



# SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

December 15, 2024

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Issue 50 | Volume 5

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father Ranjan D'Sa OCD

“What then should we do?” (Lk 3:10).

This was the question asked by the people of different professions after listening to John the Baptist’s call for repentance and change. John’s response to these queries were straightforward, he asked them to be morally good – avoid injustice, stop oppressing others and share whatever extra with the needy. These are the attitudes that every Christian should put on as one awaits the coming of Christ. These are the attitudes of a person who has experienced the real joy in Christ.

For Jesus, the true joy is an expression of total dependence on God. Later Jesus will demand more from His disciples. “To anyone who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic” (Lk 6: 29). Joy is a part of realizing that we are all children of God and created by God with utmost love. Joy is also an outcome of totally giving oneself for God and for the good of each other.

Today’s liturgy is a call for this unending joy. How can we be joyful when the grounds under our feet are shifting? We are divided into a thousand different groups. Immorality is not only promoted but accepted as the right way of living. People are indoctrinated to accept and support evil ways and cancel out the Word of God and all who believe in it.

The first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah. He was living when corruption and immorality was at its peak in Jerusalem. Kings, priests, judges, officials, and all the elite of the society were corrupt; people had abandoned the faith and the poor were exploited. What is the prophet’s response? He starts by prophesizing the day of darkness and reckoning (Zeph 1:15-16). Then suddenly, he calls the faithful to rejoice because their faithfulness will be rewarded.

God does not hate people, He hates sin. God gives plenty of opportunity for His people to repent and come back to Him. This is the reason for rejoicing. Advent is all about looking forward for that time of God’s grace where He gives us an opportunity to get back to Him through His Son Jesus Christ. Zephaniah knew well that in those darkest moments of our lives, God’s love prevails.

## SANCTUARY LAMP

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, you are asked to please contact the parish office. The cost is a \$10 donation per week. Your intention will be noted in our weekly bulletin.

## PARISH LITURGIES

— THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT —

**Tuesday, December 17 - St. Olympias**

8:30 am + Jacqueline Ann Popke

**Wednesday, December 18 - St. Winebald**

8:30 am + Donato & Josephine Ciaccia

**Thursday, December 19 - St. Thomas De & Companions**

8:30 am + Frank & Rita Evans

**Friday, December 20 - St. Dominic of Silos**

8:30 am + Guido Bardaro

9:00 – 10:00 am **Adoration**

— THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT —

**Saturday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius**

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

**5:00 pm For:**

+ Horatio Figueiredo & Family, + Mozart Eduardo de Oliveira, + Rita Merrick, + Patrick Doyle, + Assumpta McGuinness, + Carlos & Maria Senra, Int. Senra Family, + Robert & Dolores Nixon

**Sunday, December 22**

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parishioners



As you make plans to celebrate the great Feast of the Birth of Christ, please note the date and time for celebrations in our parish:

### Christmas – The Nativity of the Lord

**Christmas Eve** – Tuesday, December 24

- 5:00; 7:15 (Family Mass); 11:30 pm  
*(On Christmas Eve, Christmas Carols will begin 15-20 minutes before Mass)*

**Christmas Day** – Wednesday, December 25

- 9:00 & 11:00 am

**The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God** - Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 31 – 5:00 pm *and*

Wednesday, January 1 – 10:00 am

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS

On Tuesday, December 31st, 2024, our Social Committee will be hosting a **New Year's Eve Games Night & Celebration** starting at 6:30 pm in the parish centre. It will be a fun, social, and perhaps a little competitive night with games for everyone. Attendees are asked to bring an appetizer or treat to share. There will be a special New Year's toast at 9:00 pm, as the countdown will be rolled ahead for an early celebration. A variety of games and possibly a special GAME SHOW will be part of the evening! The cost of this event is free. All are welcome to attend!

### THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS SAVE THE DATE

Are you celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? Then you are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 01, 2025, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Registration will be available online in January at [hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com))



### SANCTUARY LAMP

*Our Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week  
In Memory of Jerry Bonett*

### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Photographs cannot do justice to the amazing Candlelight Advent Service that many parishioners enjoyed last Friday evening, so we thought we would share some of the feedback we received from members of the parish that attended.

