
A "new year" begins today.

The church year, or the **liturgical year**, is a centuries-old way that many Christians have planned the 365-day calendar year. It depends not on the positions of the sun and moon, nor on the start and end of school, nor on the government, but rather on key aspects of the life of Christ that are coordinated with the solar calendar. The major holidays (literally, holy days) in the church year are Christmas (December 25), Good Friday and Easter, and Pentecost (seven weeks after Easter). Every other special day or season fits around these crucial days (Advent, Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, etc.). Also included in the liturgical calendar are feast days devoted to both our Blessed Mother, and the Saints.

The Liturgical Calendar begins every year on the **First Sunday of Advent** and continues through to the Solemnity of Christ the King the following year.

The liturgical year is made up of six seasons:

Advent - four weeks of preparation before the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Christmas season - recalling the Nativity of Jesus Christ and his manifestation to the peoples of the world, from Christmas day to the Baptism of the Lord in January.

Lent - a six-week period of penance before Easter.

Sacred Paschal Triduum - the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year, where Christians recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Easter season - 50 days of joyful celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead and His sending forth of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Ordinary Time - divided into two sections (one span of 4-8 weeks after Christmas time and another lasting about six months after Easter time), wherein the faithful consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and works among his people.

The Liturgical year is represented through various colours, which are displayed in the priest's vestments and sometimes in decoration in the Church:

White, representing light, triumph - Christmas, Easter, funerals, weddings

Purple, representing penance - Advent, Lent

Red, representing blood, martyrdom - Good Friday, Palm Sunday, Pentecost, and martyred saints days

Green, representing new life - weeks of "ordinary time", after Epiphany and after Pentecost

Gold - sometimes worn in place of white

Rose - not used very often anymore, but worn on Gaudete Sunday in Advent; and Laetare Sunday in Lent.



NO Mass on Mondays

Tuesday, December 4

8:00 am - Intentions of Myra Klaassen - from Margaret
- intentions of Antonio & Maria Figueiredo - from Carmen

Wednesday, December 5

***7:00 pm** + JOSE deCHAVES - Knights of Columbus 2184
+ ARNOLD & HAZEL LANGLOIS - their family

Please note - tonight's Mass will begin at 7pm. There will be no Adoration and no Confessions.

Holy Spirit school students will be participating in this Mass.)

Thursday, December 6 - Feast of Saint Nicholas

8:00 am + DECEASED PUDER FAMILY - Erika
- for vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Friday, December 7 - Feast of St. Ambrose (First Friday)

No morning Mass today.

6:00 pm + MARIO FIORETTI - Nick and Teresa Cherri
- in thanksgiving from Purita Avilla

Saturday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception

8:00 am + LES WALKER - Walker family

5:00 pm + HUGUETTE CORRIVEAU - a friend

+ TINO COMINI - his parents

+ MARIA CONCEICAO FIGUEIREDO - son and family

Sunday,

9:00 am + HAZEL LANGLOIS - Paul and Myra Klaassen

11:00 am - for the intentions of all parishioners



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SALT + LIGHT IS PRESENTING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST, a choral concert by Andrew T. Miller, on Friday, December 7th, at 7:30 p.m., in the **Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King**, Hamilton. The choral concert celebrates the 15th Anniversary of Salt + Light TV – a remarkable undertaking! All are welcome. Bring a friend.

One Heart, One Soul Campaign Diocese of Hamilton

The Diocese of Hamilton is conducting the One Heart, One Soul Campaign to raise money for every Parish in the Diocese and for shared ministries. Answers to a set of Frequently Asked Questions appear in Parish bulletins regularly. A compilation of all questions that have been published are available throughout the campaign at oneheartonesoul.ca

Who will actually conduct the campaign at each Parish?

The Diocese, with the help of the Steier Group, will manage the overall campaign effort, including the preparation of materials. At each Parish, the Pastor will identify campaign leaders who will work with the Steier Group. Those Parish leaders will help recruit other volunteers to form a campaign team that will conduct the personal visits and other elements that are the key to the success of the campaign.

How much help with the campaign can our Parish expect to get from the Diocese and the consulting firm?

The Diocese will pay the financial costs of the campaign. Parishes will not be responsible for any campaign expenses such as postage, printing or diocesan events held at the parish. If a Parish hosts an event to promote the campaign to its parishioners, the Parish will bear those costs. In addition, several Steier Group campaign managers will guide the Parishes through the campaign process. Each Parish will be assigned to one of four "waves." The Parish will be responsible for forming a team of volunteers that implements the necessary elements of the process.

How long will this take?

On a diocesan level, the entire campaign will run through early 2021. On a Parish level, there will be four campaign "waves." A Parish's particular wave will run for six to seven months. That includes preparation, solicitation and follow-up phases. The active solicitation period will last three to four months.

What happens if our Parish doesn't hit its financial goal?

A clergy committee will implement policies that all parishes will follow on such questions. There will be incentives for Parishes to reach their goals. Parishes not reaching their goals face the prospect of not being able to complete needed projects

Prayer Vigil - Thursday, December 6, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in front of Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St. E., Kitchener, for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking across the road, Schneider Park. kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com

A Big Thank You!

Many thanks to our parishioners who donated baked goods and raffle items for last Sunday's bake sale; and also to those who attended, and those who volunteered their time to make the sale another success! A profit of \$1,100.00 was made.

Trinity Community Table, which provides hot lunch meals to those in need, is asking for donations of the following items for the Christmas Dinner and gift bags for Friday, Dec 21. They always provide for 180 people. Could you please help us and donate items by Dec 12?

- there is a great need for canned fruit
- frozen turkeys
- hats, gloves, mitts, socks, for men and women.

If you are able to donate, these items can be dropped off at Trinity Church, 12 Blair Rd. on Mon, Wed and Fri from 9am-1pm

Everyone is invited...

A **Family Rosary** will take place on **Friday, Dec. 14th at 6:30pm at St. Ambrose Church**. All families and children of ALL ages are welcome, no child is too young nor too old to attend. After the Rosary we will have fellowship in the church basement. Please bring a snack to share. Refreshments will be provided. Please use side door off the parking lot. *"To pray the Rosary for children, and even more, with children, training them from their earliest years to experience this daily "pause for prayer" with the family, is admittedly not the solution to every problem, but it is a spiritual aid which should not be underestimated" Saint Pope John Paul II*



St. Ambrose Parish monthly **bridge/euchre card party** will be held **Saturday December 8 at 6:30 pm**.

Cost is \$6.00 at the door. A light lunch is served prior to cards; door prizes and 50/50 draw. Everyone welcome!

As of today, December 2nd, our parish will offer **Children's Liturgy at our 9am Mass**. (For years we have offered the program at 11am Mass.)

Thank you to the ladies and students who have generously offered their assistance to facilitate the program at 9am Mass.

First Sunday of Advent

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of **Advent** by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern."

— *Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta*