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# St. Mary's of the Assumption Parish And St. Kateri Mission

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*St. Catherine of Siena*



# Parish Ministries

## Liturgical Ministries:

Altar Servers  
Extraordinary Ministers  
of the Eucharist  
Readers  
Ushers

## Music Ministry:

Saturday Vigil Music  
Sunday Choir & Organist

## Parish Groups

Altar Society  
Friends of St. Kateri  
Friends of St. Mary's  
Gospel Reflection Group  
Holy Communion to Shut-ins  
Hot Lunch Program  
Parish Finance Committee  
Parish Screening Committee  
St. Mary's Parish Friends  
Sacramental Prep

## Catholic Organizations

Catholic Women's League  
Children's Rosary Program  
Development and Peace  
Knights of Columbus  
St. Vincent de Paul Society



# On the Third Sunday of Advent the "Joy" Candle is lit.

## Parish Pastoral Team

Alison Coort / Office Administrator  
Marguerite Goodfellow / Parish Nurse  
Judith Gottschalk / Ministry Rep (contact the parish office)  
Jan Sirek / Deacon /jsirek54@gmail.com  
Fr. Dominick Mbah/  
FrDominickMbah@peterboroughdiocese.org

**Office Hours:** Tuesday - Thursday / 9:30AM - 2:30PM  
**Confessions:** Saturdays 3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Parish Office: 705-789-2348

Email: office@stmaryshuntsville.ca  
website: maryassumptionparish.com

St Mary's Elementary School / 705-789-6481  
St. Dominic's H.S. 705-646-8772



Mass Schedule

Week of December 18th – 24th

Tuesday, December 19th / 12:00 Noon

+Jim Ranson & +Vic Masi

(Requested By: Joan Ranson )

Wednesday, December 20th /

Exposition & Adoration / 11:00AM

Mass 12:00 Noon -

+Doris Campbell

(Requested By: Grace Lane)

Thursday, December 21st / 9:00AM

+Rennie Melnyk

(Req. By: Anna Maria Ertler)

Friday, December 22nd / 12:00 Noon

+Johan Ertler

(Req. By: Anna Maria Ertler)

Saturday, December 23rd/4:00PM

+Henk Janssen

(Req. By: Elizabeth Janssen )

Sunday, December 24th

9:00AM + John Longhurst

(Req by: Natalie Kucherenko)

11:00AM For the People of the Parish

4:00PM +Rose Hamblin

(Req. By: Susan Dennis)

6:00PM For the People of the Parish

*Let us pray for those who have died especially*  
*Pauline Trebbne*

*and for those who have asked for our prayers ...*

Jaymie Ward, Phillip Tomkin, Joe Hanrath, Bianca Laurie de Hernandez, Ron & Margaret Smith, Angela & Stephanie Braithwaite, Robert Foley, Ruth Anne Foley, John Dunbar, Doris Lane, Connie Gregory, Sharon & Ben Boivin, Timothy Pelyk, Pat Morra, Kirsten MacDonald, Marion Majkot, Peter Poustie, Pam and Don Mackenzie, Esther Phillips, Carole Ruttan, Kevin Phillips, Stephanie Jarvis, Ian Bruce, Mabelle Claer, Kristen Hackett, Janine Wright, Jim and Patricia Tremblay, Edward and Claire Hortensius, Anna Maria Ertler, and Mike and Loretta Pearson

Sunday Offertory

December 10, 2023 \$4,798.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

**GUADETE SUNDAY!!!**

The third Sunday of Advent is called “*Gaudete Sunday*” because the Mass for today (in its original Latin text), begins with the opening antiphon: “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” – “*Rejoice in the Lord always.*” To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we light the rose candle in the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The common theme of the day’s Scripture readings is one of joy and encouragement. The readings urge us to make the preparations required of us as we await the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Holy Scripture reminds us that the coming of Jesus, past, present, and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.

Henri J. M. Nouwen in his book *Peace: Prayer, Resistance, Community* has this to say about the joy of the Lord being our strength: “Jesus promises joy; a joy like the joy of a mother after childbirth, a joy that no one can take away from us; a joy that is not of this world but a participation in the divine joy, a joy that is complete. There is probably no surer sign of a true peacemaker than joy” (pg.79). This joy has guided John the Baptist in his witness to the Lord. And Jesus himself commends and rejoices with John in his courageous witness to the world on his behalf.

