



Divine Messenger

Vol.20 No. 3

December 2025



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

Inevitably we are getting to the close of the Jubilee Year of 2025. Our Parish Pastoral Council published in this issue of the "Divine Messenger" a thorough report summing up for us this special and holy time. You will find the whole collection of different events, programs and various initiatives that were meant to help us celebrate this time of "God's favour". Now, we are looking towards Christmas Season that will conclude the Jubilee Year, and with our focus on the Holy Family we pray for the blessed fruits of this sacred time for each one of us and our parish community. Since Christmas and the New Year is the time where our Blessed Mother is truly our guide, powerful Queen and Protectress, let us close with a brief reflection on her role in this Jubilee Year as presented by Pope Francis in his opening letter for the Jubilee of 2025.



HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!

"Hope finds its supreme witness in *the Mother of God*. In the Blessed Virgin, we see that hope is not naive optimism but a gift of grace amid the realities of life. Like every mother, whenever Mary looked at her Son, she thought of his future. Surely she kept pondering in her heart the words spoken to her in the Temple by the elderly Simeon: "This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed, so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too" (*Lk 2:34-35*). At the foot of the cross, she witnessed the passion and death of Jesus, her innocent son. Overwhelmed with grief, she nonetheless renewed her "fiat", never abandoning her hope and trust in God. In this way, Mary cooperated for our sake in the fulfilment of all that her Son had foretold in announcing that he would have to "undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again" (*Mk 8:31*). In the travail of that sorrow, offered in love, Mary became our Mother, the Mother of Hope. It is not by chance that popular piety continues to invoke the Blessed Virgin as *Stella Maris*, a title that bespeaks the sure hope that, amid the tempests of this life, the Mother of God comes to our aid, sustains us and encourages us to persevere in hope and trust.



In this regard, I would note that the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is preparing to celebrate, in 2031, the fifth centenary of Our Lady's first apparition. Through Juan Diego, the Mother of God brought a revolutionary message of hope that she continues to bring to every pilgrim and all the faithful: "Am I not here, who am your Mother?" That message continues to touch hearts in the many Marian shrines throughout the world, where countless pilgrims commend to the holy Mother of God their cares, their sorrows and their hopes. During the Jubilee Year, may these shrines be sacred places of welcome and privileged spaces for the rebirth of hope. I encourage all pilgrims to Rome to spend time in prayer in the Marian shrines of the City, in order to venerate the Blessed Mother and to implore her protection. I am confident that everyone, especially the suffering and those most in need, will come to know the closeness of Mary, the most affectionate of mothers, who never abandons her children and who, for the holy people of God, is "a sign of certain hope and comfort".

In our journey towards (through) the Jubilee, let us return to Scripture and realize that it speaks to us in these words: "May we who have taken refuge in him be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered" (*Heb 6:18-20*). Those words are a forceful encouragement for us never to lose the hope we have been given, to hold fast to that hope and to find in God our refuge and our strength."

In Christ,
Fr. Waldemar Podlasz SDS4

DIVINE INFANT PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

☪ “Pilgrims of Hope” – A Journey of Faith, Renewal & Community

Reflecting on Our Pastoral Council & Ministry Activities | Dec. 2023 → Present

✉ A Message from your Divine Infant Parish Pastoral Council



Dear Parishioners,

As we near the conclusion of the 2025 Jubilee Year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the many ways Divine Infant Parish has flourished in faith, fellowship, and service. Together, we have embraced our baptismal call—celebrating Christ in Word and Sacrament, living as joyful witnesses to His love.

Over the nearly two years that the Pastoral Council has been in place, we have journeyed as “Pilgrims of Hope,” witnessing the Holy Spirit at work in our worship, ministries, and community life. Parishioners have stepped forward as faithful stewards, breathing life into Gospel-centered initiatives—from Living Rosary Days and sacramental workshops to outreach, pastoral care, and evangelizing pilgrimages. Clergy, Council, and ministry leaders have worked hand in hand, fostering collaboration and inviting all to share in service.

This newsletter gathers those blessings: a celebration of ministry-led events, spiritual milestones, and the grace-filled moments that continue to shape our parish family. It is a heartfelt thank-you to each of you who have prayed, served, and shared your gifts.

May these pages inspire you to rejoice in what has been accomplished, look ahead with hope, and continue sharing Christ’s light in our parish and beyond.

With every blessing,

Divine Infant Parish Pastoral Council

Fr. Waldemar Podlasz, SDS – Pastor | Fr. Michael El-Nachef & Fr. Martin Okwudiba – Associate Pastors | David Langedock – Chair | Joyce Rogers – Vice Chair | Den Phil Richards – Secretary | Iris Mell – Council Member | Matthew Walther – Council Member | Connor Brownrigg – Council Member (Dec’23–Jun’24) | Paul Walsh – Council Member (Jan ’25–present)

☪ A Spirit-Led Council

In December 2023, guided by the Holy Spirit, our Pastoral Council embarked on a prayerful journey of renewal—establishing a revitalized structure rooted in discernment, spiritual depth, and collaborative mission. Each meeting opened in prayer, inviting divine wisdom to shape our conversations and inspire parish-wide initiatives. Enriched by participation in Divine Renovation seminars, Council members brought forward new insights and strategies to strengthen a vibrant and faith-filled parish life.

☪ Pastoral Council & Parish Life

Your Council has focused on **Liturgy, Faith Formation, and Ministries**. Initiatives include:

- **Faith Formation:** Putting faith formation at the heart of parish life, we supported new and ongoing engaging programs and workshops. Parishioners were invited to participate in: Adult catechesis, retreats, Eucharist workshops, and youth programs.
- **Liturgical Enrichment:** We’ve taken meaningful steps to enhance the reverence and beauty of our liturgies. Our liturgies have been enriched through the gestures of beauty and reverence of Offertory processions, new music settings, Latin within the Mass, Eucharistic devotion & reverence initiatives, Benediction and Adoration, The

Presence, and major celebrations like Corpus Christi and Sacred Heart Holy Hours.

- **Youth & School Engagement:** Partnering with our Catholic Elementary and High schools, our parish ministries have brought fresh energy to youth ministry through Spiritual bouquets and Rosary-making workshop projects, First Communion and Confirmation preparation, the youth ministry programs are uniting junior and senior students in faith formation. These initiatives not only form young hearts but extend our parish's compassion into the wider community.

A parish-wide survey conducted in April 2024 confirmed overwhelming support for year-round adult and youth formation, and Divine Infant ministries have begun crafting their own training pathways.

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

The official launch of the Jubilee Year 2025, centered on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”, occurred on December 24, 2024, with the Rite of Opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter by Pope Francis in the Vatican, and will run until January 6, 2026, the Feast Day of Epiphany. However, the Holy Doors at Rome's other major basilicas will close December 28, 2025, the same day dioceses are to end local celebrations of the Holy Year.

Jubilee Year 2025 — Ministry-Led Highlights

Our Jubilee Year has shone brightest when ministries stepped forward with grace, creativity, and Gospel-centered service, and imaginations ignited by hope. After meetings with all ministries of your Divine Infant Parish and the Pastoral Council, a calendar consisting of over 25 ongoing and event specific initiatives were created for the 2025 Jubilee Year.

Here's a snapshot of the of the 2025 calendar and the many ways our parish has come alive in faith:



Spiritual Works & Formation Highlights

- Advent Mini-Retreat, Lenten Mission (*Come Follow Me*), and “33 Days to Morning Glory” retreat.
- The Vocation Ministry launched a daily Rosary campaign.
- Divine Mercy Sunday, Corpus Christi, Sacred Heart, and St. Faustina Feast Day celebrations.
- Living Rosary gatherings (May → Oct), Eucharist study (*This Is My Body*), and “Dying to Know” seminar.
- Prayer Hours, Anointing Mass, All Souls Day, and Memorial Garden (June–Nov).
- Children’s First Communion Workshop and “Did You Know” Divine Mercy series.
- Religious Articles Sales (Spring → Fall).

Pilgrimages & Spiritual Journeys

- Canadian Martyrs Shrine (Wilno, Huntsville, Huron Village) with Fr. Waldemar.
- Local sacred-site visits: St. Patrick’s Basilica, Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Notre Dame Cathedral.

Community Outreach & Fellowship

- CWL’s “Living the Beatitudes: Love in Action” initiative.
- School Outreach with prayer cards and messages of hope.
- Divine Mercy in Action: clothing, food, and hamper drives.
- Miraculous Medal Market (Legion of Mary), Ministry Fair, and Parish Picnic.

Together, these initiatives reflect our call to pray, serve, and share Christ's light. May they continue to inspire joyful witnesses and deeper communion in our parish life.

🏠 Parish Projects & Infrastructure

We've made great strides in caring for our parish home:

- Cupola Renovation Project– Fundraiser completed Dec. '24 surpassing our goal. Work complete Apr. → May '24
- Organ Repairs & Recital – Completed March 2025
- Holy Mother Shrine – Design & construction; May '25 → Spring '26
- Relics Installation – Seven relics enshrined, including St Faustina's Oct. 5 '24 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

💬 Communications & Resources

- Pastors Corner & Parish Ministry Jubilee Year articles in the Divine Infant Messenger.
- Resources from CCCB and Archbishop's vision: *Go Out – Go Deep – Go Together*
- Prayer cards, flyers, and digital tools have supported every event and celebration.

🌟 Looking Ahead

As our Jubilee Year continues, we remain committed to:

- Deepening our spiritual lives and our love for Christ through prayer and formation.
- Supporting, and growing our ministries with new volunteers and fresh ideas.
- Welcoming our neighbors with open hearts and joyful reverence.
- Living as true Pilgrims of Hope

Thank you, every ministry, volunteer, and parishioner, for your faithful participation, service, and witness. May we continue to walk together in faith, Pilgrims of Hope—guided always by the Holy Spirit and inspired by the love of Christ. With gratitude,

Divine Infant Parish Pastoral Council



Divine Infant
CATHOLIC CHURCH



PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY NEWS

Diane Collins

As this *Jubilee Year of Hope* draws to a close, we pause to reflect with gratitude on some memorable events our ministry has recently hosted or participated in. Each gathering has strengthened our sense of purpose and deepened our commitment to serving our parish community with compassion and joy.

Ministry Fair

The **Ministry Fair** was a joyful and vibrant event celebrating the many ministries that make our parish so welcoming. The **Pastoral Care Ministry** hosted a colorful and interactive table showcasing our mission and activities. Visitors had the opportunity to meet volunteers, ask questions, and learn firsthand about the support we offer to those who are sick, homebound, or in need of care. Several parishioners signed up to become involved, expressing interest in offering their time and talents in pastoral care. The event reaffirmed our volunteers' dedication and was a meaningful experience for all.



Faith Formation

On Saturday, October 18, the ministry hosted a dynamic Catholic faith-formation session, **"I'm Dying to Know,"** in the parish hall. The presentation was delivered by Michele Clermont, a fellow parishioner and

Pastoral Care volunteer.

The session explored important questions about the end of life, including:

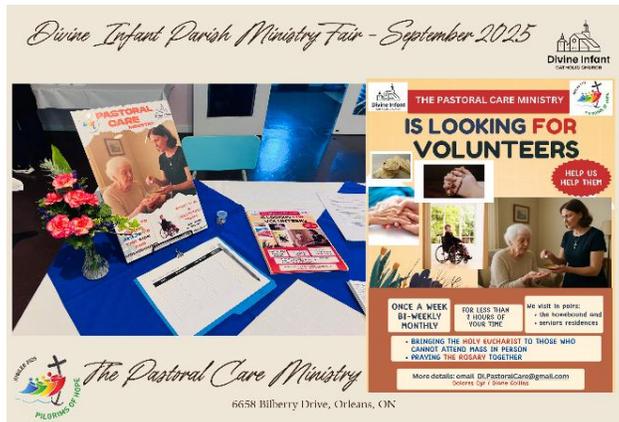
- What happens when we die?
- Is there life after death?
- What choices do we face at the end of our earthly life?

Michele's presentation was grounded in the teachings of Christ, emphasizing that through faith, hope, and love, He guides us throughout our lives. The module also examined the types of medical treatments and end-of-life care supported by Catholic teaching, which uphold human dignity and reflect the care and compassion taught by Jesus Christ.

The session drew parishioners from Divine Infant and neighboring parishes and sparked lively discussions. In today's secular world, staying informed about changes and challenges that affect us is essential. This important study module may be offered again in the new year, so please check the bulletin for announcements.

We are deeply grateful to Michele for preparing and presenting this timely session and for her ongoing dedication to the Pastoral Care Ministry.





Get Involved

If you would like to learn more about the Pastoral Care Ministry, if you know of an elderly, ill or homebound parishioner who can no longer attend Mass in person but would like to receive the Eucharist, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact DI.PastoralCare@gmail.com

As we enter the sacred season of Advent let us hold in prayer the elderly, the sick, the homebound and all those in long term care. May they feel the warmth of Christ's love through our compassion and remembrance.

A Pastoral Christmas Prayer

Heavenly Father, on this holy day, we gather with hearts full of wonder and gratitude for the precious gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. Thank you for the profound love that led you to send Him, bringing salvation, hope, and light into our darkness. We rejoice in the miracle of His birth and the promise of eternal life it offers.

Lord, we pray for peace on earth this Christmas. Soften hearts hardened by conflict and division, and let the message of the angels resonate in every home, bringing healing and unity. Grant us your supernatural peace that transcends all understanding, so it may reign in our hearts and families.

Help us, we ask, to keep our focus on Jesus and not be distracted by the busyness of the season. Guide us to be instruments of your love, kindness, and mercy in our communities and beyond. Bless our families and friends, and may our fellowship deepen our connection to You.

We thank you for your faithfulness, for Your unfailing love, and for the ultimate gift of your Son. May Christmas morning fill us with joy and a renewed sense of your grace, and may we carry that joy and hope into the coming year. In Jesus' holy name, we pray, Amen.

