

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 705-692-4883
St. Christopher : Adrienne McIntyre
705-866-2235

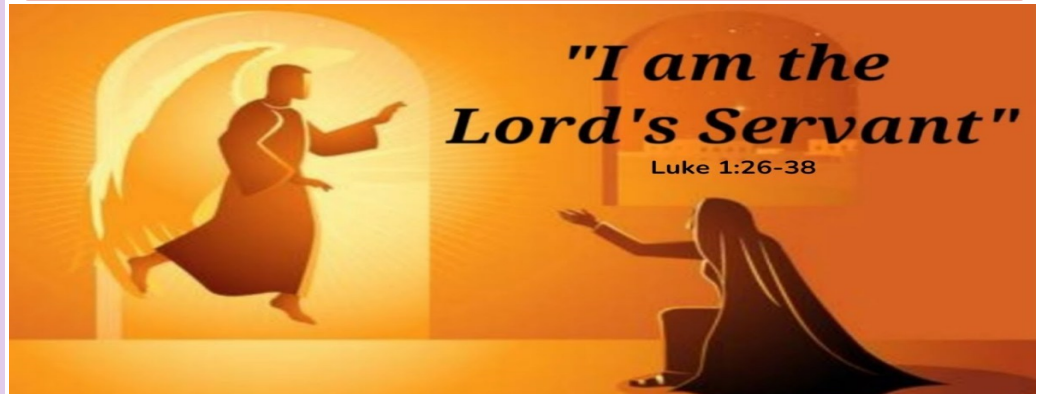
Mission Statement :
By our Baptism, we are committed to
celebrate the presence of Christ in Word
and Sacrament and are continually
called to build our lives in the image of
Christ. Through liturgy and ministry, we
strive to bring ourselves closer to God
and to each other, by building a strong
community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

Fourth Advent Sunday - December 24, 2023



Merry Christmas 2023



The Office will be closed
from December 26, 2023 to January 01, 2024

Mass Intentions



FOR THE WEEK

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday, December 30

04:30 PM - St. Pius X, Lively

† Stella Vagnini by Wilf & Flora Tremblay

Sunday, December 31

09:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish

† Ron Denomme by Denomme Family

11:00 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff

For the People entrusted to the Pastor

New Year 2024 Mass Schedule

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

December 31, 2023 Sunday

04:30 PM - St. Pius X, Lively

January 01, 2024 Monday

09:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish

11:00 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff

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

Fourth Advent Sunday

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 89

**Forever I will sing of your steadfast love,
O Lord.**

Weekdays Scripture Readings: December 25 to December 31, 2023

Day	Reading	Gospel
Monday	Isaiah 62:11-12 / Titus 3:4-7 - Christmas	Luke 2:15-20
Tuesday	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 - St. Stephen, the 1st martyr	Matthew 10:17-22
Wednesday	1 John 1:1-4 - St. John, Apostle, Evangelist	John 20:2-8
Thursday	1 John 1:5-2:2 - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	Matthew 2:13-18
Friday	1 John 2:3-11	Luke 2:22-35
Saturday	1 John 2:12-17	Luke 2:36-40
Sunday	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Colossians 3:12-21	Luke 2:22-40

Sunday Collection - December 17, 2023

Thank You for Your Continued Generosity!

Church	Envelopes	Loose	PADP
St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff	\$ 558	\$ 70	\$
St. Pius X, Lively	\$ 1645	\$ 34	\$
St. Christopher, Whitefish	\$ 897	\$ 24.25	\$

Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Week

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'.

Monday is **Christmas Day**. The first celebration of **The Nativity of the Lord** is the **Mass at Midnight**. The first reading is from **Isaiah**: 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone'. This powerful reading deserves a slow contemplation. The Gospel is from **Luke**: the journey to Bethlehem, the birth, the angels announce the birth to the shepherds. The second celebration of **The Nativity of the Lord** is the **Mass at Dawn**. The Gospel is from **Luke**: the shepherds visit the newborn child. 'And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart'. The third celebration of **The Nativity of the Lord** is the **Mass during the Day**. Here the Gospel is from the beginning of **John's Gospel**: 'And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth'.

