

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



ADVENT REFLECTION

It's early morning. You are just waking up. It's still dark outside. But you woke up because you feel drawn to take a walk in the neighborhood. There is a fresh snowfall covering everything. It's cold but the wind is calm. As you walk, you feel the soft crunch of new snow. It makes you smile. In the distance, you see someone standing at the bus stop. He is leaning against the wall and seems tired. You think he might even be asleep as he leans against that wall.

As you approach, he looks up and says, "Good morning." You answer, "Good morning. Nice snow this morning." He looks at you with eyes that are tired but gentle. "Yes. The snow is nice in the morning before it gets trampled." He looks at you with gentle eyes and says, "I just got off my shift at the factory. Time to get the bus and go home. Why are you out so early this morning?" His voice and face are so inviting. He makes you feel safe and peaceful. There is something you want to share with him, something you've been holding onto, afraid to let go of. What do you say to him?

His whole body seems to be listening to you. "I understand," he says. "I too have been afraid. My wife gave birth to our son a few months ago, and I was out of work. I didn't know how I was going to take care of them. I was scared." You notice that he is smiling as he tells you this. You ask him, "Why are you smiling?" He looks at you with a big smile and says, "Because I knew that God would help me. I knew God was here with me." You see the confidence, the trust in his face. What do you say to him? He continues to look at you with those gentle eyes. You can see the joy and the strain in them. You wonder how he got such confidence, such faith in God. "When I was out of work I prayed and asked God to help me. I was tired and afraid of the future. Then one day at a bus stop, like this one, I talked to a man who let me know about the possibility of a job. When I went to look into the job, he was the one who was doing the hiring. It's like God sent me an angel at the bus stop. That's why I talk to people here. You never know when one might be an angel."

What fears do I need to hand over to God who is always with me? Who are the "angels" in my life who have shown me the face of God?

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com>

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions
December 23 - 26, 2025

Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	+ Bill Liston Int of Shiio & Paco
Wednesday Christmas Eve	5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	+ John Tomajko
Thursday Christmas Day	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m	
Friday	8:30 a.m.	Int of Linda Kartes

Saturday Multiple Mass Intentions
December 27, 2025

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	+ Brian McCaron + Bridget Doherty Int of Lynn McKee
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VOCATIONAL PRAYER CALENDAR
December 22 - 27, 2025

Mon.	Rev Richard Dordunu
Tue.	Rev. Robert Kiffman
Wed.	Consecrated Virgin Candidates
Thur.	The Nativity of The Lord
Fri.	Rev. Jason Kuntz
Sat.	Rev. Andrew Lopatniuk

VOCATION VIEW

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 21, 2025

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If He is calling you, to be a priest, religious or deacon call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations

SUNDAY FUNNY



2026 BOXED ENVELOPES

The 2026 boxed sets of envelopes are ready for pick up. They are in Alphabetical Order, located in the parish hall. Please help us by picking yours up today. If you have requested envelopes and cannot find a boxed set with your name on it, please contact Bonnie in the parish office. Please be careful and double check the name on box so you don't take someone else's with the same or similar surname. If you are not currently using the boxed sets of envelopes and would like to start or if you would prefer to use Direct Debit, please call Bonnie at the parish office

FR. GODWIN CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Our Parish team, Terri Perruzza, Bonnie Maloney, Trish Harrington, Jared Gould and myself pray that we are serving your needs and the needs of our parish community. We wish to encourage those who customarily give a gift to please consider being more mindful of those who have less than us.

Keep a "Blessing bag" in your car in case you see someone in need. You can make these up with items from the Dollar store such as gloves, thermal socks, beef sticks, crackers, candy bars, toothpaste, toothbrush, wipes, deodorant, snacks and other items that may help someone who is homeless or in a bad way. It is just a thoughtful, inspiring thing to do. Random acts of kindness.

My Christmas Wish List:

Is that everyone considers being more mindful and kind to everyone at this time of year and throughout 2026!

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas

We welcome all who are visiting our parish this Christmas Season. We pray that you will be nourished by our liturgy and feel the warmth that comes from being among friends. As the body of Christ,

We celebrate Jesus, His miraculous birth, as told that first Christmas morn. When Christ was born is significant to the truth we hold. His sacrificial love reconciled us to God with hope of eternal rest So let us pause and reflect on God's love and grace And know we are wonderfully blessed!

Father Godwin

Merry Christmas!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our next general meeting will be held on January 15, 2026 at 1pm. There will be a sharing table so bring any items you would like to share.

Reminder, our annual membership fees (\$35) are due before the end of December

Wishing all our wonderful CWL sisters joy, peace, and love this glorious season. May you feel His presence in every carol, quiet moment, and shared blessing.

Have a very Merry Christmas and may God's love and peace fill your life in 2026.

The [Catholic Women's League](#) (CWL) of Canada is a national organisation rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.

Note: *All women 16 years of age and older* are welcome to join the CWL. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Margie 905-815-3008 or Lucy 905-681-9432. All are welcome!

CLOSING JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE "Spirit of Hope Collection"

During this year there have been many initiatives to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope. Many have visited the Pilgrim Churches in the Diocese, and the Jubilee Newsletters have raised our awareness of the heroes of hope in our midst. Parishes have provided spiritual and educational opportunities to nurture the virtue of hope in their communities to become more engaged in ministries which bring hope to those in need.

In closing out the Jubilee Year of Hope, each parish is taking up a "Spirit of Hope Collection" before Christmas and designate the monies to support the poor in our own community.

Please join the celebration of the Closing Jubilee Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Sunday, December 28, 2025, at 3:00 p.m

AROUND THE DIOCESE



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Holy Rosary Burlington Sat, Dec 20. 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Tue, Dec 23. 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

St Patrick Hamilton Tue, Dec 23. 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT During the Christmas Season, 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. 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, January 3rd at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton.** For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

THE REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL is back with another year of enlightening films and meaningful dialogue! Our lineup for 2026 explores topics of housing insecurity, intellectual freedom, Indigenous rights, and ecological debt. Visit us online at <https://hamiltondiocese.com/reel-justice-film-festival/> to view our full event schedule, learn more about our films, and register for screenings. A partnership between the [Bishop Farrell Library & Archives](#) and [Development and Peace](#), the [Reel Justice Film Festival](#) shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustices.

ENHANCING SELF-ESTEEM This program provides the opportunity to increase awareness of yourself and to learn specific skills for building a positive self-esteem. It can help you to feel stronger in all areas of your life. Issues covered during the course include taking responsibility for your own thoughts and feelings, positive ways to behave assertively and setting realistic goals for your future. The program will run **Tuesdays from Feb. 17 – April 21** from 7-9 pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West Hamilton. Cost is \$35 for

materials. Registration by contacting Sarah at 905-528-7988
ext. 2249, or at familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com.