**The Pastoral Care Ministry extends warm wishes to you and your loved ones for a
Happy, Healthy, and Blessed Christmas!**





ALL SAINTS DAY CELEBRATION FOR THE PARISH KIDS!

Serena Paquette

On **November 1st, 2025**, our Parish celebrated the Feast of **All Saints Day** with a special party for the children.

Our celebration was all about **honoring the holy men and women** who are now with God in heaven—the Saints! It's a joyful reminder that we are all called to follow their example and strive for holiness.

The children came beautifully dressed up as their favorite **Saints**. We saw modern examples like young **St. Carlo Acutis**, beloved figures like gentle **St. Francis of Assisi**, the "Little Flower" **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**, and the inspiring bravery of **St. Joan of Arc**. This cherished tradition helps our children learn about these inspiring examples of faith and virtue in a fun, visible way.

The afternoon was filled with joy and lively activities! We had fun **games**, wonderful **prizes**, a cheerful **photo booth** to capture all the great costumes, and plenty of delicious **snacks**. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children of our Parish to learn, celebrate, and recognize the universal call to be a saint!

A huge thank you to all the dedicated **volunteers and families** who helped make this celebration a success! Your effort created a truly memorable and faith-filled event.



2025 CWL APPLE PIE FUNDRAISER

Written by: Linda Epton – Lead for the Apple Pie Fundraising Committee and DI CWL Treasurer

For the second year in a row the CWL has completed an apple pie fundraiser as a prominent Fall event for Divine Infant parishioners. The CWL ladies took orders on the Sep. 27th and Sep. 28th and the following week on Oct. 3rd and 4th parishioners, CWL members, as well as St. Matthew High School Students volunteered to make the pies. In total 200 pies were made.

Like they say: “Many hands make for light work!” In total, over the two days of apple pie making, more than 20 volunteers completed the large project at hand. The numerous volunteers started the pie making process on Friday, Oct 3rd by peeling about 400lbs of apples and mixing 50 batches of dough. There was also a station to make boxes to package the pies once made. The first day ended with the church hall refrigerator full of cut apples and dough to start assembling pies early the next morning. On Saturday, Oct. 4th, volunteers began the day at 7:30 am by



preparing the apple pie filling and rolling out pastry. The kitchen had several stations going to make the bottom and top pie shells. The hall had several tables to make the pie filling and to assemble the pies. The final station took the bagged apple pies and boxed them. By 2 pm, with the help of many volunteers, all 200 pies were completed, and most of the clean-up done well before the pick-up time.



Overall, the fundraiser was a true success! Many ordered pies, while others came together socializing and having fun making pie.

The money raised during our CWL events ensures the DI Chapter can support the following charities on a yearly basis:

- Gifts for First Communion and Confirmation at Divine Infant
- Catholic Missions of Canada
- Esk-Omi Mission
- Chalice Canada
- Development and Peace – Caritas Canada
- Divine Infant Special Projects and stipend for hall use
 - Orleans HOST Program for Disadvantaged Students

The Divine Infant CWL Chapter is so thankful for all the support given by parishioners, members and student volunteers. The next fundraisers will be the Christmas Bake and Craft Sale on December 6th and 7th.

We pray and hope that we can continue this ministry's good works in 2026 and for many more years to come.



THE CHALLENGE OF ADVENT!

*By Bev deMontigny on behalf of **the Divine Mercy Cenacle***

Advent is one of the shortest liturgical seasons of the year, yet it is rich in meaning. It is both a penitential season and a time of joyful anticipation, when Holy Mother Church invites us to prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ's first coming at Christmas, as well as His promised second coming at the end of time.

However, living this time of preparation can be challenging amid the flurry of activity that surrounds the season. The busyness of daily life, gatherings, and preparations can easily cause Advent to slip by unnoticed, leaving us without having entered into the depth of the grace it offers.

So what can we do to guard against this?

Perhaps the answer lies in becoming more intentional—creatively introducing or rekindling simple Advent practices within our family homes, our “domestic churches.” Through visual reminders, reflective music, family prayer, and meaningful activities, we can shape an atmosphere that not only reflects the Advent season but also deepens our spiritual preparation for the joyous feast of Christmas.

To that end, we offer the following suggestions in the hope that they will spark creative conversations within our families, inspiring us to adapt familiar traditions or perhaps introduce new ones that will enrich our Advent journey this year and for years to come.

- Place an **Advent wreath** with its three purple candles (hope, love and peace) and one pink candle (joy) in a prominent place in your home. During family prayer time or when the family gathers for a meal, light the appropriate number of candles and offer a prayer or read the scriptures for the day. Don't forget to bless your wreath before lighting the first candle! You can find words for a blessing and more in-depth information concerning this tradition online.



- Do you like to set your tree up early? Why not consider adding just the lights and some purple ribbon to create an **Advent tree**? Don't forget to bless your tree before turning on the lights! Closer to Christmas remove the purple ribbon and add your Christmas decorations.
- Involve the family in making paper **Jesse tree** ornaments, (or purchase these ornaments) which represent the family tree of Jesus and symbolize biblical stories leading up to His birth. Throughout Advent a new symbol is added to your tree each day and the related Bible story read. You can find more in-depth information concerning this tradition online.
- In her Diary, Divine Mercy In My Soul, St. Faustina recorded the following words from Jesus (entry #742): *"I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbour: the first – by deed, the second- by word, the third by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me."* Discuss with your family members how you might bring God's merciful love to neighbors in need, and then plan to **carry out acts of mercy toward others** by deed, word and prayer throughout the Advent season.
- Begin, or add to, a collection of **Nativity themed Christmas decorations** for your tree, adding a new one each year.
- **Find a playlist of Advent music** and allow the melodies and the words to infiltrate your home and your hearts and assist you in pondering the spiritual beauty and meaning of the Incarnation throughout the Advent season.
- **Pray the Angelus** together as a family. This prayer celebrates God's mercy to us in the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus, as well as Mary's "fiat", her co-operation with God's will for the salvation of the world. It is a particularly beautiful and appropriate prayer for the Advent season. Although it is traditionally prayed daily at 6am, noon and 6pm, for simplicity's sake why not pray it at dinnertime with your family, whatever time of day that might be? This prayer is usually accompanied by the ringing of bells, something our children or grandchildren would love to do! This short prayer can be found online along with instructions on when to ring the bells as it is prayed.
- St. Faustina wrote in her Diary (entry #840) "I am spending this time with the Mother of God and preparing myself for the solemn moment of the coming of the Lord Jesus". Advent is a perfect time for us to **make the time to reflect with Mary** on the miracle of Christ's Incarnation and Birth. A few suggestions for meditation are: Luke's gospel account of the Annunciation (LK 1:26-38), Mary's Magnificat (LK 1:46-55), the scriptures for the days of Advent or the meditation in St. Faustina's Diary (entry 1745-46), where she reflects on God's Infinite Goodness and Unfathomable Mercy in sending us His Only-begotten Son, Jesus
- **When setting up your creche**, consider waiting until Christmas Eve to add the Christ child figure to the scene. Some families hide the figure in their home allowing their children to search for the hidden Saviour, much as we are all called to do throughout our lives. Once found, create a small procession, with family members holding candles and singing an appropriate Christmas hymn, as the Christ child figure is placed in the creche.
- In her lifetime, St. Faustina was sometimes granted visions of the Christ Child, often while attending Mass. In her Diary she wrote "I saw the Child Jesus in the Host, and my spirit was immersed in Him. Although He was a tiny Child, His majesty penetrated my soul." (entry #182). While we most likely will not be gifted a similar vision, by faith we know that Jesus is fully present in the Sacred Host, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. And He encourages us with these words "Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 19:14). **Let us bring our children or grandchildren to visit the "hidden Jesus"** in the Tabernacle or participate in one of the many times Adoration is offered throughout Advent. Check the parish bulletin for specific dates and times.
- From December 17th until December 23rd, **pray the O Antiphons**. These short prayers, one for each day, are used as the Alleluia verses before the Gospels in the days leading up to Christmas. Each one highlights a title for the Messiah,



