

St. Stanislaus & St. Pius X & St. Christopher

Parish Priest :
Rev. Father Arulkumar

Parish Secretary :
Faye Wafer

Office Hours :
Tuesday to Thursday
10 AM to 2 PM

Sunday Masses :
St. Pius X - Lively
Saturday : 4:30 PM
St. Christopher - Whitefish
Sunday : 9:00 AM
St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff
Sunday : 11:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation :
St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff
Sunday : 10:30 AM to 10:45 AM
St. Pius X - Lively
Saturday : 4:00 PM to 4:15 PM
St. Christopher - Whitefish
Sunday : 8:30 AM to 8:45 AM

Baptism :
Usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month.
Please make arrangements one month in
advance by contacting the Parish Office.

Marriages :
Please make marriage arrangements
9 months in advance by contacting the
Parish office. Saturday weddings are
scheduled at 1:00 PM.

Other Sacraments :
Contact Parish Office

Bulletin Announcements :
Email yours to
ststans@eastlink.ca
Before 12 PM Wednesday

Prayer line :
St. Stanislaus : Faye Wafer 705-682-3207
or Ellen Austin 705-682-4596
St. Pius X : Eleanor Williams 705-692-4061
or Denise Stewart 705-6924883
St. Christopher : Adrienne McIntyre
705-866-2235

Mission Statement :
By our Baptism, we are committed to
celebrate the presence of Christ in Word
and Sacrament and are continually
called to build our lives in the image of
Christ. Through liturgy and ministry, we
strive to bring ourselves closer to God
and to each other, by building a strong
community of believers and a joyous
family of God.

78 Balsam Street, P.O. Box 910 Copper Cliff, ON P0M 1N0

Tel: 705-682-4683 / Fax: 705-682-2646

Email: ststans@eastlink.ca Website: www.sts-spc.com

Third Advent Sunday - December 17, 2023

he came to testify
about the

LIGHT

John 1:8

Knowing Jesus.com



Christmas Mass Schedule 2023

December 24, 2023 Sunday

04:30 PM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff

07:00 PM - St. Pius X, Lively

December 25, 2023 Monday

09:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, December 19

10:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish

No Intentions requested

Wednesday, December 20

10:00 AM - St. Pius X, Lively

† Anna Willgos by J.&C, Jamieson

Thursday, December 21

10:30 AM - Meadowbrook, Lively

No Intentions requested

Friday, December 22

11:00 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff

† Memorial Mass Nori Smania

Fourth Advent Sunday

Saturday, December 23

04:30 PM - St. Pius X, Lively

† Linda Dugas by Andre Dugas

Sunday, December 24

09:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish

For the People entrusted to the Pastor

11:00 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff

† Barry Jamieson by Al Nesseth

The Rosary is recited before
Saturday and Sunday Mass.

The Cenacle of the Marian Movement of priests is held each Tuesday at 10:45 AM at St. Christopher's Church, Whitefish.

A Prayer Line is available for parishioners. Anyone wishing to pray for a special Intention, for someone who is ill, having surgery, for the deceased, or any other intention may contact the Prayer Line or the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions

Offering Masses is a long standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

An Individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons.

For example, in Thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a **Birthday** or an **Anniversary**), for someone who is **sick** or for the **repose of the soul** of someone who has died.

Call the Parish Office: 705-682-4683

Third Advent Sunday

Responsorial Psalm - Luke 1:47-54

My soul shall exult in my God.

Weekdays Scripture Readings: December 18 to December 24, 2023

| Day | Reading | Gospel |
|-----------|--|------------------|
| Monday | Jeremiah 23. 5-8 | Matthew 1. 18-24 |
| Tuesday | Judges 13. 2-7; 24-25 | Luke 1. 5-25 |
| Wednesday | Isaiah 7. 10-14; 8. 10 | Luke 1. 26-38 |
| Thursday | Zephaniah 3. 14-18 | Luke 1. 39-45 |
| Friday | 1 Samuel 1. 24-28 | Luke 1. 46-56 |
| Saturday | Malachi 3. 1-4; 4. 5-6 | Luke 1. 57-66 |
| Sunday | 2 Samuel 7. 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 //Romans 16- 25-27 | Luke 1. 26-38 |

Sunday Collection - December 10, 2023

Thank You for Your Continued Generosity!

| Church | Envelopes | Loose | PADP |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff | \$ 388 | \$ 50 | \$ 805 |
| St. Pius X, Lively | \$ 480 | \$ 66.90 | \$ 930 |
| St. Christopher, Whitefish | \$ 710 | \$ 40 | \$ 645 |

Third Week of Advent Time

The **Third Sunday of Advent** offers us more of the promise. The words used by the prophet **Isaiah** to describe God's vindication are the ones Jesus points to as describing his own mission: 'The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God'.

