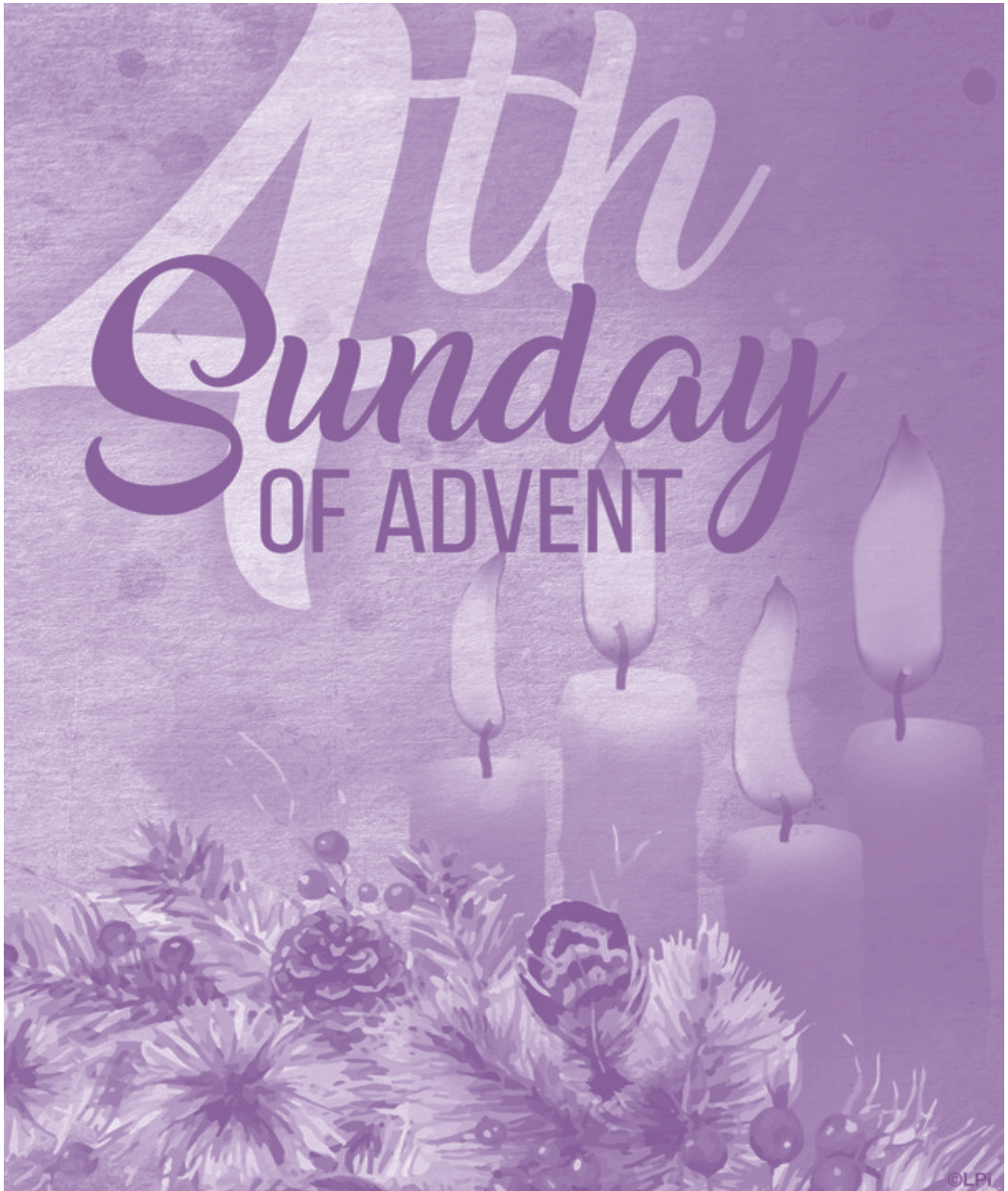


St. Joseph's Church
164 Broadway
Fort Edward, N.Y. 12828
518-747-5117

December 19th, 2021





Saturday, December 18th-4:00pm

Ann Bowe & Tom Sykowski by Family
Ray Lacque from his wife Donna
Kristina Flores-Knowlton by Linda Flores & Family

Sunday, December 19th-10:00am

George Schandel by Vito Cavallari

Monday, December 20th

No Mass

Tuesday, December 21st

No Mass

Wednesday, December 22nd

No Mass

Thursday, December 23rd

No Mass

Christmas Eve-Friday, December 24th

4:00pm Mass

Bob Killian by Sue & Peter Cormie
The Munger Family by Julie
Phyllis Sullivan & Patricia Haley
By Tom, Kay & Jane Burns
*In honor of the 75th Wedding Anniversary of
Doris and Fran Carpenter*

Christmas Eve - 10:00pm Mass

*In honor of the 75th Wedding Anniversary of
Doris and Fran Carpenter*

Christmas Day- Saturday, December 25th

10:00am

*In honor of the 75th Wedding Anniversary of
Doris and Fran Carpenter*

Sunday, December 26th-10:00am

Jennifer Ruffing from Mom & Dad



“And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.” — Lk 1:26-32

December 19, 2021

4th Sunday of Advent

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God’s instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.



ADVENT CANDLES

The lighters of the Advent candle will be as follows:
Sunday, December 19th-the Macura Family



Liturgical Ministers— December 18 & 19

Saturday-4:00pm

Cantor: Mary Lou Strode

Lector: Sue Passaro

Communion: Barb & Todd Wicks

Sunday-10:00am

Cantor: Kate Lanci

Lector: Kathy Bryant

Communion: Faye Plisko & Bob Lemieux

Liturgical Ministers— December 24, 25, 26,

Saturday-4:00pm

Cantor: Pat Frederick

Lector: Julie Leonelli

Communion: Pat Kilmer & Barb Webster

Sunday- 10:00am

Cantor: Kaaren Evens

Lector: Gary Evens

Communion: Michelle Taylor & Toni Tuttle

Virtual Nativity Pageant Christmas Eve

We have a treat for all of you after the 4pm mass on Christmas Eve. Tune in to our YouTube channel anytime after mass and view our children in costume acting out the nativity. Special thanks to our photographer Kara Coe and video designer Anna Belden. Go to rcda.org, scroll down and click "Watch Sunday Mass", then scroll down to St. Joseph's Fort Edward. The pageant will appear as a choice.



Readings for the week of December 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/

Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Changes in COVID Guidelines
at St. Joseph's

Because of so many new COVID sickness and deaths in our area along with the new variant of this virus, we are requiring everyone to wear their mask as you enter the church and continue to wear your mask throughout the Masses or services. The only time your masks should be removed is to receive Communion.

With COVID still among us, we want everyone to be as safe as possible. Thank you all for your patience and understanding.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph's

Friday the 24th, Christmas Eve

4:00pm (full)

10:00pm

Saturday the 25th, Christmas Day

10:00am

Sunday the 26th-Regular Mass

10:00am

We will require assigned seating so be sure you make your reservations as soon as possible. You may fill in the reservation forms in the pews or you may call the church

office-

518 747-5117



Memorials are given in memory of loved ones who have died, to remember to keep them in our prayers and help the needs of our church. This week we are asked to remember:

Phyllis Sullivan by Paul and Kathleen McCarty

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