



# SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

December 14, 2025

905-827-2373 | [saintdominic.ca](http://saintdominic.ca)

Issue 50 | Volume 6

## **THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT** **Why Do We Need to Rejoice?** –Father Ranjan D'Sa O.C.D.

This Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday because of the opening antiphon in today's Liturgy – *"Rejoice in the Lord, again I say rejoice, the Lord is near."*

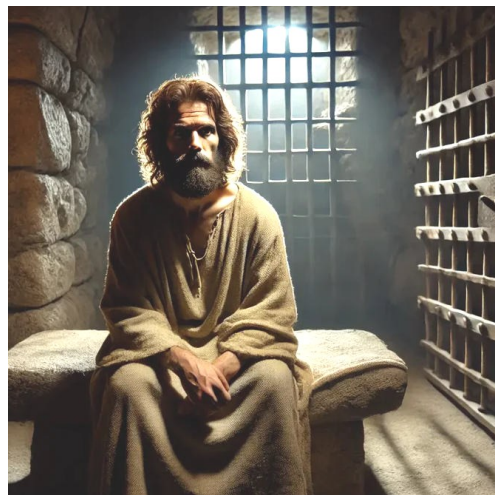
*Gaudete* in Latin means rejoice. Why do we need to rejoice? Isaiah's optimistic hope against an unlikely situation in the first reading and, in contrast, Jesus' rebuttal of John the Baptist's doubt in recognizing Him as the true Messiah in the Gospel, gives us the reasons for rejoicing.

At the time when the prophet Isaiah spoke to the Israelites about his vision or dream of future blessings, they were going through one of the worst periods of their history. The cream of their society – the young men and women, leaders and traders – had already been deported as slaves to far away Babylon. The children, the disabled and the old people were left behind as citizens amidst the ruins of Jerusalem. In spite of this dire situation, Isaiah sees a ray of light in the distant future. He preached that the glory of Jerusalem would be restored, not just for a few years or decades, but forever.

John the Baptist preached about the Messiah as a severe judge who would cut down

the useless tree, sweep clean the threshing floor, and burn the chaff after separating it from the grain. He misread the signs of the true Messiah who was proclaimed in the Old Testament. When he saw Jesus was humble, loving and caring, he doubted about Jesus. But pointing toward Jesus works, Isaiah proclaimed them as the signs of the coming of the Messianic Kingdom, proving that Jesus is the salvation for all people.

*"The blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the Good News is proclaimed to the poor and happy are those who believe"* (Mt.11:5-6). These occurrences are really a cause for rejoicing. We need never be discouraged even when confronted by situations which look desperate. The Lord has come and is working miracles among us. Let us rejoice! –



## PARISH LITURGIES

### —THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT— BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

#### **Tuesday December 16**

8:30 am + Chiara Giulioni

#### **Wednesday December 17**

8:30 am + Eddie Nieolzielor

#### **Thursday December 18**

8:30 am + Monique Duval

#### **Friday December 19**

8:30 am Int. Dial Family  
9:00 – 10:00 am **Adoration**

### —FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—

#### **Saturday December 20**

4:00 Reconciliation

**5:00** For:

+ Horatio Figueiredo & Deceased Family Members, + Jerry Bonett, + Joan Beaudette, + John Duggan, + Mary Lasrado, + Pat White, + Genevieve Warner, Int. Mikhail & Sarah Attong, Int Kit & Eddie O'Hara, Int Fr. Peter Houghton

#### **Sunday December 21**

**9:00 am** For our  
**11:00 am** Parishioners



**CHRISTMAS**  
Mass Times

**Christmas – The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

Wednesday, December 24 – 5:00 pm *Note: Carols begin 15 minutes before Masses on Christmas Eve.*

7:15 pm

11:30 pm

Thursday, December 25 – 9:00 am


11:00 am (Children’s Nativity Play)

**The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

Wednesday, December 31 – 5:00 pm

Thursday, January 01 – 10:00 am

**SANCTUARY LAMP**



*Our Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week  
For the Intentions of the Attong Family  
in Thanksgiving  
and for Peace in the World*

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS**

The Saint Dominic’s Social Committee is excited to share details about two upcoming events you won’t want to miss!