and the repeated imperative “Come” expresses the longing of all for the Divine Messiah. The antiphons and further information regarding their history can be found online.

As noted earlier, we hope these suggestions will inspire creative conversations within our family circles, helping each of us enter more intentionally and meaningfully into the season of Advent.

On behalf of the Divine Mercy Cenacle, may the graces and blessings of this brief yet profound liturgical season be yours in abundance, as together *“we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.”*



Feast of St. Faustina Kowalska — Secretary of Divine Mercy

On October 5, the Church honors St. Faustina Kowalska, the humble Polish sister and mystic whose visions of Christ inspired the Divine Mercy image and Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayed around the world.

At Divine Infant Parish, we are blessed to have first-class relics of St. Faustina. This year, her feast was celebrated on Monday, October 6, with Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, recitation of the Chaplet, and veneration of her Holy Relics. The evening concluded with a slideshow on her life and fellowship with refreshments, graciously hosted by the Divine Mercy Cenacle Ministry.

Born in 1905, St. Faustina joined the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy at age 20. Jesus appeared to her many times, revealing His message of mercy recorded in her *Diary*. In 1931, He asked her to have the Divine Mercy image painted with the words *“Jesus, I trust in You.”* Later, He taught her the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, promising grace to all who trust in Him.

St. Faustina died in 1938 at age 33 and was canonized by St. John Paul II in 2000. Her message continues to inspire the faithful, especially on Divine Mercy Sunday.

St. Faustina, pray for us.





PUBLIC ROSARY RALLIES UNITE CANADIANS IN PRAYER FOR PEACE AND FAITH RENEWAL

On October 11, 2025, numerous groups across Canada joined together in public Rosary rallies and online prayer events, including the *Canada Needs Our Lady* gatherings and live-streamed recitations of the Joyful Mysteries. These nationwide initiatives sought to pray for peace and unity in Canada, guiding the nation back to faith through personal conversion, prayer, and amendment of life, with a special emphasis on the power of the Holy Rosary.

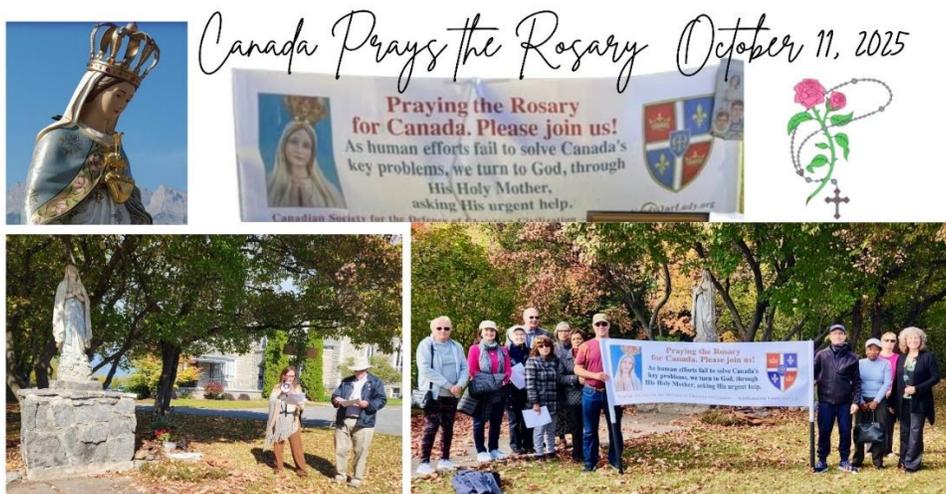
The timing of these events was particularly meaningful, coinciding with October—the Church’s Month of the Holy Rosary—and the 63rd anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council (October 11, 1962). Globally, Pope Leo XIV had recently called for daily Rosary prayers throughout October for world peace, especially in regions affected by war—an appeal that deeply resonated with Canadian participants praying for national healing.

The core mission of these gatherings was to “bring Canada back to God” through prayer, fasting, and spiritual renewal. Organizers emphasized the Rosary as a powerful means of intercession, quoting St. Louis de Montfort, who taught that *“Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down His mercy.”*

By October 15, reflections from across the country poured in. Participants described a renewed sense of communal strength and hope, with many calling the experience a “turning point” for Canada’s spiritual revival. The movement also aligned with global Marian initiatives, such as the Vatican’s Jubilee of Marian Spirituality (October 11–12), featuring the venerated statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

Here in Orleans, the Divine Infant Parish took part in this national effort through a bilingual outdoor Rosary at Paroisse St-Joseph d’Orléans (St. Joseph’s Parish), home to an outdoor statue of the Virgin Mary, representing Our Lady of Perpetual Help. With the blessing and counsel of Fr. Waldemar, parishioner **María de la Puente** organized and led the Rosary in English, while **Deacon Guy Dacquay** of St. Joseph’s Parish led the prayers in French.

It was a beautiful fall day, and the small, gathered crowd prayed with deep reverence and devotion, united in hope and faith under Our Lady’s protection.



Canada Prays the Rosary October 11, 2025

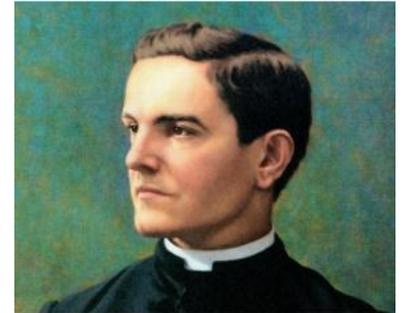


*Thank you
Merci bien*

CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF OUR FOUNDER BLESSED FR. MICHAEL McGIVNEY
Paul Bourke – Grand Knight (KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7873)



On October 31, 2020, **Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus**, was officially declared “**Blessed**” during a special Mass of beatification. Pope Francis praised him for his “zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel and generous concern for his brothers and sisters,” calling him “an outstanding witness of Christian solidarity and fraternal assistance.”



