Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 22nd, & Christmas
The Nativity of the Lord December 24th & 25th, 2019

Mass Schedule & Intentions from December 21, 2019 to December 29, 2019

Saturday 5:00PM †Giuseppina Nero
by Husband Amore & Fam
Vincent Ladouceur by Barbara Nenadovich
Maria Giuseppa Mussari by Maria Fazzalari
Anna Panetaude by Joe Belcamino

4th Sunday of Advent 9:00AM †Nicola, Nicolina, & Carlo Nero by Family
Gennaro Stranges
by Frank & Debbie Fazzalari
Vittorio Pichelli by Maria & Family
Saints Antonio, Gabriele. Padre Pio
by Maria Magazzeni and Family

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

Monday **6.30PM** Advent Reconciliation

Tuesday **5:00PM** **Christmas Eve Family Mass**
11:40PM *Carol Singing*

Wednesday **12:00AM** **Midnight Mass**

9:00AM **Christmas Day, 1st Mass**
11.00AM **Christmas Day, 2nd Mass**

Thursday *No Service*

Friday **6:30PM** † Beni Inneo by wife Nardina & family
Adoration to follow

Saturday 5:00PM †Nick Kraneyk
by Roland & Berthe Deschamps
Rosina Sceppacerqua by Maria Fazzalari
Domenico Locco by wife and family
Deceased members of Pace family
by Joe Belcamino

Sunday 9:00AM †Maria Santore by Beni & family
Feast of Holy Family Mark Bankes by Maria Magazzeni & family
Luigina Pace by Bruna Ioannoni & family
John Fini by Connie Doucette-Poll

11:00AM For all our families

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." Mt 1: 18-24

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Lk 2: 1-16

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection	$ 1371.55
Renovations	$ 25.00
Christmas Flowers	$ 70.00
Cathedral Appeal	$ 00.00

Thank you for your continued support

Church of Nativity, Bethlehem, where Jesus was born >>

Upcoming Events

Year-end thanksgiving Mass Dec.31st 5:00PM

New Year's Mass - Jan.1st, 10AM

Please join and support our Parish Ministries.

Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us

NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE
Year-End Mass of Thanksgiving:
Tuesday Dec.31st, - 5pm
New Year's Mass:
Wednesday January 1st 2020 - 10AM

Prayer for Families

We bless your Name, O Lord, for sending your own incarnate Son, to become part of a family, so that, as He lived its life, He would experience its worries and its joys. We ask you, Lord, to protect and watch over our family, so that in the strength of your grace all of us may enjoy prosperity, possess the priceless gift of your peace, and, as the Church alive in the home, bear witness in this world to your glory. We ask this thought Christ our Lord. Amen.

Advent Week 4 *Peace*

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will." This joyful proclamation by the angels sent by God to the humble shepherds should gladden all our hearts. The Savior comes with a great promise of peace on earth. The "Angel's Candle" that we light on the fourth Sunday of Advent symbolizes PEACE.

"The kingdom of God is among you," He told the Pharisees who inquired when it would come.. Some favor the translation, "The kingdom of God is within you." Either way, Jesus inaugurates the kingdom of heaven in the hearts of men by being present within them, among them, in their midst. This is the peace of Christ, and only through Christ can you attain it. Two thousand years after the birth of the Savior, we, like the shepherds, can come and adore the Savior in the Blessed Sacrament. We can ponder the things that Mary did in the prayer of the Rosary. We can experience the kingdom of God in our midst and the PEACE of Christ in our hearts.

"Behold the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us" (Mt 2:23).

Christmas 2019

Excerpts from the Letter by Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines
(Full Letter is in the Vineyard - on table at back of church)

One of the more significant traditions associated with Christmas is gift giving. Gifts are tokens of love and affection for others. One of the greatest gifts that God has given to us is the family and we see this most clearly when we celebrate the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ.

In the Gospel of St. Luke we are told that a group of shepherds is tending sheep at night and an angel appears telling them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luke 2:10)

Christmas is a wonderful time to focus on the family and spend time together to create an environment that is filled with love and support. Let us turn to the Holy Family as a perfect example of what it means to be a father, mother, son or daughter. Let us celebrate the 'extraordinary' that is found in the ordinary. "So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger." (Luke 2:16)

May you have a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year

Dear friends,
After 4 weeks of preparation we are going to celebrate Christmas. It is a time we gratefully remember God's fatherly love in sending us Jesus, His only begotten Son to our world. Jesus is God's statement that He loves us unconditionally and that we are so precious in His eyes. And this love compels us to love God and care for our brothers and sisters and the gift of this planet. And when we live this love Christmas becomes meaningful and joyful.

Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkatta said: "It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you". Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your neighbour and offer him or her your hand, after the model of Jesus.

I wish you all a very blessed and joyful Christmas. With love and prayers, Fr. Paul.