Then, the church celebrates three very important feasts after Christmas. We celebrate the **Feast of Saint Stephen**, the first public witness who gave his life for his faith. Then we celebrate the **Feast of Saint John, Apostle and evangelist**. And, we encounter the moving **Feast of the Holy Innocents**, remembering the infant martyrs of Herod's jealous rage.

On the **Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas** we have the story of the Purification in the temple and the powerful words of Simeon about Jesus and about Mary. On the **Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas** we have the story about Anna in the temple and Jesus going home with his parents. 'The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him'.


Sunday is the wonderful **Feast of the Holy Family**, and there is a wonderful variety of readings from which to choose. **Luke's Gospel** is the story of the teen aged Jesus teaching in the temple while his parents searched for him. Jesus goes back home with his family. 'He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man'.

Daily Prayer This Week

There is a very quick transition after Sunday. Christmas is upon us. It can be difficult to stay focused on Christmas eve and Christmas day even though the mystery before us is so powerful. We can wake each morning with a brief prayer to remind ourselves that Our Lord came in history - for me. We can remind ourselves of our Advent prayers that he come to us now. The nativity stories can remind us of how he comes, in poverty, in rejection, into the lowliest of places, so that I'll believe now, this year, that he can and desires to come into my place, my heart, my life. It is a time of deep gratitude, not matter how busy we are with many things.

During our preparation for Christmas we were asking the Lord to open our hearts, to let us wait with patient trust, and to come to us. This week we experienced joy and the mixed challenges of Christmas. We have the opportunity to have ordinary conversations with our God who came to be with us.

Thank you so much, Lord, for becoming flesh for me. And, thank you for being with me now, in the midst of each day's joys and sorrows. I ask you to increase my trust in you, my desire for closeness with you and my commitment to turn to you all day long. Continue to be with me when I have to make difficult decisions, when I need extra patience and care when in challenging situations. Continue to let my heart experience the joy of Christmas all week as I see signs of your presence with me.



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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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Celebrate Life!

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



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Lonnie Doherty
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lonnie.doherty@homehardware.ca

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Christmas Message

Let us adore baby Jesus in the manger. A baby easily wins the heart and love of anyone with human feelings, but how much more does this baby win our heart and love. Let us kneel before baby Jesus and thank him for coming to save us. Thank baby Jesus now in your own words.

Imagine, Jesus, the Son of God and our Savior, born in a stable and placed in a manger instead of in a cot! When God comes, he usually comes in humility, silently, and peacefully, without causing a great disturbance. God's humble coming in Jesus would not surprise us if we knew God better. But of course, we will never know God sufficiently to understand. So, no matter how much we try to understand God becoming human in Jesus, we will not be able to comprehend; it will remain a mystery. The best reaction is that of the shepherds - simply to praise God. Let us praise God now in our own words.

As we look on baby Jesus, we think of the mystery of God's love for us. Why did God who is almighty and all-powerful become small and powerless as a baby? Quite simply, out of love for us. God became human so that we might become more like God. Jesus if you had not come as a human like us, we might have had difficulty in believing that God really loved us. But now we know for sure. John the Evangelist says, 'This is the revelation of God's love for us, that God sent his only Son into the world that we might have life through him' (1 John 4:9). Let us thank God for revealing his love for us in Jesus, that he who is so big and powerful became so small and weak for us, that he became one of us, to help us be more like him, to have life through him.

As we see baby Jesus in the manger, we reflect on God's way being a way of gentleness and tenderness; God's way is not one of violence but gentleness. There is a lack of goodness and love in the world, but God is tender and loving. As we look on baby Jesus in the manger, we see that he is the answer to today's problems. Instead of violence, in baby Jesus in the manger we see gentleness; instead of hatred, in baby Jesus in the manger we see tenderness; instead of selfishness, in baby Jesus in the manger we see love for us. Let us ask baby Jesus to help us to be gentle, tender, and loving with those around us as he was in the manger.

Jesus, in the manger you give us hope. In the darkness of our world, your light has shone. Your coming in gentleness encourages us to hold out the hand of reconciliation, to help one another, to work for peace. We remember the message of the angels: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace'. Baby Jesus, help us to be people of peace and to spread peace everywhere we go. Let us pray now for peace.