

Community, Community Everywhere!

Christmas Tea & Sale at the Brookdale Community Hall
Saturday, December 1st 10am to 1pm. A lunch of soup and
dessert for \$8. There will be a bake table, a craft table and
new-to-you Christmas decorations for Sale. Hosted by the
Brookdale sewing Circle. **All Are Welcome!**

Soup or Chili Luncheon Wednesday, **Nov 28** at the Bridge
Adult Service Centre, 16 Station St. Amherst 902-667-
8433 **11:30am - 1:00pm** \$8 per person **Eat in or**
Take Out. Menu is Chicken Vegetable Soup / Chili / Beef
Barley Soup / Roll included / dessert / and tea or coffee

Cumberland Singers—The Sounds of Christmas

Friday, Nov. 30th—7:30 pm at Wentworth
Recreation Centre with the proceeds going to
Victorian Order of Nurses and Wentworth
Youth Hostel. Adults \$10.00 and Children Un-
der 12—\$5.00 Come enjoy the wonderful sounds!!



ADVENT BEGINS: WELCOME HOME

On December 2nd the Season of expectant waiting and
conscious preparation, we begin planning for the arrival of
God's only Son, in a Manger, with his Virgin Mother Mary
and Joseph. We will be using straw again this year as re-
minders of doing good deeds in our every day. When you
come to Mass each weekend during Advent, take straw
from the barrel and take it up to the Manger, representing
your kind deeds and acts of love in the world around you.
It also will slowly prepare our community and the Manger,
for Jesus's coming. Share your good deeds with us, send us
some wonderful "unexpected" deeds that may have hap-
pened to you or family. Join us in Advent, welcoming



Home Catholics everywhere. **"Jesus,
Mary and Joseph, in you we contem-
plate the splendor of true love, to you
we turn with trust. Graciously hear our
prayers" AMEN**

CHALICE for CHRISTMAS: How about buying some baby
chicks or a couple of fruit trees this year on your gift list?
Purchase from the Chalice Catalogue and support a family
in need. Give someone you love, a gift of love and help
sustain the most vulnerable people worldwide. Cata-
logues available in the gathering area at Holy Family or
online at Chalice.

Holy Family Cookbooks with Dish Cloths:

Are you thinking of buying something for the "hard to buy
for"? A youth with their 1st apartment? Or a
budding Chef? Pick up the Holy Family Cook-
book and Dishcloth \$10.00 SALE for
Christmas!!



HOLY FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT & STORY: December 16th from 2—4pm we will be welcoming the RETURN of
the most amazing Annual Christmas Concert! This year join the M&M Youth Choir, the Saturday/Sunday Choirs and
youth from our Faith Development program as they share the story "A CHRISTMAS TO BELIEVE IN". **"Logan" admits to
his friend "Abbie", that he is not sure he believe this Nativity story that is always told. However Abbie offers to help
"Logan" with his struggle, but reminds him "whether you believe it or not...it's still true."** Join us on December 16th to
find out what Logan comes to believe and who comes to visit, to help Abbie share the Nativity Story and help Logan to
believe!! Free Will offering, No tickets or cost. **Intermission with Light Refreshments.**

Want to help with our Play? Call us at the office and join the fun 902-667-2523.

Holy Family Parishioner Registration Form

Our Welcome Team will be in Touch!

Name (s): _____
Phone _____ Are you on Facebook? Yes / No
Email _____ Permission to email Yes / No
Address _____ Postal Code _____

Would you like church envelopes? Yes / No Would you like information about Pre-Authorized Payments? Yes / No

Place this form in the collection. If you have any questions call us at (902) 667-2523.

The Season of Advent

The liturgical year of the Church begins with the season of Advent. What does the word Advent mean? It means coming. During the four weeks of Advent we look forward to celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus over two thousand years ago and also to the second coming of Christ which will happen at the end of time.

“Advent is a period of prayer and preparation, of renewal and of looking forward to the coming of the Lord Jesus among us, his beloved people. During Advent our prayer is one of hope and love: Come, Lord Jesus! A season of renewal: During Advent, we express our great longing for God. Who are we without God Apart from Christ we can do nothing (cf. Jn 15.5). We prepare ourselves and wait for God's coming.

Prepare the way of the Lord. We open our hearts to Jesus in prayer, and show by our actions each day that we are his. We try to love other people more, and to be more patient and understanding. We pray for others, especially those who are close to us, and ask God to help them to grow in love.

A time to change. During Advent we are invited to change our lives and our hearts. God wants us to prepare for his coming by doing good. Each day we should look at our faults and weaknesses and ask our Father to help us to follow Jesus more closely.

A season of hope: Advent brings hope, because Jesus is always ready to help us to grow. He has conquered sin and selfishness by his obedient death and by his rising; he can help us to change our lives for the better. If we want to grow closer to him, and pray and work to improve, Jesus will help us to change for him.

A season of joy: Advent brings joy. We are followers of Jesus, who is the king of glory. We are happy because he is our king, and we are his brothers and sisters. We rejoice because God is our dear Father and because the Holy Spirit lives in our hearts. We are happy because Jesus wants to give us his peace and let us share his joy now.

Advent is a time for renewing our lives as followers of Jesus. We are invited to “make straight the way of the Lord” in our hearts and in our lives.” *Taken from the leaflet “Advent: Joy and Hope” edited by the National Liturgy Office, CCCB.*

How can we celebrate Advent in an ever increasing secular world? Although we are bombarded with advertisements to shop ‘til we drop amidst Santa and all the popular trappings of Christmas, we need to try to maintain focus on preparing to celebrate Christ’s coming among us. There are a number of activities we can do during Advent.

A tradition I follow is to have an Advent calendar; I have a strong preference for a traditional one with windows that open to reveal a short biblical phrase. Each morning I open a window and spend a few minutes thinking/praying on the phrase. If you wish to use an Advent calendar there are several options.

For those of you who have children or a sweet tooth there are chocolate filled calendars that are readily available in many retail stores. There are printable calendars available from Loyola Press as well as an online calendar at (<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical/-year/advent/calendars/advent-calendar-for-adults>)

Thoughts by,

Chris Manuge, Chair of Liturgy Committee

