

## **Immaculate Conception R.C. Church**

20916 Dalton Road, Sutton West, ON L0E 1R0

## **Our Lady of the Lake R.C. Church**

129 Metro Road North, Keswick, ON L4P 3C8

### **Pastoral Team**

Rev. Fr. James Dunstan, IVDei, Pastor

Rev. Deacon Stephen Palmer, Deacon Assistant

Mrs. Christiane Crawford, Parish Secretary

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SUTTON - MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

### KESWICK – MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues. Dec. 23      7:00pm: **Christmas Blessings upon Fr. Dunstan**  
req. Donna Perri

Wed. Dec. 24      5:00pm: **+Helmut Krohmer**  
req. Rose Sheppard

Thur. Dec. 25      11:00am: **+Helen & Joseph Thompson**  
req. Dzisiak Family

Sat. Dec. 27      5:30pm: **+Gerry Deroin**  
req. Rose Sheppard

Sun. Dec. 28      8:30am: **+Charles Savoie**  
req. Savoie Family

Wed. Dec. 24      8:00pm: **+Gregory Dzisiak**  
req. Dzisiak Family  
11:45pm: **Parishioners (Pro Populo)**

Fri. Dec. 26      8:30am: **Anniversary of Annie & Steve Gallacher**  
req. Gallacher Family

Sat. Dec. 27      4:00pm: **+Concetta & Son Antonio Simone**  
req. Kathy Perruzza

Sun. Dec. 28      10:30am: **Healing for John & Mena McLaughlin**  
req. Gallacher Family



The sanctuary light in **Sutton** burns this week



The sanctuary light in **Keswick** burns this week  
In thanksgiving for prayers answered for  
**Darragh Dzisiak**



The Fourth Week of Advent: December 21, 2025

Candle Name: **The Angel's Candle**

The Fourth Week of Advent Represents: **Love**

Candle Color: **Purple**

During this final week of Advent, we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the Angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. Are you ready?



#### **The Christ Candle**

Spiritual meaning has been added to Advent wreaths in the form of an optional fifth candle. This candle is the "**Christ Candle**." This fifth candle is white and is placed at the center of the Advent wreath. It is lit on Christmas Day to represent the arrival of Jesus Christ and symbolizes the light He brings to the world.

#### **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

The Christmas Season celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus and the ways he manifested the presence of God among us. For the church, only the Easter celebration of the Lord's death and rising is more important than the Christmas Season. *ORDO*

*Wishing all our Parishioners and their Families a very Merry Christmas. May the light of the Lord shine brightly upon you this season and bring hope, joy, and endless blessings. May the message of Christ's birth fill your hearts with faith, your home with laughter, and your life with joy.*

#### **Weekend Collection (Dec. 13/14)**

#### **Building Maintenance Fund (Dec. 13/14)**

*Amount not available at time of bulletin submission deadline*

#### ***Christmas Vigil & Midnight Mass Schedule***

*(No 8:30am Sutton Mass on Wednesday, December 24 and no 7:00pm Keswick Mass on Thursday, December 25)*

#### **Wednesday, December 24, 2025**

Sutton: 5:00pm  
Keswick: 8:00pm  
Keswick: 11:45pm  
(11:15pm: singing Carols)



#### **Thursday, December 25, 2025**

Sutton: 11:00am

*Friday, December 26, 2025 (regular Mass) Keswick: 8:30am*

#### ***New Year's Mass Schedule***

#### **Wednesday, December 31, 2025**

Sutton: 6:00pm - Adoration  
7:00pm - Mass

#### **Thursday, January 1, 2026**

Sutton: 8:30am  
Keswick: 10:30am

*Friday, January 2, 2026 (regular Mass) Keswick: 8:30am*

**NO First Friday Adoration in January**

**December 25: The Nativity of the Lord (Solemnity)**  
**(Holy Day of Obligation)**

On this day, the Church focuses especially on the newborn Child, God become human, who embodies for us all the hope and peace we seek. We need no other special saint today to lead us to Christ in the manger, although his mother, Mary and Joseph, caring for his foster-son, help round out the scene. But if we were to select a patron for today, perhaps it might be appropriate for us to imagine an anonymous shepherd, summoned to the birthplace by a wondrous and even disturbing vision in the night, a summons from an angelic choir, promising peace and goodwill. A shepherd willing to seek out something that might just be too unbelievable to chase after, and yet compelling enough to leave behind the flocks in the field and search for a mystery. On the day of the Lord's birth, let's let an unnamed, "non-celebrity" at the edge of the crowd model for us the way to discover Christ in our own hearts—somewhere between skepticism and wonder, between mystery and faith. And like Mary and the shepherds, let's treasure that discovery in our hearts. *Franciscan Media*

**December 26: St. Stephen, The First Martyr (Feast)**

St. Stephen is called the "Protomartyr," which means "first martyr". He was the first person to die for his faith in Jesus Christ. His martyrdom showed early Christians the importance of standing firm in their faith, even when facing danger. His courage gave strength and hope to the growing Church. His death also had a strong impact on Saul, who later became Saint Paul. Saul was present at Stephen's stoning, watching over the cloaks of those who threw stones. His brave witness and prayer for forgiveness planted seeds that later led to Paul's conversion. St. Stephen's feast day is December 26, the day after Christmas. It is a day to honour his sacrifice and celebrate his faith. In some traditions, it is known as "Boxing Day" or "St. Stephen's Day". People remember him with prayers, Mass, and acts of charity. St. Stephen is the patron saint of deacons, stone masons, and those who face persecution. His story encourages Christians to live with courage, compassion, and trust in God. *Young Catholics*

**December 27: St. John, Apostle, Evangelist (Feast)**

When two young Jewish fishermen sat by the Sea of Galilee, mending their nets with their father, a man walked by and said, "Follow me". Their response

reveals the startled glimmer of recognition they must have had in that moment: "Immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him" (Mt 4:22). In this rabbi who was calling them, James and John, the sons of Zebedee – tradition holds that John was the younger of the two – caught a glimpse of something for which, as faithful Israelites, they had been waiting all their lives.

John must have often gone back in his mind to that moment when he left his nets to follow the Messiah. Yet during his three years at Jesus' side, watching him pray, teach, raise a dead child, and calm the wind and the waves, the fisherman could not have imagined that one day he would watch his Master die on a cross. He could not have known that, as he saw his friend's body placed in the tomb, the words he had learned as a Jewish child would take on an infinitely greater meaning: "Your face, O Lord, I seek; hide not your face from me" (Ps 27:8-9).

*Vatican News*

**December 28, The Holy Family (Feast)**

The Feast of the Holy Family Year A reminds us that Jesus lived in a real family. He had a mother and a father who cared for Him and protected Him. Mary and Joseph did not have easy lives, but they trusted God and followed His plan. Their home was simple, but it was full of love. This Feast helps us think about our own families. Every home has struggles, but like the Holy Family, we are called to listen to God and care for each other with patience. Love grows in quiet moments, hard choices, and daily kindness. The readings for the Feast of the Holy Family Year A show how God works through family life. They speak about honouring parents, caring for others, and choosing peace. These small acts shape a strong and faithful home. This day is not only about Jesus, Mary, and Joseph; it is about how we can live with love and trust in our families today. God is with us in family life, no matter how ordinary it may seem.

*Young Catholics*

**Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year**

We wish to extend a warm invitation to the faithful of the Archdiocese to join with **Cardinal Leo** for the Closing Mass for the Year of Jubilee on **Sunday, December 28, 2025 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 5:00pm**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with numerous priests present from 3:30pm to 4:45pm. All are most welcome.



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