To mark the fifth anniversary of this joyful occasion, **Knights of Columbus Council 7873 at Divine Infant Parish, Orléans**, hosted a commemorative Mass followed by a parish gathering. The Mass was presided over by **Rev. Fr. Richard Siok**, assisted by **Deacon Jim Schultz**, with **Diane LeBlanc** serving as sacristan. **Knights Paul Bourke (Grand Knight)** and **Paul Duford (Warden)** honored the celebration in full Fourth Degree regalia, serving as Honor Guards and paying tribute to the enduring legacy of Blessed Father McGivney.

Born in Waterbury, Connecticut, Father McGivney served as a parish priest at St. Mary’s Church in New Haven, where he founded the Knights of Columbus in response to the struggles of immigrant Catholic families. At a time of widespread anti-Catholic prejudice, he brought men together in faith, fraternity, and service - offering spiritual support and financial aid to families in need.

He built the Order on the principles of **charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism**, which continue to guide over 2 million Knights around the world today. Remarkably ahead of his time, he insisted the organization be led by laymen - anticipating the Second Vatican Council’s call for lay involvement in the Church nearly a century later.

Father McGivney died in 1890 at just 38 years old, worn out from his tireless ministry and pastoral care during a flu epidemic. Yet his legacy lives on. Today, many faithful report answered prayers through his intercession - comfort in illness, strength in hardship, and peace in troubled times.

As we pray for the miracle that may one day lead to his canonization, we also give thanks for the everyday graces received through his intercession. Blessed Michael McGivney remains a humble priest who continues to lift up those who call upon him in faith.





Peter Corcoran, Financial Secretary, K of C, served as Lector



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AT THE MINISTRY FAIR

Celebrating the ministries that bring life and faith to our parish community!

Among the participants, the **Knights of Columbus** proudly showcased their mission and activities, offering parishioners a chance to connect, ask questions, and learn more about what it means to be a Knight.

Visitors had the opportunity to meet Knights from our own parish, hear personal stories, and discover how this Catholic fraternal organization serves both the Church and the wider community. The Knights of Columbus are dedicated to **charitable works, supporting Catholic family life, and upholding the teachings of the Church.** Their efforts span from local outreach to global initiatives, always rooted in faith and fraternity.

In Canada, the Knights of Columbus engage in a wide range of activities including charitable works like food drives and the "Coats for Kids" program, support for the Catholic Church through liturgical and evangelization efforts and providing mutual aid to their members and their families. They are also active in promoting family life, supporting Catholic education, and assisting those in need through various programs and fundraisers continuing a legacy of care and support that began with their founder, **Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney.**

Divine Infant Parish Ministry Fair - September 2025



Divine Infant
CATHOLIC CHURCH





JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

6658 Bilberry Drive, Orleans, ON



K of C

JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

Knights come from every stage of life - young professionals, fathers, grandfathers, and retirees - united by a shared commitment to faith, service, and brotherhood.

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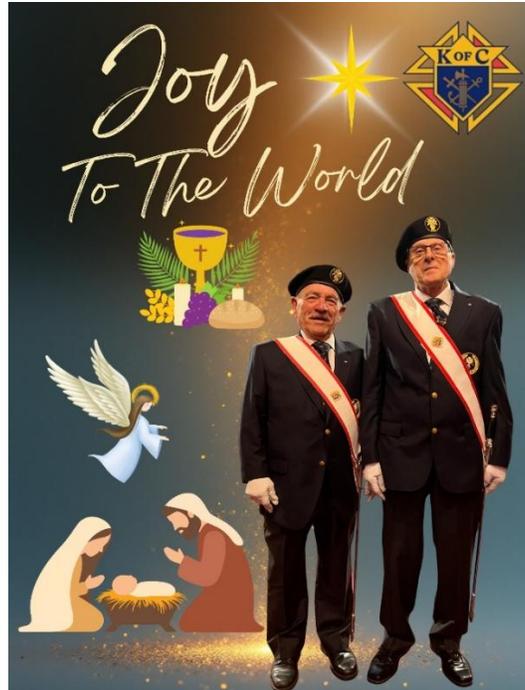
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☎ Have questions? Call Paul Bourke, Grand Knight, Divine Infant Council 7873 at **343-550-1740** for more info!



The Knights of Columbus extend their warmest wishes to you and your loved ones for a **Happy, Healthy, and Blessed Christmas!**

May this holy season fill your hearts with peace, your homes with joy, and your lives with the light of Christ.



BECOMING AN EFFECTIVE LECTOR

A Guide for Proclaiming the Word of God at Divine Infant Parish – Sunita Gomez

With wisdom from our past Lector Ministry leader, Kres Jadan:

“To stand before the assembly and proclaim the Word of God is both a gift and a responsibility.”

This truth lies at the heart of the lector’s ministry. As the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* reminds us, lectors must be “truly qualified and carefully prepared, so that the faithful may develop a warm and living love for Scripture from listening to the sacred texts” (GIRM 66).

Being a lector is more than reading aloud. It is allowing God’s Word to come alive through you, so that the community may encounter Christ more deeply in the Scriptures proclaimed. Each time you step up to the ambo, you carry both the privilege of a sacred gift and the responsibility of helping the faithful hear God’s voice in His Word.

1. Grow in Familiarity with Scripture

You cannot proclaim what you do not know. Take time to read the Bible regularly, especially the Gospels. The Sunday Lectionary follows a three-year cycle (Years A, B, and C), each focusing on one of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—while John is proclaimed at particular times. Reading Scripture with the Lectionary in mind will help you understand the rhythm of the Church year and the unity of the readings.

Whenever possible, read your passage in context:

- Read the verses that come before and after in the Bible.
- Read the Lectionary passages for the Sunday before and after.

Both will help you understand the author’s intention and why the Church has chosen this passage for this particular Sunday.

2. Practice—Out Loud

It may sound obvious, but practice is essential. Reading silently is not enough. Proclamation requires voice, breath, and presence. Practice aloud at least six times, and on at least two different days before your scheduled reading.

Helpful ways to practice include:

- Standing as you would at the ambo
- Using a mirror, recorder, or camera
- Practicing in front of children, spouses, or friends — they are excellent critics!

3. Pray with the Word

Prayer is what transforms reading into proclamation. Use the Gospel as part of your Sunday night prayer the week before you serve. Pray with your reading in the mornings leading up to your assigned Mass. Ask the Spirit to open the ears of those who will hear and to help you put aside your own ego so that God’s Word may speak through you.

4. Find the Emotion

Every Scripture passage has an emotional tone—hope, sorrow, joy, urgency. Read your text several times to discover it. The psalm of the day often provides a clue. Once you identify the primary emotion, recall a time you felt something similar and let that memory guide your proclamation.

5. Find the Most Important Phrase

Every reading contains a key idea or phrase that holds the heart of the message. Underline words or ideas that strike you. Then reread the Gospel and your own passage, asking: *What is the central point the assembly needs to hear today?* Pray about it, then highlight that phrase with your voice and emphasis during the reading.

