

## Christmas Season Schedule

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - Christmas Eve

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Sat. Dec. 23 Confessions at 3:00pm  
 Mass at 5:00pm  
 Sun. Dec. 24 Mass at 9:00am & 11:00am

#### **Christmas Eve Masses:**

Mass with Children's Pageant 5:00pm (**Pageant at 4:45**)  
 Vigil Mass of Christmas 7:00pm  
 Midnight Mass of Christmas (*Incense*) 12:00 Midnight

### Christmas Day

Christmas Mass at Dawn **Monday, December 25**  
 Mass During the Day 9:00am  
 11:00am

### The Octave of Christmas

December 26 *The Feast of St. Stephen* 9:00am  
 December 27 *The Feast of St. John the Divine* 9:00am  
 December 28 *The Feast of the Holy Innocents* 9:00am  
 December 29 *The Feast of St. Thomas Becket* 9:00am  
 December 30 *6<sup>th</sup> Day Within the Octave of Christmas* 9:00am

### Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday Evening Mass (*Dec. 30*) **Sunday, December 31**  
 Confessions at 4:00pm  
 Mass at 5:00pm  
 Sunday Masses (*Dec. 31*) 9:00am & 11:00am

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God January 1, 2017

Sunday, December 31 5:00pm  
 Monday, January 1 9:00am & 11:00am

*The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is a Holy Day of Obligation*



## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2017 AT ST. ANN'S

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Advent is a joyful season of longing and expectation. The word "Advent" means "coming", or "to come before". During these weeks of Advent we prepare to celebrate the great event of our redemption, the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Mary. What a wonderful opportunity we have to wait in joyful hope with Mary as our model and our companion on this journey of faith. During Advent let us remember in a special way that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

I invite you to take part in some of the events happening in our parish this Advent season. We will honour the Lord's coming with time before the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers drawn from the Liturgy of the Hours, and with opportunities for charitable giving. To find some peace in the midst of the bustle of this season you may like to stop in and spend a few quiet moments with our Lord in preparation for Christmas. Please take advantage of the extra times for confession, and make sure to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent. Any of these events or practices can help us to "Keep Christ in Christmas".

May God Bless You and Your Families  
During The Advent and Christmas Seasons,

*Fr. Ian, Fr. Joseph, Hayden  
and the Parish Team*

### Lauds and Mass on Saturdays

During the Season of Advent, and the Octave of Christmas, there will be Mass celebrated at 9:00am on Saturday mornings. Lauds (Morning Prayer) from the Divine Office will be prayed in the Church at 8:40am on the Saturdays of Advent. Please note that Mass on Saturdays is offered in Latin.

### Advent Scripture Service with Messiah Highlights

#### Sunday, December 3 at 7:00pm

The weeks before Christmas are usually a hurried time of shopping, preparations, and card writing. For Christians, however, these weeks should be marked by prayerful preparation for the Feast of Christmas. This year, in place of our customary *Service of Lessons and Carols*, we will be having an Advent Evening of Reflection. Using the beautiful illuminations of the Heritage Edition of the St. John's Bible, the first hand illuminated Bible since the Middle Ages, we will reflect on the Scriptures of the Advent and Christmas seasons, in word, and image, accompanied by musical highlights from Handel's Messiah. Once again we are pleased to welcome our brothers and sisters from St. John's Anglican Church, and other churches of Ancaster, for this evening. Seasonal refreshments will be served after our time of prayer. Please come and bring a friend!

### Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office Will Be Closed from 12:00 noon on Friday, December 22 until 8:30am on Wednesday, December 27, and again from 12:00noon on Friday, December 29 until 8:30am on Tuesday, January 2 to enable our staff to spend some time with their families over the Christmas holiday.

### The Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be celebrated:

Tuesday Evenings of December	6:00 - 6:45pm
Saturday Afternoons of December	4:00 - 4:45pm
Saturday, December 2	8:00 - 9:00am
Saturday, December 16	8:00am - 5:00pm
Tuesday, December 19 (2 Priests Available)	5:00pm - 7:00pm
Saturday, December 23	10:00am - 12:00noon
	3:00pm - 4:45pm