



**WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH'S AND MISSIONS**

**FACEBOOK**

Please send us friend request to our facebook account: joseph bracebridge

**ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5 TO DECEMBER 10, 2017**

TUES. 6 PM RETURN TO THE FAITH OF NON-PRACTICING CATHOLICS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	
WED. 9 AM +EVA STANOFF	MIKE & MARIA O'GRADY
THURS. 9 AM +MARY BURTON	MAUREEN JIBB
THURS. 2 PM CASTLE PEAK + CHARLIE DELAHEY	MARY MCKENZIE
FRI. 9 AM +ROBERT MCCAULEY	MIKE & MARIA O'GRADY
SAT. 9 AM CONFESSIONS 9AM - 10 AM	
SAT. 5 PM DEC. MEMBERS OF FITZGERALD & SLANEY FAMILIES ED & MARGUERITE	
SUN. 9 AM +GERALDINE LORBETSKIE	YOLANDE & ALBERT PECZ
SUN. 11 AM FOR THE PARISH	

**SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE AFTER 9:00 AM MASS**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME AND MEET YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS IN THE PARISH HALL.  
DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> PETER CASSIDY  
DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> COLLEEN HURRELL

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

Today we celebrate the first Sunday in Advent. This Sunday invites us to meditate on the Second Coming of Christ our Lord. Christ is coming to take us with Him, so that where He is, we may be too. It's our call to prepare ourselves to welcome Him. By our spiritual sacrifices and other religious means, let us be ready to welcome Him. He is coming in an unexpected time. His coming will be our celebration and joy. He is coming to glorify us who keep all His commandments of love and kindness. So let us be ready to welcome the Lord our God saying, "Grant your faithful, Almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at His coming, so that, gathered at His right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. God bless you all. Fr. Peter



**SAINT'S CORNER**

**SAINT NICHOLAS(DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>)**  
Little is known about the early life of Nicholas. In the early 4<sup>th</sup> century he was made bishop of Myra in Lycia. Famous for his charity, he became the focus of popular cults and devotions in the early middle ages. He was so popular that he was chosen joint patron of Russia with Saint Andrew; he is also a patron of sailors and children, in many parts of the world, he still plays a role as Santa Claus.



**Father John Perdue the Diocesan Vocation Director will be here on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the weekend Masses.**

**DECEMBER 3, 2017**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*(Liturgical colour violet, symbolizing 'a call to repentance')*



**FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**

Sanctuary candle for this month is burning for the speedy recovery of those who are sick. May God continue to bless and heal them in Christ Jesus. "If one member suffers, we all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together." (1Cor. 12:26)

**DECEMBER DEVOTION**

December is dedicated to Advent and the coming of Christ. This refers to the preparation of the celebration of remembering Christ's birth 2000 years ago, but also the prayerful, spiritual preparation for the second and final coming of the Lord.



<b>SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 26, 2017</b>		
<b>BRACEBRIDGE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,877.00</b>
This includes pre-authorized payment plan for November 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2017		

**DICTIONARY OF THE CATHOLIC TERMS:**

**Advent:** The liturgical season of four weeks devoted to preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

**ADVENT: A TIME OF PREPARATION**

In the Catholic Church, Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays, before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin advenio, "to come to", and refers to the coming of Christ. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to His second coming at the end of time. Our preparations, therefore, should have all three comings in mind. We need to prepare our souls to receive Christ worthily this Advent.



**FIRST ADVENT PRAYER**


Stir up Thy might; we beg Thee, O Lord,  
And come, so that we may escape through Thy protection  
And be saved by Thy help from the dangers  
that threaten us because of our sins.  
Who livest and reignest for ever and ever. Amen



**SPIRITUAL THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

"Christmas has lost its meaning for us because we have lost the spirit of expectancy. We cannot prepare for an observance. We must prepare for an experience".

The Church Mouse says,  
"Follow your heart but take your brain with you."



**DECEMBER 3, 2017**

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

December 12<sup>th</sup> Catholic Women's League after 6 pm Mass  
December 18<sup>th</sup> Knights of Columbus Meeting 7pm

(PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE AS SOON AS YOU ARE AWARE OF A DATE AND TIME OF AN UPCOMING MEETING IN THE PARISH.)

**THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**

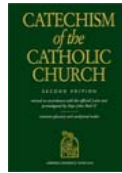
The Elderly

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



**CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WHY IS THE Church holy?**

The Church is holy, not because all her members are supposedly holy, but rather because God is holy and is at work in her. All the members of the Church are sanctified by Baptism.



Please call us at **705-645-2294**

If you would like to have a visit or anyone whom you know are sick, please kindly give us a call. Father Peter would like to take Communion and pray with them. Let us continue to pray for those who are sick and their speedy recovery. God bless.

**FATHER ROY**

Father Roy celebrates the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. He will celebrate the 9 am Mass on that day and the CWL will provide refreshments afterwards. Please try to attend this special Mass and join us for refreshments afterwards.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

We would like to recognize the wedding anniversaries of our parishioners in the bulletin beginning in January 2018. If you would like to participate, please see the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

**WEEKEND MASSES & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

Weekend Masses Sat. Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 5 pm, Sun. Dec 24<sup>th</sup> 9 & 11 am  
Sunday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup> St. Joseph's (Bracebridge) Christmas Eve 5 & 10 pm  
Monday, Dec 25<sup>th</sup> St. Joseph's (Bracebridge) Christmas Day 10 am (only)  
St. John the Baptist (Morinus) Christmas Eve 5 pm (only)

**NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

Weekend Masses Sat. Dec 30<sup>th</sup> 5 pm, Sun. Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 9 & 11 am  
St. Joseph's (Bracebridge) New Year's Eve, December 31<sup>st</sup> 5 pm  
St. Joseph's (Bracebridge) New Year's Day, January 1<sup>st</sup> - 10 am.

**No Mass at Morinus Dec 31<sup>st</sup> or Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

We are happy to announce that Ed Chassie, Tom Vandenberg, Ted Majkot and Joe Febbo are our property committee members. We thank them for their hard work to keep our church property beautiful.

**MUSKOKA ADVENT CHOIR presents What Kind of Throne?**

The 80+ voice Muskoka Advent Choir invites you to experience the story of Christmas in this visual and musical presentation. This is a freewill offering in support of Muskoka Chaplaincy Assoc., Orillia Pregnancy Resource Centre, and The Door Youth Drop-in Centre. The concert is on Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm at St. Paul's, 235 John St., Gravenhurst or Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Pinegrove Fellowship, 295 Taylor Road, Bracebridge.

**QUOTES FROM ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA**

Peace begins with a smile...  
Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.  
If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.  
Let us always meet each other with smile, for the smile is the beginning of love.  
If you judge people, you have no time to love them.  
There are no great things, only small things with great love. Happy are those.  
Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.  
Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do ...but how much love we put in that action.  
I have found the paradox that is I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love.  
If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND**

If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas Flower Fund on behalf of a deceased loved one. Please put your donation in an envelope and **indicate your name and the deceased person(s)** you wish your donation to be in memory of and place the envelope in the collection basket. **The cut off date to make a donation is Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.** A Mass will be offered for your deceased loved ones on **December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 10:00 am.**

**YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED**

The Knights of Columbus are planning to conduct the Christmas tree program again this year. They are looking for families that could use some assistance. If you know of a family or single parent that could use help, please contact them, get their permission and the quietly give the details to Father Peter by December 14<sup>th</sup>. All names and information will be kept confidential. A box of traditional Christmas dinner items will be provided as well as some financial support. This is available to any Catholic family of the parish, active or non-active.



**HOLY MASS IN THE HOME**

If you would like to have a Holy Mass celebrated at your home, please call the office to book. Fr. Peter will celebrate a Mass at your home on Wednesdays at 6 pm. Please invite your friends and neighbours to participate. God bless.

*The endurance of darkness is the preparation for a great light. St. John of the Cross*

For its present and future, St. Joseph's Church welcomes donation and bequests, large or small, so please consider your church in your giving and when making you will.

**THE PROGRAMS FOR THE COLLECTING OF CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS AND POSTAGE STAMPS HERE AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED.** Thank you to the parishioners for participating in these programs for so long. Any questions please call the office Monday - Thursday 9am to 2 pm and speak to Carol (705)645-2294.