



As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.  
(Mk 1: 1-8)

#### Last Week's Collection

Sunday Offering - \$ 1979.90  
'Host a Family..' \$ 110.00  
Repair & Renovations fund - \$ 544.00  
Christmas decorations: \$ 356.00  
*Bless you for your continued generous support.*

#### Upcoming Events - 2017

##### Host a Family Fund Raising Programs:

Heavenly Melodies Christmas Concert.  
By Youth Choir of Gethsemane Ministries  
December 17, 10.30am to 1.00pm  
Door prizes include prosciutto...

*Friends, please join and support that we may help our 2nd Syrian family.*

**DON'T BE AFRAID  
TO GO TO THE  
SACRAMENT OF  
CONFESSION,  
WHERE YOU  
WILL MEET  
JESUS WHO  
FORGIVES YOU.**

Pope Francis



## Second Sunday of Advent, Year B, December 10th, 2017

### Mass Schedule & Intentions from December 9, 2017 to December 17, 2017

Saturday	5:00PM	† Concezio & Fidalma DiPirro by Family Salvatore Ventresca by Filomena Ventresca & family Maria Eisenring-DeChellis by Annie Silvestri Oreste Mazzei by Carmelo & Frank Mazzei & family
Sunday	9:00AM	† Tullio Cicerone by Daughter & family Antonio Muzi by Daughter & family Carlo Nero by Wife Olga & family Bruna Belcamino by the Calabretta family
	11:00AM	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones
Monday		No Mass
Tuesday	9:00AM	For the Health of Pierrette Gauthier by daughter Monique Shinton
Wednesday	9:00AM	† Eleanor & Frank Addario by Maria Fazzalari
Thursday	9:00AM	† Michael Walker by Barbara Nenadovich
Friday	9:00AM	† The deceased members of the Nobile family & Franco Sdao by Franca Sdao
Saturday	5:00PM	† Frank & Maria Agostino by family St. Lucia by Franca Sdao & family Bruna Belcamino by Joe Belcamino & family Pasquale & John Silvestri by Annie Silvestri
Sunday	9:00AM	† Salvatore Giovinnazzo by Wife, Children & grandchildren Anna Maria & Antonino Giovinnazzo by children Tina, Nancy & Rosa Giovinnazzo Michael & Annunziata Mammoliti by Grandchildren Tina, Nancy & Rosa Giovinnazzo Agostino & Milvia Mammoliti by Nieces Tina, Nancy and Rosa Giovinnazzo
	10:30AM	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones

**Thank you for supporting  
'Host a Family Program'**

### Sacrament of Confession - Dec.11th, 6.30PM

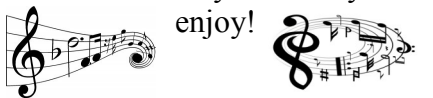
*Let us prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.  
Another priest also will be joining to help us celebrate.*  
Jesus says to the apostles, “as the Father sent me, so I send you.” As Christ was sent by the Father to forgive sins, so Christ sends the apostles and their successors to forgive sins.  
The Lord “breathes” on the apostles, and then gives them the power to forgive and retain sins. The only other moment in Scripture where God breathes on man is in Gen. 2:7, when the Lord “breathes” divine life into man. When this happens, a significant transformation takes place.  
Then Jesus says, “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. If you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” In order for the apostles to exercise this gift of forgiving sins, the penitents must orally confess their sins to them because the apostles are not mind readers.

### Mass & Christmas Concert Dec.17th, 10.30AM

**Gethsemane Youth Choir and our School Choir**



Mass starts at 10.30am  
Concert - after Mass.  
Buy Chili; hot dogs;  
and door prize tickets..  
to support St. Andrew Charities,  
esp. 'Host a Family Program'.  
Come out with your family and  
enjoy!



**Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us**



**Pope Francis - General Audience  
December 6, 2017**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:  
My recent Pastoral Visit to Myanmar and Bangladesh was memorable for my encounter with those two great peoples and for a wide variety of fruitful meetings. Mine was the first visit of a Pope to Myanmar, a nation gradually moving towards a new experience of freedom and peace. At Mass, in the celebration with young people, in my encounter with interreligious leaders in that predominantly Buddhist country, and in my meetings with the state authorities, I stressed the importance of dialogue and cooperation in the building of a society in which everyone, with the exclusion of none, is accepted and respected. In Bangladesh, a country of Muslim majority, I reaffirmed the importance of dialogue and cooperation between Christians and Muslims. I wished also to express solidarity with the country's efforts to provide relief amid the crisis of the Rohingya refugees. A highlight of my celebrations with the Catholic community was the final Mass with young people, which was attended also by young followers of Islam and other religions. In this way, my Pastoral Visit ended in a sign of hope for Bangladesh, for all of Asia, and for the whole world.

#### Second Week of Advent

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ~AMEN.



St. Andrew's invites you  
to celebrate the  
Birth of Jesus Christ

Christmas Mass  
Schedule

#### Christmas & New Year Schedule

Dec. 23rd Saturday Mass 5pm  
Dec. 24th Sunday **one Mass only - 10AM**  
**Christmas Eve**  
Dec. 24th Sunday  
Family Mass 5PM  
Midnight Mass Dec. 25 - 12AM  
(preceded by Carol singing from 11.30pm)  
**Christmas Day:**  
Monday Dec. 25th  
Masses at 9 & 11 AM  
Dec. 30 Saturday 5PM  
Dec.31st Sunday **one Mass only - 10AM**

**Year-End Mass of Thanksgiving**  
Dec.31st, Sunday - 5pm

**New Year Mass:**  
2018 Jan.1 Monday - 10AM



### A voice of one crying in the wilderness

A commentary on Isaiah by Eusebius of Caesarea

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight the paths of our God. The prophecy makes clear that it is to be fulfilled, not in Jerusalem but in the wilderness: it is there that the glory of the Lord is to appear, and God's salvation is to be made known to all mankind.

It was in the wilderness that God's saving presence was proclaimed by John the Baptist, and there that God's salvation was seen. The words of this prophecy were fulfilled when Christ and his glory were made manifest to all: after his baptism the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove rested on him, and the Father's voice was heard, bearing witness to the Son: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

The prophecy meant that God was to come to a deserted place, inaccessible from the beginning. None of the pagans had any knowledge of God, since his holy servants and prophets were kept from approaching them. The voice commands that a way be prepared for the Word of God: the rough and trackless ground is to be made level, so that our God may find a highway when he comes. Prepare the way of the Lord: the way is the preaching of the Gospel, the new message of consolation, ready to bring to all mankind the knowledge of God's saving power.

Climb on a high mountain, bearer of good news to Zion. Lift up your voice in strength, bearer of good news to Jerusalem. These words harmonise very well with the meaning of what has gone before. They refer opportunely to the evangelists and proclaim the coming of God to men, after speaking of the voice crying in the wilderness. Mention of the evangelists suitably follows the prophecy on John the Baptist.

What does Zion mean if not the city previously called Jerusalem? This is the mountain referred to in that passage from Scripture: Here is mount Zion, where you dwelt. The Apostle says: You have come to mount Zion. Does not this refer to the company of the apostles, chosen from the former people of the circumcision?

This is the Zion, the Jerusalem, that received God's salvation. It stands aloft on the mountain of God, that is, it is raised high on the only-begotten Word of God. It is commanded to climb the high mountain and announce the word of salvation. Who is the bearer of the good news but the company of the evangelists? What does it mean to bear the good news but to preach to all nations, but first of all to the cities of Judah, the coming of Christ on earth?

### December 12 - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council, founded by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) in 1998, proposes that the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec. 12) be a National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. All are invited to join their Indigenous sisters and brothers in a special way this day through prayer and acts of solidarity.