

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 8, 2019

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 10th,	
9:00 a.m.	A.I.D.
Wednesday, December 11th, <i>St. Damasus I (OptMem)</i>	
10:15 a.m.	A.I.D. (Wellington Terrace)
7:00 p.m.	Advent Penitential Service & Confessions
Thursday, December 12th	
6:30 p.m.	Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration
7:00 p.m.	+Edward Berlot (Maria Jenko)
Friday, December 13th, <i>St. Lucy (Obl Mem)</i>	
9:00 a.m.	For the Intentions of the Smydo Family (Patsy Logel & Rosemary Downey)
Saturday, December 14th	
5:00 p.m.	+Maria Grunzweig (Frances Mantler & Family)
Sunday, December 15th <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	
St. Martin's	For the Living & Deceased
9:00 a.m.	Members of the Parish
St. Mary's	For the Living & Deceased
11:00 a.m.	Members of the Parish

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUR OFFERINGS:

St. Mary's, November 30th & December 1st:

50 Weekly Offerings	\$ 1,710.00
Loose	76.70
2 Building Maintenance	85.00
14 Flower Offering	<u>265.00</u>
Total:	\$ 2,136.70

St. Martin's December 1st:

8 Weekly Offerings	\$ 225.00
2 Building Maintenance	<u>50.00</u>
Total:	\$ 275.00

Your continual support and generosity are much appreciated!

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS: in order to receive a tax receipt for 2019 for any donations you wish to make, all money must be received and deposited by December 29th, 2019 after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

“Sometimes we know what we have to do but we lack the courage to do it. Let us learn from Mary how to make decisions, trusting in the Lord.”

- Pope Francis

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

As we make progress in our Advent journey and as part of our preparations for Christmas, there will be an Advent Penitential Service at St. Mary's Elora on **Wednesday December 11th at 7:00 p.m.** Some visiting priests will help us out with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It will be one of the best ways to prepare for Christmas as we all wait in joyful hope and anticipation to celebrate once again, the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ at Christmas.

SOLEMN MASS FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – BASILICA OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE, GUELPH

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby will celebrate the Solemn Mass at 7:00p.m. on Monday December 9th at Basilica of Our Lady. During this Mass the Bishop will declare the Basilica to be the official Shrine of Our Lady for the Hamilton Diocese. All are welcome to attend.

There will be refreshments in the Parish Hall after Mass.

2020 OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES:

Preparation of 2020 envelope packets will begin shortly. If you receive one now, you will continue to do so unless you have not been actively using it for the past six months. If you are new to the parish or wish to begin donating, please write your full name, address and phone number on a piece of paper marked 'For Offertory Envelopes' and drop it into the collection basket by December 15th, 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 8, 2019

CWL 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR-LONG DRIVE TO BENEFIT THE WELLINGTON FOOD BANK:

The CWL continues to collect contributions towards the Food Bank's **Christmas Hamper Program** to enable food bank users to have special items over the Christmas holidays. These items include, but are not limited to:

- Jam, syrup, marshmallows, cookies
- Cake mix, pancake mix, muffin mix
- Canned nuts, sweets
- Tea, coffee, hot chocolate
- Table decorations, napkins
- Any other non-perishable item/foodstuff to help create a special Christmas meal

Donations can be left in the bin in the vestibule. The **last day for donations is Wednesday, December 11th** when they will be delivered to the CW Sportsplex by our volunteers, in time for the Food Bank Christmas Market. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

WARMTH & COMFORT COLLECTION:

The St. Vincent de Paul Society with the help of the Knights of Columbus, continues to collect **hats, mittens and socks** to be handed out to needy families at Christmastime.

If you would like to contribute warm winter gear in any size, please leave donations in the marked box in the front vestibule. Your generosity at this time of year is greatly appreciated.

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES FOR SALE:

Religious articles will be for sale at the back of the church after Masses December 7th/8th and 14th/15th. If there is something you are looking for that is not on display, please let Anne Crawford know. All proceeds to St. Mary's church.

BLESSING OF BABY JESUS FIGURINES:

All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on Sunday, Dec. 15th to be blessed as we celebrate Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for

Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day - as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH:

For Catholics, Christmas is about so much more than gifts: it is the promise, through the birth of Jesus, of goodness and light coming into our lives. Do your children know this is the focus of Christmas? Advent and Christmas are perfect times to highlight the "reason for the season". Read stories about the Advent wreath so they understand what each candle symbolizes; read the story of the Nativity (more than once!); be sure the tree is adorned with symbols of the faith; read family Advent reflections daily during Advent; attend Mass and reflect on the readings each week, including Christmas Day. Faith sets a foundation on which to stand and Christmas is a perfect time to bring Christ into your family activities!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Dec 9	Scripture Study Group each Monday at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Mary's rectory meeting room. All welcome.
Dec 11	Advent Penitential Service – 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's, Elora followed by individual confessions
Dec 11	Last day to contribute to Wellington Food Bank's Christmas Hamper Program. Collection bin in vestibule.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Dec 24	THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD 4:30 p.m. St Mary's Elora – Christmas Carols and Children's Nativity Play followed by: 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass 7:00 p.m. St. Martin's Drayton – Christmas Eve Mass 10:00 p.m. St. Mary's Elora - Midnight Mass
Dec 25	9:00 a.m. St. Martin's – Christmas Day Mass 11:00 a.m. St. Mary's – Christmas Day Mass