6. Use Eye Contact

Look at the assembly before you begin. Eye contact communicates confidence and connection. Use a finger or card to keep your place so you can lift your eyes during key phrases—especially the opening line, the closing line, the most emotional words, and the most important phrase.

7. Project Your Voice

Proclaim with breath, not with your throat. Proper projection comes from filling both your lower and upper lungs. Breathe deeply from your diaphragm, not just your chest. Use the microphone as support, not a crutch. Control your breath, speak clearly, and let your words carry to the last pew.

8. Vary Your Pace

Scripture has rhythm. Some parts should be proclaimed more slowly, others more quickly; some require boldness, others gentleness. Experiment with different paces while practicing, even exaggerated ones, to find the style that best fits your passage.

9. Vary Your Style

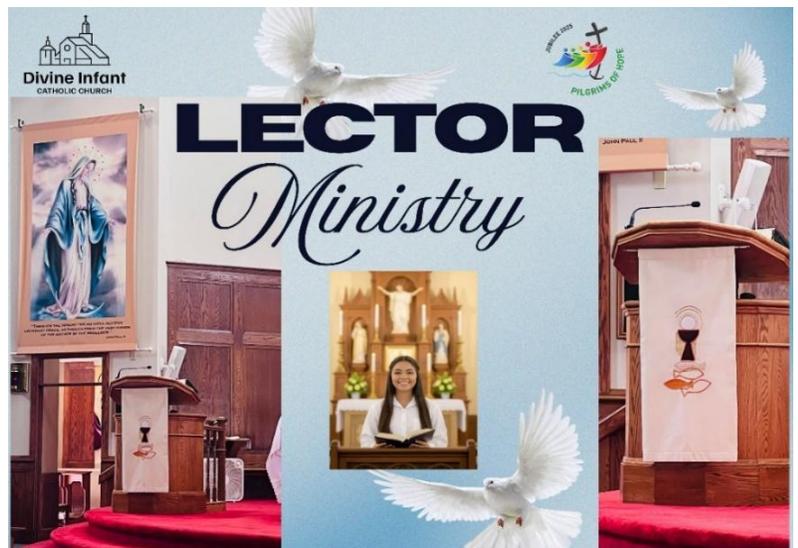
Some readings are told as stories; others resound like fiery prophecies. Some come across as “newsy” reports, while others are deeply poetic. Be mindful of the kind of reading you are assigned and let your style of proclamation match the tone of the text.

Also consider the liturgical season. Advent, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time each carry their own spiritual atmosphere, which should subtly shape how you proclaim the Word. Even the assembly you serve may call for a different approach—the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass may receive the Word differently than the 9:30 a.m. Sunday community.

In Closing:

As we journey through our Lector workshop, these steps are designed to help you grow in your ministry. But always remember: it is the **Holy Spirit** who truly proclaims God’s Word. Your calling is to prepare with care, pray with an open heart, and then let the Word flow through you—touching, inspiring, and drawing our parishioners and the congregation closer to Christ.

When this happens, *“the faithful receive the power to respond... actively with full faith, hope, and charity through prayer and self-giving, and not only during the Mass but in their entire Christian life” (Lectionary for Mass, Introduction 48).*



Pray, prepare, proclaim—and let the Holy Spirit move hearts toward Christ.



LIBRARY

Nina Regimbald

During this Advent and Christmas season, are you looking for a new book to deepen your faith? Add to your Catholic home library?

Bring a new read to this spiritual season of joy, peace and hope for salvation, enhance traditions, find inspiration in the saint's biographies and prayers.

You will find a treasure trove collection of Catholic resources in the lending library cabinets. The shelves are filled with numerous subjects and a growing selection of material.

You are always welcome to stop by the desk and browse the open cabinets located in the foyer, near the Vestry and the Holy Water font. You can borrow from the lending library or choose to pick up options from the free bookshelves opposite the desk. Some labelled items are also available for a small donation.

Thanks to the generous time, dedication and commitment of our new volunteers, our aim is to keep the library open following each Mass on the weekend.

***Merry Christmas and many blessings of the Holy Family for this Advent and Christmas season.
May it be filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ.***



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

By Diane Jemus

Comfort & Care

During the fall session, Loretta rejoined us to support a friend who recently became a widow. Loretta, herself a widow had participated in Bereavement sessions and has been a “good friend” to those grieving. One evening Loretta brought “Teddie Bear Allie” she told us that “he has been my support at night for many years”. Just a month after her husband Roy died, her granddaughter Sarah travelled east, Loretta went with her. It was a trip that had been planned long before Roy’s passing. Both Loretta and her husband were concerned because Sarah originally planned to travel on her own. While in Halifax her friends took her to a Thrift Store where she bought this bear. She had a red heart between her paws and numbers on her foot. Loretta removed the heart and called her Allie after her husband Roy’s first name - Allen.



Loretta & Teddy Bear Allie

“Allie is my comfort bear” declared Loretta adding “when I feel sad or under the weather, Allie is there to hold onto”. Allie has travelled to Florida, the cottage and Nova Scotia. Loretta told us, “She also sat between me and Estelle in the back seat”. On one occasion, Loretta did not bring her trusty bear. Loretta experienced sleepless nights!



Loretta did admit that on occasion, she has woken up in the morning and found her bedroom in darkness because Allie was on her face!

Loretta added “I feel EVERYONE should have a bear to hold onto”. From the group photo(s) below, I think the session participants agree. Loretta’s sharing provided an example of self-caring, so important for those grieving and beyond.

Our weekly social group, FOXES AND FOSSILS, as they are now known continue to meet for meals at various venues including attending Dave’s monthly luncheons. They also participate in a variety of activities including mini golfing, day

trips as well as international travel. Below is a photograph of the latest group who toured Portugal and Spain as well as a photograph of a very delicious looking meal. (I did say they like to eat!). These eight, including the photographer, met as strangers in a dark place. They have found friendship and caring support and much comfort as well as widening horizons for each other. From small gathering to larger ones, from 2 to 25, there is a time and place for everyone to provide comfort and caring, journeying as pilgrims of hope, enjoying life, encouraging each other. I like to think that their dearly departed are smiling from Heaven’s doors. Mary and the apostles journeyed forward. They are a good example for us to follow as pilgrims of hope.



*The travelling Foxes & Fossils
Final session of Coping & Comfort*

TO THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING - THE FIRST CHRISTMAS WASN'T PERFECT EITHER

Though it is different for each person grieving, despite differences, below are some tips which might be helpful. Remember, Christmas Day will not be as bad as you might imagine. The days leading up to Christmas will be the most emotional.

COPING WITH GRIEF THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

Try and start the holidays with a positive feeling/frame of mind.

Try not going it alone. Consult with your family and friends and decide what you can cope with and listen to your body and inner self. Remember and respect that different people grieve differently. Give everyone his/her own space, including yourself!

Plan for the post-Christmas season - known as the January blahs - anticipate the uncomfortable so you can help yourself address it as much as possible.

What is important to you?

What are your expectations of others? What can they do to help? Express your needs.

