in the world should we follow Christ's advice this week? "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come ... lest he find you asleep." Isn't sleep, especially at midnight and cockcrow, a good thing?



Of course, it is. But the wakefulness the Lord calls us to is a deep, personal orientation to Him. A nightly vigil is therefore a metaphor for this, but it's not just that. We should give up real sleep in order to pray, too. This difficult practice is a time-tested way to foster wakefulness of heart. When we give up sleep to pray, it focuses us. We learn that life is not an endless series of days. You and I belong to the Lord — awake or asleep, in life and in death. Sooner or later, even our need for our physical sleep will pass away. And our attentiveness to God — that is, whether we are awaiting Him to meet us — will be all that matters.

May I challenge us this week and this Advent to intentionally give up at least one hour of sleep each week for prayer? Stay up later, wake up in the middle of the night, or an hour earlier, and pray. Will we be a bit more tired the next day? Yes. But we'll be amazed at the spiritual wakefulness that results, too.

**This Sunday marks the beginning of a new liturgical year.** Advent comes from the Latin word adventus, which means "coming". Jesus is coming and Advent helps us to prepare for His arrival. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present the ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviour's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming" (CC 524). This feeling of expectation can also be seen today in our longing for a world of justice and peace. This will only be realized completely when Christ comes again. May Advent be a time of spiritual renewal as we prepare to receive the light of the world. O come, O come, Emmanuel!

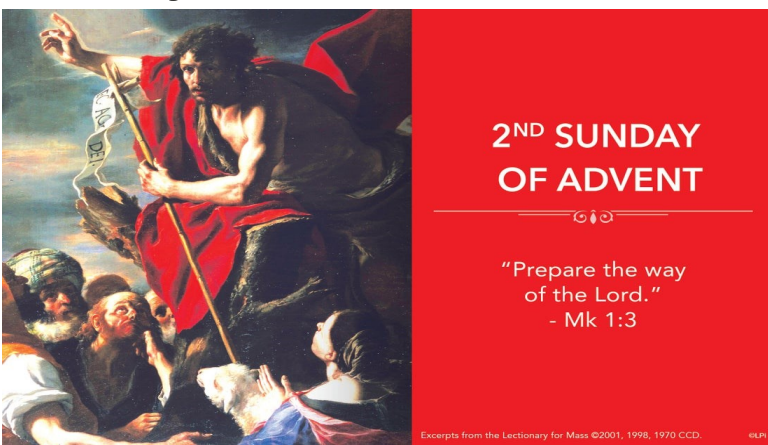
**Please pray for the repose of the soul of Father Charles T Moser.** Fr. Charles served our diocese with great dedication since his ordination on May 12, 1990 and up to his retirement on July 13, 2022. As well as serving as Parochial Vicar or Pastor at St. Denis Parish, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish, St. Michael Parish (Fort Erie), St. Thérèse of Lisieux Parish, St. Aloysius Parish, St. Ann Parish (Fenwick), St. Julia Parish and St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Father Charles served as Vicar Forane of the St. Catharines Deanery and Welland Deanery and as Episcopal Vicar for Administration and for Permanent Deacons before being appointed as Chancellor in 2012. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

**Offertory envelopes for 2024 will be available the weekend of Nov 25/26 in the parish hall.** E-transfer will continue to be available to make your donation. Check your envelopes for Special Collection dates. **FOR THE YEAR 2024, USE ONLY THE ENVELOPES ASSIGNED TO YOU FOR THAT YEAR.** This will ensure that donations are credited to the proper person. **If a box has not been prepared for you, let the office know.** Also, please do not begin using your new envelopes until 2024. Thank you!

**Fr. Jacek will hear confessions one** half hour before all weekend Masses during Advent in addition to the regularly scheduled times.

