

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday, December 7th

St. Ambrose
4:30 Deceased Members of the Cross Family
by Ron & Maureen Blizchuk

Sunday, December 8th

Second Sunday of Advent
10:30 Dr. Pat Fitzgerald by the Family

Monday, December 9th

The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary



Tuesday, December 10th

Wednesday, December 11th

9:00 Giuseppe and Anna Romano
by Cristina Maurizio

Thursday, December 12th No Mass

Our Lady of Guadalupe
International Day of Prayer
in Solidarity with Indigenous People

Friday, December 13th

St. Lucy

Saturday, December 14th

St. John of the Cross
4:30 Special Intention
of Maureen and Ron Blizchuk

*This week
the Sanctuary lamp
will burn in memory of
Donald McElroy
by Joan Lamontagne*



IN OUR PARISH

Capital Campaign Our Capital Campaign is doing very well. Thanks to your generosity and to an anonymous donor who made an exceptional gift we have received pledges exceeding the \$900,000. If you have not made your contribution as of yet, please consider doing so at this time. Whatever the amount, it will be most appreciated and meaningful in helping us reach our goal.



Election of Wardens This Sunday immediately following the 10:30 Mass, a meeting of parishioners will take place in the Parish room for the purpose of electing two new church Wardens to replace those who are completing their term of office on December 31, 2019 To be eligible to be nominated as a Warden, the person must be 18 years or older, a Roman Catholic who resides within the boundaries of the parish. Nominations, duly proposed and seconded, will be accepted at the meeting. The Wardens term of office is 3 years, renewable once. Please contact the Fr.

MacEachen for more information, or to propose a nominee.
Advent Mass of Concern This weekend we show our concern for our less fortunate neighbours through donations to our annual “Advent Mass of Concern” In your Sunday envelopes, you will find one for this Mass. If you do not have Sunday envelopes, a basket containing envelopes labelled “Advent Mass of Concern” will be available at the entrances to the church. Both cash and cheques (made out to Ascension of Our Lord Parish) are accepted. Your generosity in supporting our Advent project will help feed and shelter the homeless and poor this Christmas.

Weekly Donation Envelope Boxes Parishioners who use the envelope system for their parish contribution will find the 2020 boxes at the main entrance of the church this weekend. Please pick up only the box that has your name & number on it. Boxes are in alphabetical order. If you don't have a donation envelope box—but would like to make your weekly donations to the parish using this method, or if you have any questions please contact the parish office. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

REFLECTION

Before the motorways a journey took ages, with twists and turns, corners and hills. Now much has been made straight. John's message was that we would live along a path where words and actions match, and where kindness matches convictions.

John the Baptist was a man on one mission – to be the messenger of the one he did not know. His life had a vision and a purpose, like when we are really committed to people or to causes or to the poor or to peace in the world. John was the man of desert food and desert dress; he took time out to find what the biggest thing in life was and then kept following it, often not knowing where it would go.

The human heart is complicated and we know that. We need that one who will touch our hearts with love and forgiveness and guide us himself in ways that are straight, and whose hand will guide us along straight paths when we need it.

God's guiding is gentle. John found that Jesus was a gentler guide: no name-calling, no bringing the axe to the tree, but calling each of us his friend, and nourishing the tree rather than cutting it down.

Jesus would melt the snow to make a path, not hack at it and destroy in the process. Our hearts can be melted by the love of God and love of others.

Think of or remember a time when you made a decision to follow the way of Jesus. Offer this to him again.

Lord God, make our hearts like yours

Donal Neary, SJ



Advent Penitential Service Saturday, December 14th at 10:30am we will have a short Advent penance service followed by confession. Avail yourself of this occasion to confess your sins in preparation for the Christmas season.

Christmas Flowers to Decorate the Church You are invited to make a donation toward the purchase of flowers to decorate the church & altar for the Christmas season. If you wish your donation to be made in memory of a loved one please include the names with your donation. Envelopes are available at the back of the church & should be received by December 16th in order to allow us to plan the decor of the church during this holy season.

Schedule of Christmas Season Masses

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th 7:15 p.m. Family Mass & Children's Gospel Pageant
9:00 p.m. Christmas Carols
9:30 p.m. Solemn Christmas Mass

Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25th

10:30 a.m. Christmas Mass

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 28th 4:30 p.m. Sunday, December 29th 10:30 a.m.

New Year's Day Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31st 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 1st 10:30 a.m.

Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 4th 4:30 p.m. Sunday, January 5th 10:30 a.m.

PARISH SUPPORT We encourage all parishioners to use the Sunday envelopes. To obtain your envelopes please call the parish office (514-932-3131) or complete this form and place it in the collection plate. We extend a warm welcome to new parishioners. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Father MacEachen after Mass.

Name _____
Address _____ Postal code _____
Email _____ Telephone _____

If you, or a loved one, are not able to come to church, we would be happy to pay you a visit and bring you Communion. We can also send you a copy of our Parish bulletin. Let us know by calling the parish office and we will get to you as soon as possible.

Parish Donations can be made ONLINE through Canada Helps using major credit cards, PayPal or Interac. You obtain a Tax e-receipt immediately. There are 2 ways to access the site: 1. Via the parish website (www.ascensionofourlord.ca) -click on the main page button “EVERY DOLLAR HELPS” for instructions or 2. go directly to canadahelps.org and search for “Ascension of Our Lord Parish, Westmount”. Thank you for your generosity.

