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December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent

52 Church Street = Parry Sound, ON = P2A 1Y7 = 705.746.5181 = office@spta.church



Pastor: Fr. Jerry Tavares

Administrative Assistant: Kristen Penfold

OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday: 12 Noon - 5PM Thursday & Friday: 10AM - 2PM Parish Office is located behind the Church

The Welcome Desk is open before and after Mass on the weekend

Are you new here? Welcome!

We welcome new parishioners and visitors. We'd love to see you again! Please register at the Parish Office.

> LORD'S DAY MASS SATURDAY: 4PM **SUNDAY: 9AM & 11AM**

WEEKDAY MASS

See Mass times inside

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00PM until 3:45PM

BAPTISM

Parents seeking baptism for their children should approach the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Couples seeking the Sacrament of Marriage must meet Fr. Jerry at least one year prior to a desired date.

HOLY ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office as soon as possible.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Want to learn more about the Catholic Faith? Interested in receiving the Sacraments? Contact the Parish Office.

S CONNEC http://spta.church @sptachurch /sptachurchps

Our vision is to offer every person in our community a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ.

First Sunday of Advent * December 3, 2023

Welcome to St. Peter the Apostle!

May you encounter Jesus Christ in His church and in His sacraments through your participation in our Parish community. Visit our Welcome Desk before or after our weekend Masses for any information on our parish, it's ministries and it's community. We sincerely welcome you!

TODAYS READINGS

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8 **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 **Gospel:** Mark 13:33-37

Wednesday, December 6 6:00PM + Victor Santos

Thursday, December 7
NO MASS - Advent gathering in Peterborough

Friday, December 8 12:10PM + Phylis Ertel

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 9 4:00PM + Lilian Reck

Sunday, December 10

9:00AM Intentions of Chris & Margaret Ibey
11:00AM Missa Pro Populo (Mass for the People)

LET US PRAY

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CHRISTMAS MASS

Christmas Eve 4PM • 7PM • 10PM

> Christmas Day 10AM



First Sunday of Advent

This Sunday we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. In the midst of everything that is going on around us, our parish church becomes an oasis of peace and calm. We step aside from the hustle and bustle around us and reflect on God's promise of salvation, the promise fulfilled at the birth of Jesus Christ.

Merciful Father, You have given us your son as your loving presence in this world. Create in our hearts the room for your love to grow. Forgive our shortcomings and prepare our hearts for your coming. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, God, forever and ever, Amen.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

The light of the Advent Wreath

Jesus is the light of the world. The first candle, when lit, shows some light, and gives us hope. We see a glimmer in the darkness. We hope in the Lord, and trust in His word knowing His goodness and steadfast love for us.

The second candle banishes more darkness. With faith, we listen to the promises made to the prophets, and know the God of faithfulness has promised to set us free.

Joy in our hearts - the Lord will soon be here! **The third candle,** the rose of rejoicing, is lit, more light is revealed, and the way of the Lord is being prepared.

The last and final candle is lit. The wreath is ablaze with light. The coming of the Saviour is truly near. We wait with love with Mary for the birth of her child, and with Joseph, who waits with her.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL AND MEMORIAL MASS

On Friday, December 15, everyone is welcome to join us as we celebrate our Advent Candlelight Vigil starting at 6PM followed by the Memorial Mass. The Vigil will begin with meditative instrumental music and conclude with prayer. Celebrating the life of family members and friends is an important way to stay connected to those who pray for us as they head heavenward. We ask for a donation of \$25 for the large candle that is yours to keep after the Mass! To reserve your candle, please visit the Welcome Desk after all weekend Masses or contact the Parish Office during the week. Registration deadline is December 14. We hope that you can join us for this beautiful pre-Christmas tradition.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sunday, December 17, after the 11AM Mass at the KofC Hall. Tickets are free and must be obtained in advance. You can get tickets as the Welcome Desk this weekend after all Masses. We ask that each family attending will either bring a salad or dessert, and the rest of the refreshments will be provided. Make sure if any children are attending that we get their age as Santa will be making an appearance.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS

Signed up for the Pageant? Rehearsals take place in the Church on Saturday, December 9th, 16th and 23rd at 10AM; and Thursday, December 14 at 4PM.

CHRISTMAS DÉCOR

Help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas with beautiful flowers. Envelopes are now available as you enter the Church. Write names of loved ones to remember during the Christmas season.

TREE OF DREAMS

Your donation will provide a happy Christmas for the children living in the orphanage. Thanks to you generosity, gifts will be purchased in Honduras for the children on your behalf. Please return your donation in the envelope marked "Friends of Honduran Children" to the Church. For tax receipts, also include your name and mailing address. Your commitment to invest in a child's future will change their life forever! Tax receipts are issued for \$20 or more

OFFERTORY ENVELOPE BOXES

Offertory envelopes are ready for pick up in the Narthex, in alphabetical order, for those who used them this past year. If you're not currently using envelopes and would like to start, Kristen can set you up with a blank box, just go to the Welcome Desk and make sure to write your name and address on the first few. Alternatively, you can donate by credit card online or Automatic Giving (pre-authorized), which stops the worry of finding envelopes and gives the parish security knowing what is coming in each month. Thank you for your generosity in whatever form you support your parish. Tax receipts will be issued for any of these methods.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

From time-to-time phone numbers, addresses and email addresses change. If yours has changed, please update Kristen at the Welcome Deck or contact the Parish Office during the week. If you're a parishioner and didn't get a Christmas Card from Father last year, chances are our information isn't correct - so please update it!

Hope you have a great week!

WORSHIP OFFERING

Your financial stewardship for November 26:

Offertory Envelopes 1,826.38
Automatic Giving 1,472.18
Offertory Loose 253.00

Total Offertory \$3,551.56