

The First Sunday of Advent – Year A

November 30, 2025



PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Jeff Bergsma

PERMANENT DEACON: Rev. Mr. Ed MacIntosh

Administrative Assistant: Deb MacIntosh

Focus: *Stay awake, for you do not know when the Lord will come.*

The four weeks of Advent are meant for us to prepare our hearts for three comings of Christ: his birth in Bethlehem (which we celebrate on Christmas); his return at the end of time; and his coming to us here and now. Our preparations include prayer, reception of the sacraments, good works, and sacrifices. Although everyone's preparations will look different, they are all meant to cleanse us from sin and teach us to welcome Christ with love.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

POINSETTIAS

For those of you who ordered poinsettias, pick up day for your poinsettias is December 6/7th after masses, and cash/cheque payment is due at pickup. Please make cheques payable to St. Agnes Church.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Can you help distribute the Christmas poinsettias for about 30 minutes after any mass on the December 6/7 weekend? Please leave a message at the parish office for Tammy Middleton, or email office@saintagnescatholicchurch.org and tell us when you can give us a hand! Don't forget – there's hot chocolate!!

ST. AGNES SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL is grateful for your



generous support of our angel tree! If there are still angels left on our angel tree, please take one and purchase the gift indicated on the card. Please return your gift in a gift bag along with the angel no later than next Sunday, December 7th. Thank you so much!

THE NEWLY FORMED ST. AGNES YOUTH GROUP will be selling wooden Christmas tree ornaments after Mass on the weekend of December 13th and 14th. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$5 per ornament. The proceeds from selling these house-shaped ornaments will go to support A Better Tent City. Thanks for supporting our group, and this important cause!

STATIONS OF THE NATIVITY



On the first Friday of Advent, December 5th at 6:30pm
Join the CWL as they present the **Stations of the Nativity**.

A series of reflections, meditations and prayers that help us enter into the mystery of God becoming man. Paralleling the Stations of the Cross, the Stations of the Nativity can help deepen our understanding of the Incarnation and the significance of Christ's birth.

CANADIAN ROSARY BRIGADE INVITES ADULTS interested in making Mission Rosaries in their spare time, we meet most Monday evenings. When invited we go into schools leading students and staff in making their rosary. No cost to join us. A Vulnerable Persons Police Check is necessary. For more information, please email canadianrosarybrigade@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Unfortunately, due to a lack of volunteers, our Christmas Pageant is at risk of not going forward this year. To express your interest, please put your name forward to the parish office.



ADVENT RECONCILIATION ADDITIONAL TIMES

Tuesday, December. 16th

9:30am - 1pm

Wednesday, December. 17th

5pm - 8pm

Thursday, December. 18th

1pm - 5pm

ENVELOPES for CHRISTMAS FLOWERS in MEMORY of a LOVED ONE...



...are available in the narthex. Clearly PRINT the name of your loved one on the envelope and place your contribution in the envelope at any time over the Advent and Christmas season. The tribute will be placed on our website's tribute page, as well as on the tribute cards posted in the narthex.

CWL Catered Dinner

Tuesday, December 9th at 6pm.

For all ladies of the Parish!



The CWL invite all women of the parish for a delicious catered dinner in our Parish Centre. Whether you are single or married, aged 16 to 101, new to St. Agnes or a long-time member, all are welcome to attend. Plan to arrange a babysitter or a carpool so you can meet and visit with one another for an evening of laughter and information. We welcome all ladies to come and learn about or be renewed in the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

The cost is \$20 for the meal. **Please contact Teresa Milton, CWL President** by email: stagnescwlpresident@gmail.com or phone: 519-745-8788 to **reserve your seat.**

ST. AGNES EDUCATION CAFE

Small Talks on Big Topics

Forgiving Each Other – *and Ourselves* **God's Mercy Meet Us in Our Sin & Suffering**

Presented by Fr. Francisco Cruz

Pastor, St. John's Parish, Kitchener

Missionary of Mercy, Appointed by Pope Francis

About the Event

"... Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again" (Jn 8:11)

We all sin, alienating ourselves from our loving God, who gave us freedom to choose to follow Him or to wander away from Him. When we choose to follow God's will, we feel His peace, no matter what life brings us. When we choose to sin, we separate ourselves, losing that peace & true happiness He wants for us.

