



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

December 03, 2023

905-827-2373 | saintdominic.ca

Issue 49 | Volume 04

First Sunday of Advent

Fr. Ranjan D'Sa OCD

The last sentence of this Sunday's gospel passage – *"and what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake"* – sets the tone for advent.

Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ into this world. The word Advent is a pagan word meaning the "coming" of their deity. This word was also used for a "visit" of a king to a particular city or town. The early church applied this same word to celebrate the coming of Jesus, the Son of God at His birth at Bethlehem.

Advent, therefore, is a time to prepare and celebrate for the visit/coming of Christ into our world. We do this preparation in two distinct ways. Firstly, we go back into history and learn about His actual coming into this world. We try to learn the prophecies from the Old Testament which foretell the coming of a messiah. We also learn about the need for Christ's coming: the salvation of all humanity – past, present, and future.

In today's gospel, Jesus invites us to remain awake and vigilant so that we may not miss the visit of our God. Jesus is come to this world to bring the glory of God to us. We cannot afford to slumber and miss the opportunity of seeing his marvelous works. When Jacob woke up from the dream in the

Old Testament, he realized that God had come to Visit him, Jacob exclaimed, *"Surely the Lord is in this place and I did not know it!"* (Genesis 28:16)

Secondly, we prepare for His second coming or "Parousia". God comes to us every day of our lives. He is present when we do something godly – spread love, work for peace and reconciliation, and stand for justice. Definitely, He comes to us on the last day of our history – individual and of the world – to take us to himself. Preparing for Christ's second coming entails preparing for His coming every day of our lives.

In the first reading Isaiah prays to God and says, *"Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!"* (Isaiah 64: 1). Let our prayers this advent be the same. Let us long for the presence of Christ who alone can dispel every form of darkness and struggle from us.

Come! Lord Jesus, come!



PARISH LITURGIES

—FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—

December 03 – December 09

Tuesday, December 05 - St. Sabas

8:30 am + Carmen Reeves

Wednesday, December 06 - St. Nicholas

8:30 am + John Van Dyk

Thursday, December 07 - St. Ambrose

8:30 am + Darryl Ward

Friday, December 08 - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 pm + Sybil O'Leary

Followed by a Short Meditation & Refreshments

—Second SUNDAY OF ADVENT—

Saturday, December 09 - St. Juan Diego

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

5:00 pm **For:**

+ Alexis Miller, + Gerald McGraw, Int. of Sundeeep Khosla

Sunday, December 10

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parish



RECONCILIATION IN ADVENT

There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent, on Thursday, December 14th from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the Church. Please partake in this beautiful gift of forgiveness and healing in preparation for Christmas. There will be multiple priests to choose.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

A very special Happy Birthday to one of our SWAT members, Flora Pontarollo who celebrated her birthday this week.



“Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.”

SANCTUARY LAMP



***Our Sanctuary lamp will be lit this week
In Memory of Sybil O’Leary***

Parishioners are invited to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp that hangs above the tabernacle. This candle burns 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as a sign of honour to Our Lord. If you wish to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for a special intention during a specific week, please contact the parish office. The cost is a \$10 donation per week. Your intention will be noted in our weekly bulletin.

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH 2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY MASS & PAGEANT



Children in Grade 4 and up are invited to participate in our parish Christmas Family Mass as actors and readers! The dates of the practices are as follows:

Friday December 08 – 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Friday December 15 – 4:00 to 6:30 pm

Monday December 25 – 10:00 am sharp. We meet at church in the meeting room to get prepared for the 11:00 am Christmas Day Mass.

If you would like to participate in our Christmas Pageant, please contact Mrs. Colleen Gamble at: colleengamble123@gmail.com, (905)-330-9237 or Michael Aguiar: Michael@saintdominic.ca at the parish office (905-827-2373).



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUNG WINNERS!

Congratulations to the following children who won a prize at the Kid’s Corner at last weekend’s Christmas Bazaar.

Snowman Stuffie: Marijke

Jar of Candy Kisses: Vinz

CHRISTMAS BONANZA

Celebrate the joy of the season with St. Dominic's Youth Ministry! Our Christmas Bonanza will take place on Wednesday, December 20th from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Join us for an evening filled with festive fun for the whole family, including various stations of crafts, games, food and more all led by our high school leaders! Please RSVP to our Youth Minister, Michael by contacting the parish office. All parents who are available to support in the organization of this event are encouraged to please contact the parish office.

CWL – CANDLELIGHT ADVENT MASS

The CWL council at Mary, Mother of God Parish has invited Saint Dominic CWL members to attend a Candlelight Advent Mass on Wednesday December 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm at Mary, Mother of God Parish, 2745 North Ridge Trail, Oakville, ON.

ADVENT CELEBRATION – DEC 08 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

On the evening of Friday, December 08, we are hosting an Advent Celebration starting at 7:00 pm with Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Mass will be followed by a short meditation on the 'Imitation of the Virgin Mother' by Peter Swirzon, PhD. Afterwards, join us for a social with light refreshments in the parish centre. While this event is FREE to all from our Saint Dominic Parish Community, we invite those who are able to bring along canned goods for the Good Shepherd Centre. Please make plans to join us for our Advent Celebration, mix and mingle with your Saint Dominic friends and family. All are welcome!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENTS

In addition to our event above on December 08, the first Social Committee event of 2024 will be a live concert by Fiddlestix – a local community 5-piece band on Saturday, February 03. More details to follow.

On Tuesday February 13, we will be having our Traditional Pancake Supper. If you would like to pitch in and help, to plan and host this event, you are invited to join the pancake supper volunteer committee at their scheduled meeting on Wednesday November 29th at 7:00 pm in the parish centre. We appreciate the support that our wonderful Saint Dominic parishioners give to all social committee initiatives and we look forward to a FUN and event-filled 2024.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 50/50 DRAW

Help support Marian Council #3881 Knights of Columbus charities by participating in our 50/50 draw with councils across Ontario. The jackpot is currently over \$12,000 and climbing! The grand prize draw will be drawn on December 31st! Get your tickets at <https://ontariokofcraffle.5050central.com/?olc=3881>

THE CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

The Christmas Angel Tree is now filled with requests for gifts for the seniors living in the Oakville Seniors Centre. If you are able, please pick up an Angel Card from the tree and return your wrapped gift to the Narthex by the weekend of December 16th/17th. The seniors are very appreciative of your kindness at Christmas time.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return, so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Directory of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, December 04	Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.
Tuesday, December 05	Grandparents & Elderly
Wednesday, December 06	Order of Preachers (Dominicans, O.P.)
Thursday, December 07	Rev. Donald Sanvido
Friday, December 08	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, December 09	Rev. David Perrin

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

2415 Rebecca Street,
Oakville, Ontario, L6L 2B1
Phone: 905-827-2373
Fax: 905-827-6055
Email: office@saintdominic.ca
Website: saintdominic.ca



Pastor: Reverend Ranjan D'Sa OCD
rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com

Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister: Michael Aguiar
michael@saintdominic.ca

Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy
Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton
Secretary: Mary Evans
Sacristan: Judi Kingry
Custodian: Peter Coffey

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
(Closed from noon to 1:00 pm).

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