

## MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

### Sat., Dec 9 Vigil Second Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM For all parishioners.

### Sun., Dec 10 Second Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM + Jack Cannon from Martin Cullen.

### Mon., Dec 11 Ferial Weekday

St J 8:00 AM For Sr. Victoria Hunchak from the Brand family.

### Tue., Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

SH 8:00 AM + Frank Kennedy from Anne and Dale Kennedy.

### Wed., Dec 13 St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr

St J 8:00 AM + Barb Cullen from Martin Cullen.

### Thu., Dec 14 St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor

SH 7:00 PM + Robert Hickson from Stephen and Bonnie Jalsevac.

### Fri., Dec 15 Ferial Weekday

SH 8:00 AM + Bob Hmbleton from Stephen and Bonnie Jalsevac.

### Sat., Dec 16 Vigil Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM + Fred Clancy from Jean Clancy and family.

### Sun., Dec 17 Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM + Dee Cullen from Martin Cullen.

**Weekly Collection** December 3<sup>rd</sup> \$ 1,753.75

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Last week in the bulletin announcements there was a brief explanation as to what the Christmas Novena is - 'Las Posadas'. The term 'Posada' means 'the inn'; the name "Las Posadas" was given to the Christmas Novena recalling the days in which Mary and Joseph were looking for an inn where the Son of God could be born.

"Las Posadas" originated in Mexico in 1578 by Augustinian friars who wanted to celebrate an extra mass throughout the Christmas Novena to teach the native people the Catholic faith and to provide them with reflections in order to prepare for the Birth of our Jesus. The nine day celebration is also symbolic of Mary's nine months of pregnancy. Now-a-days 'Las Posadas' is not only celebrated throughout Mexico, but also in other American Countries (North and South America).

The Augustinian friar would have never imagined that his dedication and effort would bear so much fruits and lead to something that would still

be practiced over 400 years later. "Las Posadas" is celebrated with great enthusiasm and joy. As *Advent and Lent are distinct; Lent is in preparation for a Sacrifice (Good Friday) then a joy (Easter Sunday). While Advent is in preparation for an immediate joy – Christmas. Just as any family waits in joy for the birth of a new born baby so too do we await in joy for the birth of Jesus.*

There is no strict manual on how a Posada is to be observed as it can be adapted to fit the place it is celebrated at; but a very common structure is given. First, the Posada Song (a call and response song – in which the group is divided into two parties, one group is outside and the other inside imitating a humorous dialogue between Joseph and the innkeeper). Second, a rosary and reflection (the spiritual aspect). This is followed by food, a moment of company and sharing (Sweets, Hot Chocolate along with other traditional foods and games). Lastly, carols, songs in joyful anticipation. We will be alternating day to day between Sacred Heart and Saint John the Baptist. Hope you can join us!. The Posadas will be from Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – the first day will be after the Wish Tree Mass and Reception at Sacred Heart. Please bring a snack to share.

Together in Prayer

## WEEKLY NEWS

### Decoration of our parish for Christmas

Come and help on Wednesday Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30PM.

### Advent Confessions

Sacred Heart Church: Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-6:30PM with Adoration.

### Sacred Heart Annual Memorial Wish Tree

Dec. 16 at 5p.m. This year there will be Christmas songs prior to the Holy Mass and a light reception following the Mass. To participate please fill out a form. For questions please contact Ed Genge at 705-292-6665 or [genge@sympatico.ca](mailto:genge@sympatico.ca)

Nativity Christmas Play The Oratory children's Nativity Christmas Play will be held at St. John the Baptist Catholic School on Friday Dec 15 at 7PM.

### Donation Envelopes for 2024

We thank everyone for your yearly donations! 2024 donation envelopes are at the entrances of the church. Please fill out the first envelope with your address and phone # to update our records. If you are new

please pick a box that has no name and completely fill your address and phone #.

### Bambinely Sunday Dec 17<sup>th</sup>

bring your baby Jesus.

Posada (Christmas Novena) Posada will date from Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – the first day will be after the Wish Tree Mass and Reception at Sacred Heart. Please bring a snack to share.

### Christmas Adult and Children colouring contest

We invite everyone to participate. The colouring images are at the entrance of the church, please submit your art by Dec 25<sup>th</sup> to Fr. Alex or the sisters or via email at [office@stjohnpeterborough.ca](mailto:office@stjohnpeterborough.ca)

### Reliving the Devotion to the Sacred Heart

#### according to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

This year running into the 2024 and 2025 we will be celebrating the 350th Anniversary of the Apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. Each of the 4 days of the Apparition will be highlighted with Adoration, Prayers and a Reflection on what Jesus revealed to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque on that day. Join us in reliving the Devotion of the Sacred Heart for yourself! The dates are below:

Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 – 6:30PM at Sacred Heart.

July 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 – 6:30PM & June 27<sup>th</sup> 2025

### Young Adult Group at Sacred Heart

on every 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday of the Month. Please join us at 6PM for 30 minutes of adoration followed by dinner in the basement hall, talk and games.

### Christmas Mass Schedule

At St. John the Baptist:

Sun Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass 4:00 PM

Sun Dec. 24th Christmas Midnight Mass 12:00 AM

Mon Dec. 25th Christmas Day Mass 10:30 AM

At Sacred Heart:

Sun Dec 24th Christmas Eve Mass 5:30 PM

Sun Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Midnight Latin Mass 12:00AM

Mon Dec 25th Christmas Day Mass 9:00 AM

Mon Dec 25th Christmas Latin Mass 11:00 AM

### New Years Mass Schedule

At St. John the Baptist:

Sun Dec. 31st New Years Eve Mass 4:00 PM

Sun Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> Adoration 11:00PM- 12:00AM

Mon Jan 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day Mass 10:30 AM

At Sacred Heart:

Sun Dec 30th New Years Eve Mass 5:30 PM

Mon Jan 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day Mass 9:00 AM

Mon Jan 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day Latin Mass 11:00 AM

### Guadalupe Triduum

(Sat. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> to Tue. Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>)

- "I chose this place and made it holy, in order that my name might be honored, and my eyes and heart might remain there forever" (2Chr. 7:16)
- "Who is this that comes forth like the dawn, as beautiful as the moon, as resplendent as the sun...?" (Sg. 6:10)

•Hail Mary...

- Mary speaks: "I am the Mother of fair love,... and of knowledge, and of holy hope...My memory is unto

everlasting generations" (Eccl. 24:24,28, Douay.

•Say your petitions...

*O God, You have been pleased to bestow upon us unceasing favors by having placed us under the special protection of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary. Grant us, your humble servants, who rejoice in honoring her today upon earth, the happiness of seeing her face to face in heaven.*

*Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## GOSPEL Mark 1.1-8 of Sunday Dec 10

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the Prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."