**Last Youth Ministry session** before the Christmas Break will be Thursday, December 14th 6:30-8:30pm.

# Sunday, December 10th, 2023



## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Prepare the way  
of the Lord."  
- Mk 1:3

Mon. Dec 11	9:30am	No Mass
Tues. Dec 12	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ The deceased members of Mrs. Biernacki's Family (Maria Tremeer)
	7-8pm	HOLY HOUR & Confessions
Wed. Dec 13	9:30am	✠ Kazimiera Mazur & Son Andrew & daughter Teresa (Danuta Mazur)
		✠ Stefan Hozjan (Nancy Horton) Lena Addario (Vince Addario)
Thurs. Dec 14	9:30am	Milan Mastracci (Annette Mastracci)
Fri. Dec 15	9:30am	✠ Les Kisko (Dave & Anne Marie Brown) Intentions of Jonathan Hoffman (Colin & Teresa Walters) Vince Addario (Lena Addario)
Sat. Dec 16	4-4:45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
		Third Sunday of Advent
	5:00pm	✠ Helen & Ashley Lelievre (Racz Family)
Sun. Dec 17	9:30am	Missa Pro Populo
	11:00am	✠ Angelina Addario (Vince Addario)

**Confessions from 9-9:25am before all weekday Masses**  
**Pasta Dinner Fundraiser:** Has been cancelled for Dec. 7th. Nov. 2nd event— 50/50 winner Karen Buckley; Wine basket won by Stephen Cheung. Profit from this event: \$1802.36. Thank you to all who assisted!

**St. Vincent de Paul Advent Food/Gift card drive**  
The St. Ann St. Vincent de Paul Society will have a food drive and gift card collection during Advent for Pelham Cares.  
**Food:** non perishable items to be put in the baskets at the church entrance.  
**Gift Cards** with values up to \$25 geared toward older children. Some store/location suggestions would be: Sephora, Pen Centre, Seaway Mall, Sport Check, Indigo/Chapters, Game Stop (or other store that sells video games). (Place in basket top of stairs)  
Grocery Store cards of any value.  
The collection will be only for the first 3 Sundays of December.

**Offertory November 19th, 2023—\$1,792.00**  
**Offertory November 26th, 2023—\$2,235.85**  
**Deo Gratias Total: \$1,090.00**  
**Maintenance December- \$455.00**

## Second Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

**Parish Bazaar wrap up....**  
Thank you to parishioners, sponsors, donors and our community!!

The parish bazaar held on November 18<sup>th</sup> was hugely successful. Thank you to everyone who organized the event, assisted with the set up and the day of the event, donated items (including baked goods) and all who supported it. We thank the businesses who donated the over 90 raffle prizes valued at \$8,000. The following is a break down of the funds raised which will be used for parish hall renovations.

**Raffle:** \$6,325; **Bake Table:** \$1,508.60; **Treasures Table:** \$1,401.30; **Books:** \$213.05; **Flea Market:** \$362.85; **Toonie Pops (Popcorn):** \$163.30; **Misc. donations:** \$400.00  
**Total income:** \$10,374.10  
**Expenses:** \$238 raffle licence & \$74 tickets  
**Total profit was \$10,062.10**  
**A list of all raffle winners is at the church entrance.**

**Catholic Women's League**

CWL membership has begun! If you use offertory envelopes, the membership envelope is dated Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.

**THE ANNUAL FEE is \$40. PLEASE DO NOT USE E TRANSFER TO PAY THE MEMBERSHIP.** If you do not have offertory envelopes, please use a plain one with your name, address, phone and email.

**Warmvember: The CWL would like to thank everyone who donated warm clothing items for the Welland Chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.** Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help many in need!

**Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes:** We invite everyone to make a gift towards the cost of the Christmas greens and flowers that will decorate our parish this blessed season. Honour a family member or friend, give thanks for a special event (such as a wedding or the birth of a child), or remember a departed loved one. Envelopes are in your offertory boxes dated December 10th, or use a plain envelope with your contact information included.