You need time alone. You will also need to be with others. How will you accomplish that? Do you have somewhere to go to be with others?

Plan your answer when someone wishes you a very Merry Christmas/Happy holidays. You may answer: "The same to you, I'll try."

Change it up. Allow yourself to do less if you have hosted Christmas dinner etc. Let someone else host. If hosting would give you pleasure, ask for help if need be. Don't send out Christmas cards or let someone else do the task for you.

Speak freely of your grief and memories of your loved one.

Celebrate the gifts you have received from your loved one.

Give yourself permission to cry. Give yourself permission to laugh. Even at the same time.

If attending the church where the celebration of life for your beloved was held and it is a difficult place to be, attend another church, or attend a different mass at your own church.

Let go of the “should” and embrace your reality. Be gentle with yourself.



THERE IS ONE EXCEPTION

There are those who would like to simply cancel Christmas festivities. Ignore it. When children are involved, most experts in the field including Dr. Bill Webster whose programme we follow, adamantly discourages that approach. Robbing children of Christmas is not appropriate. Life continues, so, too, both the spiritual and material continue to comfort, to bless. It will be different, but life does go on. Consider the person who died attitude toward Christmas. Would they want to deny children even grown adults Christmas? What lesson would that teach them?

As one participant Mrs. G. declared “the children made it remarkable”. Deb added, “It was different, but it was good.” The very first Christmas wasn’t perfect - no room at the Inn, yet baby Jesus was born. To this day, we celebrate His birth, the apostles kept His memory alive after His death. Had the apostles not done so, how would we know to follow Jesus?

We are fully blessed to be great grandparents” wrote Marj expressing both her and great grandfather Darrell’s joy.

Shown above is their beautiful great granddaughter, Isla Elizabeth Catherine. The chosen names are very significant. Elizabeth is the name of Mom Brianna’s great grandmother and Catherine is her dearly departed treasured great aunt Cathy, her mom’s sister (Marj).

The Bereavement Ministry continued to service the needs of those grieving, offering well attended group and individual sessions. Our liturgical events and receptions continue to comfort the parish community. All Souls Day is comforting and poignant. Those grieving appreciate the names of their loved one read at the beginning of mass. The procession of the candles during the offertory provides much comfort, inspiring cherished memories of those missed. The Bereavement Memorial Garden events continue to be supported by the parish. Every year trays of stones are brought up to the sanctuary to be blessed and put in the garden. We grieve. We cry. We are delighted in their memories. We place a stone in the garden to honour their memory. As one participant said, “now when entering the church, I am comforted by his stone in the garden”.



All Soul's Day



Beatrice, Amahri and Arnold holding red votive candles saluting those who came to honour their loved ones as well as remembering them in the "perpetual light of Christ". Arnold served as an usher and along with Amahri helped to clear the candles from the sanctuary steps. Grandmother Beatrice shared this poignant family moment.



A CHRISTMAS WISH LIST FROM SOMEONE WHO GRIEVES

by Sandra Foran

Originally published in Divine Messenger November 2019



There are many long, lonely days over the course of December and early January when one is grieving. Here are some ways YOU can help.

Try to take some time to touch base with your friend who grieves and keep him/her in your prayers. If you send a card, acknowledge in a note that you miss the person who died and that the family will be missing him too. Include a little memory note of a time enjoyed with the person who died. You could include a photo of an event you have shared together. Don't send a traditional Christmas card, send something personal.

Give a grieving person a hug. It is a simple way of saying: "I care."

Phone and touch base. Mention that you too miss the person who has died. Talk about good times shared. If you have sent a donation or done something in memory of the deceased, tell the person who is grieving what you have done. It is comforting to know that others remember their loved one.

Help the bereaved person in gathering memories of their loved one. Send a photo and a story of good times shared with that person. It is comforting for the family to have many photos and stories of the life of the person who has died.

Invite the bereaved person to dinner or lunch. Set a date and time. If you say, "Call me if you feel like going out," he/she will not call. You need to take the lead and let the person know you really want to share time together. Spend time with the bereaved. Take time to listen. Don't worry if he/she cries. Tears are a natural part of the grieving process.

If the bereaved person wants to join the Bereavement Group and is afraid/uncomfortable to attend the first meeting alone, offer to go with him/her. It takes a lot of courage to attend the first meeting alone. He/she may well be okay going alone after the initial meeting. Though sometimes, a "buddy" is nice.

Thank you for making a difference in the life of a bereaved person. Presence in time of grief is a special, cherished needed gift.

There are no rules for surviving holiday grief. Do what you need to do to survive. Honor your loved one how you need to, and do what feels best for your fragile, aching heart. You are missing a huge piece of you, so do whatever you need to do to find a sliver of peace.

- Angela Miller -

 ForeverMissed.com

A Thought For 2026



NEWS FROM ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

By: Jennifer Conway

As this article is being written, the St. Francis school community is heading into week nine of the 2025-2026 school year. It is amazing how much information we can already share about our school year after just two months. Our board theme this year is: **We are Called to Build Bridges**, which encourages us to build connections among students and staff and the wider community, prompting collaboration and understanding. And we are well on our way to meeting the call to build bridges.

Building Bridges Among Staff and Students

The St. Francis community of staff, students and parents/guardians welcomed Mrs. Allison Wawryn as our new principal. We are thrilled to have her join our school community and look forward to creating new memories with her as we participate in a variety of events and activities.

Students in each class were welcomed in their new classroom by their teachers and continue to make connections with old and new friends and to take part in lessons and activities as they build bridges to new learning opportunities.

Staff and students participated in a number of special days during the months of September and October when they joined together to learn and grow together. These included: Picture Day; Orange Shirt Day; Franco Ontarian Day; Blue Jays Day and Spirit Week (Sports Fan; Funky Socks and Hat; School Spirit; PJ, Halloween Costume).

Building Bridges Among our School Community

Our first bridge building activity was *Open House* on September 10, when staff and students welcomed parents and guardians and took them on guided tours of our classrooms and learning areas around the school.

Thanks to the ongoing dedication and involvement of our Parent Council, we have had the opportunity to participate in a variety of special activities. These included: Dough Bros Hot Lunch Days each Wednesday and our Harvest Dance on October 29.



Building Bridges Among our Faith Community

We had two special faith bridge building events this year. These included: Blessing of Pets with Deacon Steven Donoghue on October 3 and our Thanksgiving Mass with Father Martin on October 9. We extend our thanks to them for being part of our school community and helping us to build bridges of faith.



Building Bridges Among our Neighbourhood Community

We are so fortunate to live in the Orleans community. This year, we have already started to build bridges with our Terry Fox Run on October 9, when we raised \$2873 for cancer research. We celebrated that great achievement on October 22 and 23, when staff members were pied and silly stringed in the face, ice bucketed, dressed up in inflatable costumes and had their face and nails painted.