*“Beautiful candle displays on the altar last evening...It was so calming and serene and had a real impact on me, especially during the 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat.”*

*“All the candles in the church made for a peaceful and serene setting helping us to reflect on the meaning of Advent. As usual, you have outdone yourself with the reception afterwards...”*

If you weren't able to join us, we hope you will put it on your calendar for next year. We plan to make this an annual celebration to begin the Advent Season and help prepare us for our Saviour's arrival at Christmas.

Many thanks to Fr. Ranjan for supporting our vision for a Candlelight Service, and to all who were involved in putting this together, from the music ministry, to the rosary recitation, to the hospitality. And thank you to our fellow parishioners who joined us for this Advent worship. We are grateful!



## JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025

The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as “Pilgrims of Hope!” We are all invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been designated as pilgrimage sites across the Diocese, welcoming you as a visitor over the course of the Jubilee to come and pray. Resources, information and locations of the pilgrimage sites are all made available on the Diocesan Website: [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Peter’s in Rome on Christmas Eve, inaugurating the Jubilee Year. In Cathedrals around the world and in our Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, the Holy Year will be inaugurated on December 28-29, 2024, the Feast of the Holy Family. The year will be officially launched in each Parish in the Diocese on this same day. The Jubilee of Hope will conclude on January 6, 2026.

*“In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring... may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope.”*

—Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*.

### CHRISTMAS – YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT

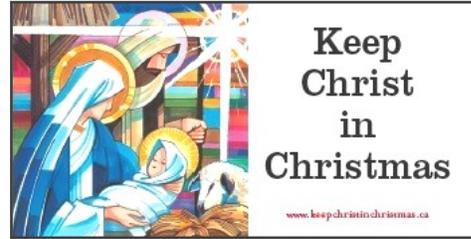
During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer and fellowship, and praise music in support of your vocations on Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 pm, at the Annunciation of Our Lord Parish, 280 Limeridge Road W., Hamilton. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

*“Shout aloud and sing for joy: great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”*

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, December 16	Rev. Ljubo Branimir Lebo, O.F.M.
Tuesday, December 17	Rev. Stipe Rotim O.F.M.
Wednesday, December 18	Voluntas Dei Institute (i.v.Dei.)
Thursday, December 19	Rev. Ilija Petkovic
Friday, December 20	Rev. Vinko Nenadic
Saturday, December 21	Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM! 

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS



The Knights of Columbus, Council 3881, invite you to promote our Christian faith to our neighbours and friends as we enter the Christmas season. Lawn

Signs reminding us all to “Keep Christ in Christmas” are available for purchase for \$20 from Brian O’Connor (416) 575-6431 [connor.brian.boc@gmail.com](mailto:connor.brian.boc@gmail.com) or Conor Boyd (905) 469-4157 [conmarboyd@gmail.com](mailto:conmarboyd@gmail.com)

### PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH # 164

December is an exciting month for children and families with the coming of Christmas. December is also the month we prepare for Christmas during Advent! Advent, by definition, means we are preparing for something important, which is the coming of Jesus Christ. Celebrating with an Advent wreath allows us to light a candle each week, offering a chance to discuss, on four occasions, what Christ’s coming to the world means to all of us. The candles, (hope, faith, joy, and peace) open up the opportunity to remind our children what each candle represents and, of course, the real meaning of the season. Santa comes one night per year, but Jesus is with us always and is a true gift in our lives. This Advent, remember to make Christ the reason for the season. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office: 905-528-7988 ext. 2250).

### SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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Pastor: Reverend Ranjan D’Sa OCD  
[rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com)

Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister: Michael Aguiar  
[michael@saintdominic.ca](mailto:michael@saintdominic.ca)

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

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

### Follow us on social media!

Facebook: [@saintdominicoakville](https://www.facebook.com/saintdominicoakville) & [@saintdominicym](https://www.facebook.com/saintdominicym)  
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