Immaculate Conception R.C. Church Our Lady of the Lake R.C. Church

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Pastoral Team

Rev. Fr. Paul T. Hancko, Pastor Rev. Deacon Stephen Palmer



The Nativity of the Lord

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

| SUTTON - MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--|
| Mon. | Dec 19 | 8:30am: All Souls | |
| | | req. the Penn's | |
| Tues. | Dec 20 | 8:30am: Blessings upon the | |
| | | Douglas Family | |
| | | req. Donna Perri | |
| Wed. | Dec 21 | 8:30am: In Thanksgiving to | |
| | | St. Joseph req. the Penn's | |
| Sat. | Dec 24 | <u>Christmas Eve</u> | |
| | | 9:30pm: Blessings & Healing | |
| | | upon Jackie DiPietro | |
| | | req. Donna Perri | |
| Sun. | Dec 25 | 8:30am: Parishioners | |
| | | (Pro Populo) | |

NEW YEAR HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

New Year's Eve: 3:30pm Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament in Keswick **4pm**: Holy Mass in Keswick

New Year's Day: 8:30am in Sutton

10:30am in Keswick **Noon** in Keswick

2023 SUNDAY EVELOPES are in the foyers of both churches. Please <u>DO NOT</u> use until 2023. If you would like 2023 donation envelopes, fill out the pink envelope.

<u>Musicians</u> needed for the **8:30am Sunday Mass** in Sutton. If you are interested, contact the parish office.

CONFIRMATION SACRAMENTAL PREP

Please read the assigned book. **Parents or Sponsor** ask the **Candidate questions**. Here are some suggestions: 1. How many BEATITUDES do you know? 2. Who is the HOLY SPIRIT? 3. How many gifts of the Holy Spirit can you name? **Reminder**: Continue to check the website for the most up-to-date information.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION PREP

Please read the assigned book. **Parents or Sponsor** ask the **Candidate questions**. Here are some suggestions: 1. What did God make? 2. What must we do to be HAPPY with God in Heaven? 3. There is One God in how many Persons? **Reminder:** Continue to check the website for the most upto-date information.

KESWICK - MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

| Thur. | Dec 22 | 8:30am: +Julia & Fransesco Mancuso and Alfonso, Salvatore and Antonio |
|-------|--------|---|
| | | req. Rose Turano |
| Fri. | Dec 23 | 8:30am: +James McNeil |
| | | req. Helen Bromley |
| Sat. | Dec 24 | Christmas Eve |
| | | 5:00pm: +Margaret Garvey |
| | | req Danny & Patricia Ward |
| Sun. | Dec 25 | 10:30am: Blessings upon |
| | | the Larocque Family |
| | | req. Luc, Celine, Emily |
| | | Larocque |
| | | Noon: Blessings upon the Ewashko family req. the Ewashko's |

PARISH DEBT as of November 30th \$91,000

CHRISTMAS VIGIL PRAYER

God of endless ages, Father of all goodness, we keep vigil for the dawn of salvation and the birth of your Son. With gratitude we recall his humanity, the life he shared with the sons of men. May the power of his divinity help us answer his call to forgiveness and life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHILDREN

Dear Lord, we thank you for our children, they are our sunlight, our joy, our fulfillment. It is because we love them so much that we implore your blessing and protection. They need it so, surrounded as they are with elements and situations which we ourselves have not faced in our youth. We do not ask you, God, for an insulated world for our children, for in this kind of world they will not grow nor do we ask you to preserve them from all mistakes, for, by some of these are they truly made wiser; but only from such that will destroy them, irreparably perhaps with one sure blow. Look down upon our petitions as indicative of our willingness to do our share in preserving them from such a fall. Grant us the wisdom and the tact needed for vigilance over our children. Lord God, you who share your creativity with us in the bringing forth of our children through conjugal love, keep them in good health, help us parents to guide them as God's children from childhood through adolescence to maturity. Amen.

Did Advent 2022 pass you by?

These past weeks have likely been full of parties, events, shopping and obligations, but the final moments of Advent can still offer many opportunities to slow down and to prepare our hearts for the Lord's birth.