As we begin the month of November, we will be building bridges with our past, as we reflect on Remembrance Day and give thanks to those who served so that we can live in peace. December will be filled with activities that bridge all the groups mentioned above: staff and students; parents/guardians and volunteers; priests and deacons, and our neighbourhood. We are looking forward to each new day and to all the adventures it brings, allowing us to continue to build bridges as we connect with others and join in creating new memories.



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The Joyful Mystery – A Christmas Story

by Mignonnette

Have you heard of a maiden from Galilee's quiet grace
Nazareth her dwelling, a humble, hidden place.
Betrothed to Joseph, of David's royal line,
Mary was her name—touched by the divine.

The angel Gabriel descended in shimmering light,
"Hail, full of grace—God's favor rests on you tonight."
Her heart trembled softly, yet his words calmed her fear:
"You shall bear a holy Child, His name shall be Jesus, dear."

He shall be great, the promised One,
The Lord Most High's eternal Son;
His kingdom shall forever stand
In every age, in every land.

The Spirit's shadow shall descend,
Over thee His power extend;
This Holy Child thy womb shall bear,
The son of God, divinely fair

Then Mary spoke with trusting heart,
"Behold Thy servant; I depart
To walk the path Thy word has shown
Let all be done as Thou hast known."

She brought forth her firstborn Son,
Cradled Him in swaddling white
A fragile dawn before the sun,
A hush within the holy night.

Heaven's Light in mortal frame;
Gentle whisper of His name.
She laid Him in a manger bare,
No room within the crowded inn;

No chamber warm, no welcome bright
No door within the inn would yield
Yet heaven's glory rested there,
Where humble straw received the King.

Shepherds watched the quiet fields,
Night wrapping them in gentle gloom,
When suddenly an angel's light
Shone bright and broke the shadowed room.

"Be not afraid the herald cried,
For joy I bring to all who hear
In David's town this blessed day
A Saviour Christ the Lord is near"

"Glory to God in the highest heights,
To souls that seek the way of light,
All hearts beneath His peace and grace,
All people in His love's embrace."

From far-off realms where deserts gleam,
Wise Magi searched for newborn King
The silver fire from a distant star
Guided their footsteps from afar

They journeyed long through distant lands
Until to Bethlehem they came,
And found the Child with Mary there
The Mother mild, the Maiden fair.

They entered in and lowly knelt
Before the Child with Mary bright
Her quiet grace, His Holy gaze
The world's Redeemer wrapped in light.

They fell to their knees in awe of the King
And laid their treasures pure and true
Gold, frankincense and myrrh with mysteries woven
Yet offered still with love unbroken

And Mary held within her heart
Each wonder, whisper, word, and sign;
Silent petals of mystery sown,
Deep in her soul, she kept them known.

Now in Jerusalem there dwelt
A man named Simeon, wise and old,
Just and devout, he waited long
For Israel's hope the prophets told.

The Spirit's whisper filled his soul
With promise tender, strong, and true:
That he would not behold his rest
Till Christ the Lord came into view.

And when the Holy Child was brought
 Before the Temple's sacred flame,
 He took Him gently in his arms
 And blessed the God from whom He came.

"Now You may send Your servant forth,
 O Lord, in peace, as You have said;
 My waiting heart has reached its dawn,
 Your word fulfilled, Your promise fed."

"For with these eyes I now behold
 Your saving grace for every land
 A gift prepared for all who thirst,
 Poured out from Your eternal hand."

"A light to shatter shadowed realms,
 Revealing truth to distant eyes;
 A glory for Your chosen ones,
 The hope of Israel's sunrise."

Then turning to the Mother fair,
 He spoke of mysteries yet to be:
 "Behold, this Child shall rise and fall
 The hearts of many inwardly;

A whispered ache, a truth denied
 A sigh resisted in its time
 Yet through the gloom His light shall stand
 A lamp the darkness can't confine.

"And you, O Mother, gentle, pure,
 A sword shall pierce your soul one day
 That every hidden thought of men
 May be laid open in His way."

And so they journeyed home again
 To Nazareth's quiet, tender air;
 And Jesus grew in strength and grace,
 God's favor resting ever there.
 Praise to Mary, Mother of God

O Mary, Ark of Heaven's Word,
 In you the Light took flesh and form;
 You bore the Hope of every age,
 The shelter of the world's new dawn.

O Mother of our God made small,
 O Mother given to us all—
 Guide every heart that seeks your Son,
 Till earthly nights are past and done.

Your yes became our opening door,
 Your love the cradle of our King;
 Through you salvation kissed the earth,
 Through you eternal mercies ring.

O gentle Queen, O holy grace,
 Star leading us through every night—
 Mother of God, our Mother too,
 Keep us beneath your mantle bright.

Hail Mary full of Grace
 The Lord is with thee
 Blessed are thou among women
 And blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus
 Holy Mary Mother of God
 Pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death
 Amen





*This Christmas, may God open
our hearts to His love
our minds to His wonders
our ears to His voice....
our lives to His presence.*

Have a Blessed Christmas.

Joyce Kiryk

Editor, Divine Messenger





DIVINE INFANT PARISH

6658 Bilberry Drive, Orleans ON

Mass & Adoration Schedules

Regular Mass Times:

Monday	7:00 pm*
Tuesday	7:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am
Thursday	9:00 am
Friday	9:00 am
Saturday	5:00 pm*
Sunday	8:00 am
	9:30 am
	11:15 am
	5:00 pm

"No human tongue can enumerate the favors that trace back to the Sacrifice of the Mass. The sinner is reconciled with God; the just man becomes more upright; sins are wiped away; vices are uprooted; virtue and merit increases; and the devil's schemes are frustrated.
" ~ St. Lawrence Justinian

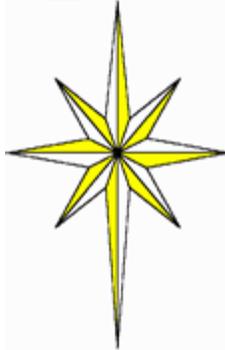
Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction: Every Wednesday after the 9:00 am Mass

***NOTE:** On **statutory or civic holidays** Mondays, Mass is at 9:00 am. There is no 7:00 pm Mass on that day.

There is a Mass on Saturday morning at 9:00 am for

- First Saturdays of the month
- Solemnities & Feast days, and Marian Feast days which are on a Saturday, and
 - During Advent or Lent

Please visit our parish website (www.divineinfant.on.ca) to read the latest updates and to read the parish bulletin for upcoming special events and information on ministries or associations.



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

**ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE
Wednesday, December 10th ~ 7:00 pm**

CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, December 24

**3:30 pm
5:30 pm
7:30 pm
9:30 pm
12:00 Midnight**

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, December 25

**8:00 am
9:30 am
11:15 am
2:00 pm**

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Wednesday, December 31, morning Mass

9:00 am

There will be no Adoration following the morning Mass

Vigil Mass – Wednesday, December 31

5:00 pm

Adoration & Benediction (No Mass)

11:45 pm

*“in thanksgiving for graces received in 2025
and for all needed blessings in 2026”*

Thursday, January 1

**8:00 am
9:30 am
11:15 am**

Note: No confessions will be offered on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.



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