Deep down within, what makes your joy at this time? The little book, *Advent and Christmas – A Wisdom from G. K. Chesterton* compiled by Thom Satterlee and Robert Moore-Jumonville has something on the Doctrine of Conditional Joy. “For the pleasure of pedantry I will call it the Doctrine of Conditional joy”, they write, “The note of the fairy utterance always is, “You may live in a palace of gold and sapphire, if you do not say the word ‘cow’”; or “You may live happily with the King’s daughter, if you do not show her an onion.” The vision always hangs upon a veto. All the dizzy and colossal things conceded depend upon one small thing withheld. All the wild and whirling things that are let loose depend upon one thing that is forbidden.” For us, it is the blessed restraint. Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers, Psalm 1:1-3

Advent joy is rooted in the blessed restraint. Self-restraint presents potential for deep joy. Identify the one “luxury” in your life right now you depend on most for comfort (what is it you think most about?). For some of us it is coffee, chocolate, or alcohol. For others it may more subtle (popularity) or more insidious (power). Whatever it is that you are depending on, fast from it this week for at least two days. Calling out to God to fill you with his Spirit of joy whenever you notice it missing. The experience of a real joy is a sure sign that God is with us and a sure help as we work toward reading ourselves for Christ’s coming. Don’t be discouraged. Rejoice today and move forward. Jesus rejoices in us as he thanks his Father for the gift of each and every one of us.

Lord, thank you for the presence of joy in my life. Give me the presence of mind to be thankful for all the gifts you have given me and the fullness of heart to enjoy the rest of Advent. Amen

Fr. Dominick

Next Weekend Ministry Schedule - December 23rd / 24th, 2023			
	4:00PM MASS	9:00AM MASS	11:00AM MASS
Lectors	Ron Downey	Gisele Neigel	Bob Lacroix
EMC	Catherine Treacy	Jo Ann Giesler	John MacInnis
Ushers	Walter Grys Lou Luvison	Alison Coort	Hugh Knox Bob Lacroix, Linda Lacroix
Counters	Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023	Mary Kudryk &	Linda Latour

*Penitential Service* / will be held on Tuesday, December 19th at 4:00PM at St. Mary’s, individual confessions will follow. There will be several priests here from across the deanery.

*2024 Offertory Envelopes* / are now available at the entrance of the church. Please be sure to take your box, unless you are fine with someone else receiving your charitable donations’ receipt. If you do not see a box there with your name on it, please contact the office. It is purely an oversight on our part. Some envelope numbers have changed so do not use previous years’ envelopes.

*Hot Lunch Program* / In order to keep this program running, we need your financial support. Our Parish volunteers **serve 35 to 40 people every week.** Any monetary donations are greatly appreciated. You may use the Poor Box at the entrance of the church, or any envelope designated as Hot Lunch. Again, thank you for making this possible! Please note that there will be **NO** Hot Lunch on Tuesday, December 26, 2023, or Tuesday January 2, 2024.

*Parish Nurse* / There will be no Parish Nurse Clinic on the following Tuesdays: December 19, 2023, December 26, 2023 and January 2, 2024.

*The 2023 - 2024 Sunday Missals* are now available at the entrance of the Church. The cost per missal is \$5.00.

*SVDP* / The total donations to St. Vincent de Paul during the month of November was \$5,247.77 and 101 calls were received. The collection for St. Vincent de Paul on December 2nd/3rd was \$2,414.65. Thank you for your support.

The members of St. Vincent de Paul Society in our parish thank you for your continued and gracious donations to the Food Bank.

Nothing is ever too small or too little.

Peace, Good Will, and Thank you!

SVDP SOCIETY

Hotline:

705-789-0008

Parish Group Meetings /Events		
Tuesdays	11:30AM -1:00 PM	Parish Nurse Available / K of C Room Cancelled for Dec 19th, Dec. 26th, Jan. 2nd
Tuesdays	12:00 PM - 1:00PM	Hot Lunch / Parish Hall Cancelled for December 26th and January 2nd
Wednesdays	9:30 AM	Gentle Exercise Class / Parish Hall
Wednesdays	6:00 PM	Choir Practice / Choir Loft
Thursdays	9:30 AM	Gospel Reflection Group / Sacristy / following 9:00 a.m. Mass
Thursdays	6:00 PM	Huntsville Community Band Practice / Parish Hall
Saturday	December 16th	First Reconciliation Class / Parish Hall / 2:45 p.m.
Sunday	December 17th	RCIA / Parish Hall / 3:00 p.m

Week of December 18th - 24th, 2023

*Welcome To The Area And The Parish* / Whether you are new to the area, or here for a short visit, you are most welcome. We hope and pray that the memories that you have created here in the Muskoka area, will bring you all joy in the future. May God’s peace be within you always.

*Confirmation* / The Parent Night Information Night , for parents and students who are wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, was cancelled for December 14, 2023 and has been rescheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. If you know of someone whose child does not attend the Catholic school and is wanting to receive this Sacrament please have them contact the Parish Office.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday December 24th

4:00PM St. Mary’s, Huntsville

6:00PM St. Mary’s, Huntsville

Monday December 25th

9:00AM St. Mary’s, Huntsville

11:00AM St. Kateri, Baysville





New Years Mass Schedule

Sunday December 31st

4:00PM St. Mary’s, Huntsville

Monday January 1, 2023

9:00AM St. Mary’s Huntsville,

11:00AM St. Kateri, Baysville