Prayer is an essential part of the spiritual life and it can be the hardest. **St. Paul tells us:** "pray without ceasing." This night seem impossible but we can offer each task (cooking, cleaning, laundry) of our day to God as a sacrifice.

Find time for **silence**. Silence helps our spiritual life and it might need to be planned ahead. Simple things like arriving to Mass a few minutes early...taking a few moments of prayer before getting out of bed...praying before your Advent wreath with the candles lit in the darkness.

Read...a few minutes meditating on the Scripture readings for the Sundays in Advent.

Pray the **Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary, as a family...** now is the perfect time to reflect on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. These mysteries, capture the jubilance of the Jesus's birth and early life.

Go to **Confession**. This is a good time to prepare your soul for Jesus.

Watch a movie with your family. Find one about Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, or Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Be JOYFUL! Joy is the perfect way to share God's glory.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin is known for receiving the vision of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Born in 1474 in Cuautlitlán, Mexico (near present-day Mexico City), he was one of the Chichimeca people. Around 1524, he was baptized by Friar Peter da Gand, an early Franciscan missionary. He is depicted in the Basilica in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel and the Trinity Dome.

Juan Diego's Vision

On December 9, 1531, Mary appeared to Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill while he was on his way to Mass. She asked him to approach the bishop and request that a shrine be built to her there, where she would bless those who called upon her. However, when Juan Diego requested this of the bishop, the bishop demanded proof of the vision.

The Miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Juan Diego returned to the hill, where roses were blooming, though it was almost winter. He picked some of the flowers and brought them in his cloak to the bishop. When he opened his cloak, the flowers fell out and an image of the Blessed Mother was imprinted on it. The Bishop then gave his blessing, and a chapel was built on the hill. Juan Diego's cloak was placed in the chapel, and he lived in a small dwelling near the chapel for the rest of his life, serving as its

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

caretaker, greeting pilgrims, and spending time in prayer and devotion. In 1548, he passed away and was buried in the chapel.

On May 6, 1990, Juan Diego was canonized by Pope John Paul II at the Basilica of Santa Maria de Guadalupe in Mexico City. The cloak imprinted with the miraculous image of the Blessed Virgin Mary received by Juan Diego is still preserved there today. With native features and dress, Mary is portrayed with the moon at her feet, her mantle covered with stars, and an angel supports her. She is also pregnant, as demonstrated by the black girdle around her waist; a picture of how Christ's gospel is born among the people of the New World.

This image is also depicted in the Chapel of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the Basilica. Here, Mary is surrounded by the people of the North, Central, and South Americas, carrying lighted candles in procession. The walls of the chapel are curved to imitate the experience of the apparition.

The Significance of Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Juan Diego is significant because he was one of the first indigenous people in the New World to embrace Catholicism. As Pope John Paul II said at Juan Diego's canonization: Our Lady of Guadalupe close up

In accepting the Christian message without forgoing his indigenous identity, Juan Diego discovered the profound truth of the new humanity, in which all are called to be children of God. Thus he facilitated the fruitful meeting of two worlds and became the catalyst for the new Mexican identity, closely united to Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose mestizo face expresses her spiritual motherhood which embraces all Mexicans. This is why the witness of his life must continue to be the inspiration for the building up of the Mexican nation, encouraging brotherhood among all its children and ever helping to reconcile Mexico with its origins, values and traditions.

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel at the Basilica is inscribed with the following prayer, requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother under her title as the Patroness of Latin America:

Dearest Lady of Guadalupe, fruitful Mother of Holiness, teach me your ways of gentleness and strength. Hear my prayer offered with deepfelt confidence to beg this favor.... O Mary, conceived without sin, I come to your throne of grace to share the fervent devotion of your faithful Mexican children who call to you under the glorious Aztec title of "Guadalupe" the virgin who crushed the serpent. Queen of Martyrs, whose Immaculate heart was pierced by seven wounds of grief, help me to walk valiantly amid the sharp thorns thrown across my pathway. Queen of Apostles aid me to win souls for the Sacred Heart of my Savior. I plead this through the merits of your merciful Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

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