

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

On earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, November 30, 5:00 p.m. Mass - Pro - Populo

For the Deceased members of the LeBreton family by Jane LeBreton

Sunday, December 1, 9:30 a.m. + For the repose of the Soul of John Langley by Karine Langley

11:00 a.m. Mass – For the benefit and intentions of Tony Donnelly by Helene Makuch

Prayers and Birthday Blessings for Rachel on her birthday.

Monday, December 2, No Mass

Tuesday, December 3, No Mass

Wednesday, December 4, 8:30 a.m. Mass

For a personal intention by Helene Makuch

Thursday, December 5, 8:30 a.m. Mass

For the benefit and personal intentions of Bruno Dareys and Family by Anne – Marie Dareys

First Friday, December 6, 8:00 a.m. Mass

Holy Hour Eucharistic Adoration from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

For the grace of conversion of members of the LeBreton and Arden Families by Jane LeBreton

Saturday, December 7, 5:00 p.m. Mass

For the repose of the Soul of Father Donald Francis Gavan by the Sutton Family

Sunday, December 8, 9:30 a.m. Mass – Second Sunday of Advent

For Souls in Purgatory by Karine Langley

11:00 a.m. Mass - Pro - Populo

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT REFLECTION: It may come as a surprise that on the first Sunday of Advent we are suddenly immersed in Luke's version of the long speech of Jesus concerning the future and the end of time. We just need to remember that in Advent we look forward both to the first coming of the Son of God in Bethlehem, and to his glorious return. Our gospel passage speaks of the Son of Man coming 'with power and great glory'. In the Creed we say 'He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.' What should our attitude to this coming be? Our gospel reading tells us. There may be great horrors to witness and endure. We have seen plenty of these in recent years. Jesus tells us not to fear the violence of men, or the devastation nature can bring. Jesus tells us to 'stand erect and hold our heads high'. Jesus speaks of our coming 'liberation'. Since Jesus has conquered sin and death, and demonstrated that the love of God is stronger than both of these, we have no need to fear. There is also some timely advice for our daily lives that our hearts should not be 'coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life'. Our faith in Jesus means that our very life-style will change and will challenge the values and behaviour of our contemporary society. Finally, we are told to 'stay awake, praying at all times'. We do not know the day or the hour in which the Lord will call us. But as Christians, though we may still fear the process of death, we know that death is the gateway to eternal life. Does our faith really inspire the whole of our life? What is our attitude to the future and the end of our life on earth? Let us pray for all those who are fearful today for whatever reason. Let us pray with the early Christians 'Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!'

Collection – November 23 and 24, 2024: Envelopes: \$970.00., Loose: \$300.00;

St. Vincent de Paul: \$196.40; Vigil Lights: \$35.00; Clergy Support: \$50.00; Catholic Mission: \$5.00; Grand Totals: \$1,556.40.

ADVENT 2024: starts this weekend November 30 and December 1, IS ADVENT. **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR ADVENT WREATHS:** There will be a special blessing of Advent wreaths at the beginning of all Masses. Be sure to place your wreaths in front of the Altar before Mass begins.

The prayer of the poor rises up to God: Our annual Society of Saint Vincent de Paul For the Poor collection will take place at all masses this weekend of Nov 30/Dec 1. Funds go to SSVP Ottawa South Conference(St Peter's/ Holy Cross/ St Bernard Parishes). Your generous donations provide those in need with grocery gift cards and SSVP store vouchers for clothing and housewares. For the Poor envelopes are available at the church entrance and in your envelope box, cheques payable to St Peter's Parish. The need is great, ever growing. We thank you for answering God's call to service with open and willing hearts.

2024 – 2025 NEW SUNDAY MISSALS: HAVE ARRIVED! And You are welcome to purchase a copy or more of the new Sunday missal at the parish office for \$8.00 each.

ST. PETER'S CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER: will be held Saturday, December 14, 2024 in the parish social space area, after the 5 p.m. Mass. Please plan to join us for good food, a 50/50 draw, door prizes raffles, games for kids and community fellowship.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Ottawa Nigerian Community will be having a Christmas Concert on Saturday evening December 7th, 7:00 p.m. here at St. Peter's. Admission is free. All are invited to attend.

SPIRITUAL BANQUET FOR JUBILEE YEAR: Get ready for the Jubilee Year 2025 with this series of spiritual reflections on Luke's Gospel at Sheng Shen (Holy Spirit) Chinese Parish, 1187 Michael Street North. Speaker: Bible scholar, Bishop Yvan Mathieu Dates: Wednesday, December 18, 7-9pm (note date and time change) and Saturday, January 11, 10am-12pm.

Prayer for Stress and Strength: Dear Lord, I come to You today for rest. My responsibilities in life are beginning to weigh me down, and I feel tired and overwhelmed. I pray for strength to keep doing what I'm supposed to do. I don't want to give up on my responsibilities, but I need the strength to keep going. When I'm tired, please give me rest. When I'm weak, please refresh my body and spirit. Thank You, Lord, for the strength I have in You. In Jesus' name Amen.

ADVENT PRAYER: Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day, We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

Happy New Year! Advent is here and our new liturgical year begins!