

SACRED HEART OF JESUS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Office Email: office@sacredheartrockwood.ca
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Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24th, 2017

Mass Times

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am
(Sacred Heart Catholic School) 11:00 am

DAILY:	Monday	Christmas Day Masses
	Tuesday	No Mass
	Wednesday	8:00 am
	Thursday	No Mass
	Friday	8:00 am

Confessions

Saturday 4:30pm to 4:45pm
Sunday 8:30am to 8:45am
and by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Tuesday 7:30 pm to Friday 8:00 am

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK (DECEMBER 27TH TO DECEMBER 31ST)

Wednesday 8:00 am Intention of Donor
Friday 8:00 am Intention of Donor

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Saturday 5:00 pm Intention of Donor
Sunday 9:00 am
11:00 am For the People

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Mark Morley
pastor@sacredheartrockwood.ca



Gospel Quotation:

**"Do not be afraid. Mary,
for you have found
favour with God."**

Luke 1. 26 - 38

Pastor's Message

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: WHAT IS BEING WORSHIPPED HERE?

In my homily for the Fourth Sunday of Advent I suggested that we think about the commercialization of Christmas in terms of the theological notion of "worship" rather than the secular language of "values." In the Old Testament, the Jewish people time and time again fell into the practice of idolatry, worshipping false gods. Today the commercialization of Christmas can be understood as the commodification of worship. Ironically, celebrating Christmas now hides the true meaning of Christmas. Even those of us who go to church every Sunday may find that our desire to love God has been misdirected by consumerism. We may put all our efforts into giving consumer goods to others and trying to get them to love us when we should be preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. We may direct our love for God into the things we hope others will buy for us. Either way, we can end up worshipping what is not God. The desire to be loved by God is in our hearts along with the desire to love God in return. However, we don't necessarily worship the God who was born that first Christmas Day. We may worship the false gods of what Christmas has become. The forces of consumerism vie for our hearts as we go about our everyday lives. Christmas marketing campaigns stir up desires in our hearts for treasures of the earth rather than treasures of heaven. It can be difficult not to get caught up in this anti-Christmas. We must strive to use consumer goods without being consumed by them. If we want to keep Christ in Christmas, then we should become less concerned with Christian values and become more aware of the forces in society that are attracting the worship of others, powers that have the potential to misdirect our Christian worship. In light of these reflections on worship and idolatry, I would like to suggest a spiritual exercise that can help you keep Christ in Christmas. During the afternoon of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, as you go about doing your shopping and making your final preparations for celebrating Christmas, each time you go somewhere ask yourself this: *what is being worshipped here?* When you walk into the grocery store or the shopping mall, have a look around and ask yourself: what is being worshipped here? When you walk into the liquor store, look at the shelves and ask yourself: what is being worshipped here? When you walk into the bank, have a look at the advertisements and ask yourself: what is being worshipped here? And, if you happen to walk into the lobby of a movie theatre, ask yourself: what is being worshipped here? Finally, when you walk into church or the school this coming Christmas Eve, or into the church Christmas Day, have a look around and ask yourself: what is being worshipped HERE?

Fr. Mark Morley

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

5:00pm For Children in Sacred Heart School (Contemporary Music with Carols starting at 4:30pm)

9:00pm Sacred Heart Church (Organ Music with Incense)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

9:00am Sacred Heart Church (Organ Music)

11:00am Sacred Heart Church (Folk Music)

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

5:00pm Sacred Heart Church (Saturday, December 30th)

9:00am Sacred Heart Church and 11:00 Sacred Heart School (Sunday, December 31st)

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

5:00pm Sunday (New Year's Eve - Sunday, December 31st)

9:00am Sacred Heart Church and 11:00 Sacred Heart Church (Monday, January 1st)



"ADVENT REFLECTION" - Light the candle of HOPE

PARISH UPDATES

PERPETUAL ADORATION: Reminding everyone to drop into Adoration anytime from Tuesday 7:30 pm to Friday 8:00am, or consider joining for a regular hour. We are still looking for a courageous person, to join a rotation of 2 parishioners for Fridays 1:00 -3:00 AM . Grace received is doubled for Adoration during these hours! For information call Jane Hosdil, 519-827-1929

2018 DONATION ENVELOPES: Your Offertory Envelopes are now available for pick up in Coulson Hall. The envelope packages are arranged in numeric order. If you are currently using envelopes, a boxed set has been prepared for you. The envelopes will be kept in Coulson Hall till December 31, 2017.

If you wish to order personalized envelopes, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you. *Italo*

FROM THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

THE CHRISTMAS MASS ON TV: For those who cannot make it to church, please join the Catholic Community this Christmas. Watch the Daily TV Mass:

- * Christmas Eve on VisionTV at 9:00 pm ET
- * yesTV at 10:00 pm ET

Christmas Day at 8:00 am and 12:00 pm ET on VisionTV

- * 11:00 am ET on Salt + Light.
- * 1:00 pm on yesTV

You can also watch on the web at www.dailytvmass.com

FROM SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten at Wellington **Catholic... We have faith in education:** The Wellington Catholic District School Board will be accepting registrations for Kindergarten at our schools beginning January 8th, 2018.

Kindergarten Eligibility

- must be four years of age on or before December 31, 2018 to attend Junior Kindergarten
- must be five years of age on or before December 31, 2018 to attend Senior Kindergarten

Please bring: child's birth certificate, a parent or child's Baptismal certificate, child's health card / immunization record /custody papers (if applicable), proof of tax support for families new to the system (i.e. most recent tax bill)

Please note: Students currently attending a Wellington Catholic Junior Kindergarten program are NOT REQUIRED to register for Senior Kindergarten. Should you have any questions about registration procedures or requirements, please call your school.

This Week's Events

December

- 25 Christmas Day (The Nativity of The Lord)
- 26 Tuesday MASS (7:00 pm) NO MASS TODAY
- 27 No Euchre (will resume in January)
- 29 Seniors' Program at Rockwood Library (11:30am to 1:30pm)

January

- 10 Catechism Class (6:30pm Coulson Hall)

Did You Know?

- * Christmas is our celebration of the birth of Jesus
- * The Christmas season celebrates the birth of Jesus to the beginning of his public ministry.
- * The Christmas season begins at the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve and ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
- * The liturgical colour of Christmas is white or gold to show our joy
- * The symbols of Christmas are the manger which served as the first crib for baby Jesus
- * The star is the other symbol of Christmas. It led the wise men to Jesus

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all members of our Parish for their very generous gifts for the needy.

Our *Angel Tree* was over filled with gifts. Thank you very much for your generosity for the less fortunate.

Catholic Women's League

Prayer Calendar for Priests

Every day, in our diocese we are invited to pray for a priest serving in our parishes

- Mon. - Christmas Day (The Nativity of The Lord)
- Tues. - **Rev. Roshan D'Souza, O.C.D.**
- Wed. - Franciscan Fathers (O.F.M.)
- Thurs. - Rev. Lawrence Parent, O.F.M.
- Fri. - Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski
- Sat. - Rev. Brian Quigley, M.C.C.J.

and give thanks that JESUS is our HOPE!