But God is full of mercy & always ready to forgive us! He seeks us relentlessly, wanting us with him, & to free us from the burden of sin & shame we may carry. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation Christ heals us. Here, through His priests, who are bound by the Seal, He meets us in our pain, forgives us, restoring our souls & our peace. We only need to open our hearts & ask His forgiveness. Then, trusting in Him, we must forgive ourselves.

Wednesday, December 3rd
St. Agnes Parish 6:30–8:00 pm

75 Bluevale St N, Waterloo • 30 minute talk + Q&A and Refreshments

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. MARY'S TRUTH & RECONCILI-ACTION CIRCLE

A vigil mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held on Thursday, Dec. 11th at 5 pm at St. Mary Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows Church, 56 Duke street west, Kitchener. The story of *St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe* will be shared before the eucharistic celebration. Following mass, hospitality will be provided in the parish hall: 3 sisters soup & bannock. All are welcome!

HEARTACHE TO HEALING: GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP COPING WITH CHRISTMAS

Join us as we watch a video and discuss ways to cope while still being able to find joy in each moment trusting that there will be brighter days ahead.

Wed., Dec. 10th, 7 – 8:30 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) at St. Michael Parish (Parish Centre – basement) – 80 University Ave. W., Waterloo, ON Register by phone or email: (519-884-9311 / parish@stmichaelw.ca).

YOUNG ADULTS' NIGHT: Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations during the Advent Season. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, December 6th** at Holy Cross Church (14400 Argyll Rd, Georgetown, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

POPE LEO XIV, APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION *Dilexi te*, “I have loved you” The Holy Father's first apostolic exhortation was released in October. The document focuses on the powerful bond between our love of Christ and his call for us to love and care for the poor. A virtual copy of the document can be accessed on the Diocesan website.

Mass Schedule



Mondays – **no Mass**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Saturdays **9am**; Thursdays & Fridays **7pm**

Lord's Day Masses:

Saturday **5pm**; Sunday **9am, 11am & 7pm**

Holy Hour: Thursdays at **6pm**

Reconciliation: Saturdays at **4pm** or by appointment



CONSIDER MAKING YOUR OFFERING THROUGH CANADA HELPS: This option allows you to make a secure donation directly to St. Agnes Parish on this webpage [119110450RR0101-st-agnes-parish | CharityProfile | Donate Online](https://119110450RR0101-st-agnes-parish.CharityProfile)

E-transfers can be made to St. Agnes Parish at any time at stagneswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com
Please remember to put your first AND last name in the memo line or we cannot send you a tax receipt.

MASS INTENTIONS for November 30 – December 7			
SUNDAY	9am	Pro Populo	
	11am	†Holy Souls	Brito Family
	7pm	†Antonio Van Dalen	Messent Family
TUESDAY	9am	†Priests & Religious	Stephen
WEDNESDAY	9am	†Anne & †Gord Philp	McKenna Family
THURSDAY	7pm	Pallottine Priests & Seminarians	Friends of the Pallottines
		†Walter Zielonka	Ave Maria/Padre Pio Prayer Grp
		†Maria & †Joaquim Palhina	Brito Family
		Homeless & Hungry	Sylvia
FRIDAY	6:30pm	STATIONS of the NATIVITY	Led by the CWL
FRIDAY	7pm	†Genowefa Zielinska	Daughter
SATURDAY	9am	Miraculous Medal Recipients	Saturday Morning Prayer Group
SATURDAY	4pm	CONFESSIONS	
	5pm	†Jack Ball	Ball Family
SUNDAY	9am	Pro Populo	
	11am	†George	Aloshious Family
	7pm	Living & Deceased Family	Philomena

Contact Us

Office Phone: 519-885-4480

Office Hours: 9am – 4:30pm

***SSVP Food Assistance:** 519-504-8399

Email: office@saintagnescatholicchurch.org

Website: <https://saintagnescatholicchurch.org/>

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