

# Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2016



All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

*"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"*

which means, "God is with us."

(Matthew 1:18-24)

### Last Week's Collection

Sunday Offering - \$ 1770.70  
 'Host a Family..' \$ 55.00  
 Building fund - \$ 160.00  
 Christmas Decorations - \$ 184.00  
*Bless you for your continued generous support.*

### Upcoming Events

Host a Family Fund Raising Programs:

Family Mass & Luncheon - January

Trivia Night - February

*Friends, please join and support that we may help two Syrian families.*

### Mass Schedule & Intentions from December 17 to December 25, 2016

Saturday 5:00PM † Frank & Maria Agostino by family  
 Fernanda Curcio by Husband & family  
 Giacoma Mancuso by Franco & Franca Sdao  
 Rocco Longo by Ida Berardi

### 4th Sunday of Advent

9:00AM † Salvatore Giovinazzo  
 by Wife, children & grandchildren  
 Carlo Nero by Wife Olga & family  
 Domenico Locco by Wife Lea Locco & family  
 Bruna Belcamino  
 by Maria & Ivo Delloso & family

11:00AM For us and for all our dearly deceased ones

Monday No Mass

Tuesday 9:00AM † Tommaso DiGioia by Wife & family

Wednesday 9:00AM † Domenico Locco by Maria Fazzalari

Thursday 9:00AM † Antonio Gallo by Family

Friday 9:00AM † Beni Inneo by Wife Nardina & family

**Christmas Eve Saturday** 5:00PM For us and for all our dearly deceased ones  
 Family Mass

11:30PM Carol Singing

12:00AM Midnight Mass  
 For us and for all our dearly deceased ones

**Christmas Sunday** 9:00AM For us and for all our dearly deceased ones

11:00AM For us and for all our dearly deceased ones

*Thank you for supporting 'Host a Family'*

**GETHEMANE MINISTRIES** Friday December 30, 2016 from 7 Am to Saturday December 31, 2016 11PM. More info: 905-386-1111  
[www.gethemaneministries.com](http://www.gethemaneministries.com)

## 40 HOUR Eucharistic ADORATION

Give thanks, experience the joy of God's presence and "Pray without ceasing" for families in Canada.

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near'.

**Advent Reconciliation On Dec.19th Monday at 6.30PM**

There will be a priest who speaks Italian and Polish to help us with confessions!



# Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us

**POPE FRANCIS - General Audience**  
 December 14, 2016



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The words we have heard this morning from the prophet Isaiah help us prepare for the coming feast of Christmas. The prophet calls God's people to rejoice, for the Lord is near, bringing freedom from exile and the promise of renewal and redemption for the faithful "remnant" who continued to hope in his word. "How beautiful on the mountains", he says, "are the feet of the messenger" who brings glad tidings of peace and salvation, proclaiming: "Your God reigns" (Is 52:7). This great prophecy was fulfilled in the kingdom brought by Jesus, that kingdom whose dawning we celebrate at Christmas. Strengthened by this promise, we can face difficulties in the confident knowledge that God's reign has begun, and that we ourselves are called to be its joyful heralds in a world that yearns for justice, truth and peace. This Christmas, may we open our hearts to the message of salvation brought by the Christ Child, the Son of God who shows his great power by embracing smallness, weakness and poverty, in order to draw near to each of us.

### In Memoriam

A longtime parishioner Agata Presti passed away on December 10, 2016., at the age of 93.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated here for her on December 14, 2016.

Our hearty condolence to all the bereaving family members. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. We would like to thank the family once again for choosing St. Andrew's Parish for Memorial Donations.



### Al Makhoul Family at the new House

Thanks to your prayers and support that the AlMakhoul family moved to the new house at 4 Hunters Crt, near S Pelham Road/Welland Rd. So our young Mark has to move the School. The family members are Landed Immigrants with PR Card, OHIP and SIN number. They are all still searching for job, while improving and updating their language and skills.

**I take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers for your relentless support to this family.** May God bless you and your family for all your goodness. I also thank all of you who are supporting our 'Host a family Program' to help these, our new Syrian friends.

### Advent and Christmas

#### The CHRISTMAS Season:

*Christmas is the annual feast commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, a little over 2000 years ago. For Christians, it is not just a single day (Dec. 25), but an extended liturgical season of joy and celebration, involving many different symbols and traditions, special music and activities, which vary significantly among different countries and cultures. Here are a few interesting things to know about Christmas:*

#### When and how long is Christmas?

◦ *Christmas Day, liturgically called "The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord" in the Catholic Church, technically includes both Christmas Eve Dec. 24, after sunset and Christmas Day Dec. 25 itself. For religiously observant Christians, however, Christmas is not just one day, but an entire season, lasting anywhere from 12 days to 40 days in different ecclesial traditions.*

◦ *In the modern secular world, Dec. 26 already begins the "after-Christmas" sales, and Christmas decorations are often removed before New Year's Day! The "Christmas Season" (for shopping, decorating, parties, music, etc. used to begin just after Thanksgiving Day (in the United States), but now seems to begin just after Halloween (Oct.31) here.*

◦ *In most Christian traditions, the "Christmas Season" properly begins with Christmas Eve while the "Twelve Days of Christmas" refers to the period from Dec. 25 to Jan. 5; Jan. 6 is the traditional date of the Feast of the Epiphany. Or it might last until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (usually the Sunday after Epiphany), or might even last all the way to Feb. 2 (the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, 40 days after Dec. 25).*

*to be continued..*



### New Year's Mass Schedule

**Dec 31, 2016 Year-End Mass 5:00PM**  
**Jan. 1, 2017 New Year's Mass 9:00 & 11:00 AM**

### 2017 Envelope Boxes

The boxes are ready for pick up. It is arranged according to last name. If you are not using envelopes yet, please start using one. It is a proof to show how many people support this parish, and we will be able to provide you with a tax deductible receipt. Please talk to Fr. Paul or call the office