We continue to focus on the first readings in this first part of Advent. From the Book of Numbers, we have the proclamation that 'a star shall advance from Jacob...' Zephaniah is the prophet of impending doom, if the people don't abandon their idolatry. But this week we read about consoling healing, 'on that day', when the Lord comes. Isaiah's message is full of promise: 'Turn to me and be safe ... for I am God; there is no other!' God promises us, 'with great tenderness I will take you back', and 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples'.

On Sunday, we reach the **December 17th** and in these last eight days of Advent the focus returns to the gospels with stories from Jesus' family in the time before he was born. In Matthew's genealogy, we see the ancestors of Jesus.

On the **Fourth Sunday of Advent**, we read **Luke's Gospel** of the Annunciation, the moment when a troubled Mary is told she has found favor with God and she will conceive and bear a son. She questions: 'How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?' Then declaring herself the handmaiden of the Lord, she accepts: 'May it be done to me according to your word'.

Third Advent Week - Daily Prayer This Week

This third week of Advent, begins with *Gaudete* (rejoice!) Sunday. Our daily prayer continues to allow us to become much more concrete about naming our desires and preparing the way for the Lord. We begin this week with joy, knowing that our celebration of all the ways our Lord comes to us is getting nearer.

In these familiar readings is an invitation to us to ask again for help, perhaps especially in dealing with our fears. On Tuesday we hear God's message to us Isaiah: 'Fear not. You shall not be put to shame'. Fear can stop us from asking God for the very help we need in our lives.

In the midst of what our culture tells us should be a picture-perfect holiday season, we can step back and get in touch with our fears and ask God to help us deal with the relationships we are afraid of, the family tensions that make us apprehensive and the stress that can take us out of the spirit of Advent reflection. If we pause for just a minute, we can feel in our hearts that Jesus is saying gently to us each day: 'Do not be afraid'.

These very busy days can still be a time for us to focus our desires, perhaps each morning at the side of our bed, while in the shower or while going about our daily errands. We can ask God to remind us again that what we are doing in our daily lives is touched by the sacred because God is present in even the most mundane tasks.

'Lord, let me place my trust in you. I get so independent and think I need to fix everything myself. Let me remember not to be afraid of so much and to ask you for the healing that my heart needs so badly. Give me the patience this week to deal with the relationships in my life that need mending and the forgiveness that I can give others and that I need so badly myself. Be with me through the darkness so that I can see the light that you bring to us and the joy with which you want to fill our hearts'.

We are moving toward the end of our Advent journey. Even if we don't feel like we have 'started' on Advent yet, we can begin today. We are being invited: 'Do not be afraid!'



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*Providing helping hands to the isolated and vulnerable.
Nous prôtons main-force aux personnes isolées et vulnérables.*

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Be not afraid!
Open wide the
doors to Christ!
- St. Pope John Paul II
Anonymous



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for
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Third Week of Advent

Our week begins with 'Gaudete Sunday'. *Gaudete* means 'rejoice' in Latin. It comes from the first word of the Entrance antiphon on Sunday. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, 'The Lord is near'. This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose colored, and the rose colored vestments often used at the Eucharist.

The second part of Advent begins on December 17th each year. For the last eight days before Christmas, the plan of the readings changes. The first readings are still from the prophesies, but now the gospels are from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke. We read the stories of faithful women and men who prepared the way for our salvation. We enter into the story of how Jesus' life began. These stories are filled with hints of what his life will mean for us. Faith and generosity overcome impossibility. Poverty and persecution reveal glory.

We prepare this week by feeling the joy. We move through this week feeling a part of the waiting world that rejoices because our longing has prepared us to believe the reign of God is close at hand. And so we consciously ask: *Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow.*

Each morning this week, in that brief moment we are becoming accustomed to, we want to light a *third* inner candle. Three candles, going from expectation, to longing, to joy. They represent our inner preparation, or inner *perspective*. In this world of 'conflict and division', 'greed and lust for power', we begin each day this week with a sense of liberating joy. Perhaps we can pause, breathe deeply and say, *'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior'*.

Each day this week, we will continue to go through our everyday life, but we will experience the difference our faith can bring to it. We are confident that the grace we ask for will be given us. We will encounter sin - in our own hearts and in our experience of the sin of the world. We can pause in those moments, and feel the joy of the words, 'You are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins' (*Matthew 1:21*).

We may experience the Light shining into dark places of our lives and showing us patterns of sinfulness, and inviting us to experience God's mercy and healing. We may want to make gestures of reconciliation with a loved one, relative, friend or associate. With more light and joy, it is easier to say, 'I'm sorry; let's begin again'.

Each night this week we want to pause in gratitude. Whatever the day has brought, no matter how busy it has been, we can stop, before we fall asleep, to give thanks for a little more light, a little more freedom to walk by that light, in joy.

Our celebration of the coming of our Savior in history, is opening us up to experience his coming to us this year, and preparing us to await his coming in Glory.

Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people. We await your coming. Come, O Lord.