**New Year’s Eve Celebration & Games Night**

On Wednesday December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, we’ll be ringing in the New year with a **family-friendly Games Night** right here at the parish! This year’s theme is “New Year’s Around the World.” The event is FREE, and we warmly invite everyone to bring an appetizer or treat that represents your culture, heritage, or family tradition to share with the group. **Event Details:** Doors will open at 6:00 pm. We will have a special countdown and toast will take place around 8:00 pm (we’ll roll the clocks ahead so everyone, especially kids—can celebrate!). Our Games Masters will be hosting fun, interactive games for all ages. It’s a wonderful, local way to celebrate the New Year with our parish family. We hope you’ll join us!

**Fiddlestix Dinner & Dance**

Back by popular demand for the third year in a row, we welcome back Bronte’s favourite local band **FIDDLESTIX** with their crowd-pleasing favourites, as well as some brand-new tunes. Tickets will go on sale in January.

**SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Sunday offering envelopes for 2026 are available in the Narthex for all who are currently using envelopes. If you do not see your envelope box on the table, please leave your name on the paper provided or contact the parish office.

**33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY HIGHLIGHTS**



Our 33 Days to Morning Glory daily reflections which began in early November culminated in a celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conceptions and the Hour of Grace on the evening of December 08. Several hundred parishioners came together in song, prayer and readings as our beautiful Church was illuminated by almost 1000 candles. Special thanks go to Colleen Gamble and her trio for the beautiful musical accompaniment, and to members of our Social Committee and CWL who organized the evening, and to all the volunteers who helped create this spiritual experience for our very supportive Parish community.

**DECORATING COMMITTEE**

The Decorating Committee of Saint Dominic Parish is looking for new members to help with decorating our church for the Advent/Christmas Seasons, the Easter Season and for Special Occasions in between. If you have some extra time in your busy schedule and think you may like to be part of this group, please contact the parish office. No experience is necessary!

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the poor.”*

## PARENTING TIP #174

Christmas is a wonderful time of year! We see family, experience the joys of gift giving and receiving and have some time as a family just to be. It is however, more than any of these things, the celebration of the birth of Christ. In the hustle and bustle of the season we can forget to focus on this moment, where a child came into the world so that each of us could experience the profound gift of Salvation. This Christmas, enjoy all the fun stuff, but remember to focus, through stories, Mass, prayer and discussions, on the joy of Christ's birth and the real reason for the season. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

## CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT

During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayers, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Nights includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, January 3rd at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: [hamiltondiocese.com/vocations](http://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations) . For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

## THRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

*"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near"*

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, December 15	Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
Tuesday, December 16	Rev. Stanley Nwokeji
Wednesday, December 17	Voluntas Dei Institute, i.v.Dei
Thursday, December 18	Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski
Friday, December 19	Rev. Donald Sanvido
Saturday, December 20	Rev. David Weise

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## ENHANCING SELF-ESTEEM

This program provides the opportunity to increase awareness of yourself and to learn specific skills for building a positive self-esteem. It can help you to feel stronger in all areas of your life. Issues covered during the course include taking responsibility for your own thoughts and feelings, positive ways to behave assertively and setting realistic goals for your future. The program will run Tuesday from Feb. 17 - April 21 from 7-9pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West, Hamilton. Cost is \$35 for materials. Registration online can be found by going to [hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com) and looking for the date under Upcoming Events, or by contacting Sarah at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 or at [familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com)

## MARRIAGE TIP # 154

Marriage is a journey that two people undertake with a plan to navigate life together. When researchers investigate what makes the journey both long and happy, many things come into play, but a strong one is repeated by most: "I married my best friend." It is good to ask yourself then, are you being a good friend to your spouse? Do you spend time together, share parts of your day, invite them to share in an event with you, watch a movie together, or even a series that can become together time? Do you call once in a while to say hello during the time your are not together and plan time for your spouse in your agenda - everyday? Are you patient when they make a mistake, are not perfect, or let you down? Friendships thrive and last in this kind of environment, so make friendship a foundation of your marriage. (Family Ministry).

### 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*).

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