

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 15th, 2024

The prophet Zephaniah, writing in the seventh century BC, bids Jerusalem to rejoice because salvation is near (First Reading). God stands in her midst and will deliver her from her enemies. God is portrayed, not only as a king and warrior, but also as a loving bridegroom, who steadfastly loves His unworthy and unfaithful bride. The theme of joy is even more emphatic in the Second Reading. St. Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice because the Lord is near – St. Paul was thinking about the Second Coming, which he believed was near. So there is no need to worry. If they need anything, they are to pray for it, and the peace of God will be with them. The theme of the nearness of the Lord is also at the heart of the Gospel. John the Baptist tells the people what they must do in order to prepare for the Lord’s coming and escape His searching judgement. At the same time, he makes it clear that he is subordinate to Jesus.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 15 th <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, December 16 th	-	-	-
Tuesday, December 17 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	+ <i>Dennis Meyer</i>	By Bill & Judy Meyer
Wednesday, December 18 th <i>Advent</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Clara Isabella Herteis</i> <i>C A N C E L E D</i> (Linwood)	By the Estate
Thursday, December 19 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	+ <i>Martina Gutcher</i>	By Bill & Judy Meyer
Friday, December 20 th <i>Advent</i>	9 am	+ <i>Dolores Bugera</i>	By the Estate
Saturday, December 21 st <i>Advent</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Silvana & Marina Rebellato</i>	By Peter & Ornella Miller & family
Sunday, December 22 nd <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	-

History of the Catholic Church (#54) – It was not until the third century that the Roman Government decided seriously to deal with the Christian menace. The issue was basically religious. The Christian Gospel proclaimed the reality of the One true God and hence demanded absolute rejection of the gods worshiped by Rome. Moreover, Christians took a relative view of the authority of the Emperor and Empire, which were only to be obeyed when they were in harmony with the will of the One true God, which had been revealed to His Church.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE – Come Home for Christmas!

Christmas Eve: 5pm Linwood, 7pm St. Clements, 11pm St. Clements
Christmas Day: 9am St. Clements, 11am Linwood
New Year’s Eve: 5pm St. Clements
New Year’s Day: 9am St. Clements, 11am Linwood

2024 Advent Daily Challenge

Journey to Christmas with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph & Blessed Bartolo Longo! Begin your challenge with finding some info about Blessed Bartolo Longo. Each day pray the [Litany of St. Joseph](#), fulfill the challenge of the day, and ponder a corresponding trait of St. Joseph.

Sunday, Dec. 15 – Support in difficulties; reconcile yourself with a person with whom you have a difficult relationship. If this is not possible, pray an extra litany of St. Joseph for that person.

Monday, Dec. 16 – Joseph most chaste; spend 15 minutes in Adoration or in private prayer praising the holy family.

Tuesday, Dec. 17 – Pillar of families; ask St. Joseph for all necessary blessings on this day!

Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Patron of the afflicted; consider what your biggest weakness is. Make a sacrifice and offer it up.

Thursday, Dec. 19 – Patron of the poor; out of love for St. Joseph, deny yourself your favourite indulgence.

Friday, Dec. 20 – Model of workers; give 100% to your daily activities and chores. Offer the extra effort to St. Joseph.

Saturday, Dec. 21 – Minister of salvation; manage your pride and your desire to talk about yourself.

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS CHRISTMAS PARTY – Due to inclement weather, the party has been postponed to Thursday, December 19th. Dinner starts at 6pm in the parish hall.

FROM THE VOLLMER FAMILY - As most of you are aware, our son was in a horrific car accident earlier this year. We want to THANK EVERYONE for their prayers and monetary support. We truly believe that God has given Anthony a second chance. For us it is a miracle. The power of prayer is remarkable. Wayne and Donna Vollmer

NEWSPAPER DONATIONS - The Retrofit Committee was informed by Home Hardware that they will no longer be accepting newspapers at the end of December. Because of the Christmas Holidays the last time that we will be collecting newspapers will be the weekend of December 21/22. After this date, the bins will be taken away. Please advise any people/companies of this fact. On behalf of the Retrofit Committee, we would like to thank everyone for their continued support for these last 14 years.

2025 DONATION ENVELOPES – Are available at the back of the church. Contact the office if you wish to register for envelopes.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Ljubo Branimir Lebo, O.F.M., Rev. Stipe Rotim, O.F.M., Voluntas Dei Institute (i.v.Dei.), Rev. Ilija Petkovic, Rev. Vinko Nenadic, & Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.

VOCATION SEEDS – Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? Contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION – St. Clements \$3,430.00. Thank you for your generosity!