



MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM

St. Maurice Parish



Merry Christmas! We're so happy you're here! Whether you're a familiar face or visiting us for the first time, you're warmly welcomed in our community.

We firmly believe that God has a wonderful plan for each of us and that he longs to share his love with us through his Son, Jesus. By walking together as a community with Jesus and embracing God's plan, we can discover true peace and joy.

As you explore the rest of this bulletin, we hope you'll find exciting events, activities, and prayer opportunities that spark your interest. We invite you to fill out a Connect Card at our Welcome Table, so we can keep in touch. Our doors are open year-round, and we can't wait to see you again soon!

With warm wishes,
The St. Maurice Family

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Intentions for the PARISHIONERS OF ST. MAURICE

Sunday, December 22, 2024 9:00 am

+Mr. Frederick Sinclair, by Jaime DeMarchi and Family

+Karen Smithers, by the Birmingham Family

+Tom Clarke, by The Clarke's Family

Sunday, December 22, 2024 11:00 am

+José Toro Gomez, by The Mccutcheon-Toro Family

+Giuseppina and Matteo Fulco, by Angelo Fulco

+Louis Delery, by Jayne Delery

Sunday, December 22, 2024 7:30 pm

+Desiree Severimuttu, by Paul Gravelle

Thursday, December 26, 2024 9:00 am

+Albertine Levesque, by the Riesbeck family

Friday, December 27, 2024 9:00 am

Thanksgiving for Vivendra Moodley

Saturday, December 28, 2024 5:00 pm

+Brian McNamara

Sunday, December 29, 2024 9:00 am

+Catherine Henry, by The Henry Family

+Mr. Frederick Sinclair, by Jaime DeMarchi and Family

In thanksgiving for blessings received in the year ending for Christelle & Geoffrey

Sunday, December 29, 2024 11:00 am

+José Toro Gomez, by The Mccutcheon-Toro Family

+Steve Viduka, by Linda Viduka

+Brian McNamara, by The Parish Community

Sunday, December 29, 2024 7:30 pm

Intentions for the PARISHIONERS OF ST. MAURICE

Thursday, January 2, 2025 9 am

+ Ferd Ortiz, by Rose Ortiz

Friday, January 3, 2025 9 am

In thanksgiving for blessings received in the prior year, and to recommend the new year to the Lord for Christelle & Geoffrey Johnson

Saturday, January 4, 2025 9 am

+Frank Fiala, by Donna Fiala

Saturday, January 4, 2025, 5 pm

Intentions for Joanne Bachelor, by the Alpha Kitchen Team

Sunday, January 5, 2025 9 am

Thanksgiving to the Most Holy Trinity on Anne-Victoria's Birthday, by Florence

Sunday, January 5, 2025 9 am

+ José Toro Gomez, by The Mccutcheon-Toro Family

Sunday, January 5, 2025 9 am

Intentions for Thomas Mccutcheon, by The Mccutcheon-Toro Family

Sunday, January 5, 2025 11 am

Intention for Katherine Joy by the Alpha Kitchen Team

Sunday, January 5, 2025 11 am

+ Tony Liuzzo by Marie Fung

Sunday, January 5, 2025 11 am

+ Anita Mendoza by The Mendoza and Balia Family

Sunday, January 5, 2025 7:30 pm

For the intentions of the parishioners of St. Maurice

Tuesday, January 7, 2025 7 pm

+ Victor Giaccone and Cesare Giaccon by Giaccone and Santaronita

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 9 am

+ Tony Liuzzo by Rob and Rory Ward

Thursday, January 9, 2025 9 am

+ Tony Liuzzo by Grace Reyes & Family

Friday, January 10, 2025 9 am

+ Jesse Stapledon

st Maurice
Parish

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS!

Sunday Masses:

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 7:30 pm

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 am

First Saturday of each month 9:00 am

Confession:

Tuesday: After the 7:00 pm Mass

Saturday: 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Funeral Arrangements

To make arrangements for a funeral, please call 613-224-1892 x2.

Anointing of the Sick

To make arrangements for anointing of the sick, please call 613-224-1892 x3.

Baptism Arrangements

For baptisms, please contact Deacon Kevin at least two months in advance to enroll in baptism preparation. deaconkevin@stmauriceparish.com

Wedding Arrangements

To make arrangements for a wedding, please email Dcn. Kevin at least eight months prior to the proposed wedding date. deaconkevin@stmauriceparish.com

Adoration Chapel

For more info, contact Tom Gleeson at stmauriceadoration@gmail.com or call the office at 613-224-1892

To Arrange a Mass Intention

Mass intentions can be requested by phone at 613-224-1892 or in person at our office.

PARISH STAFF

Clergy

Pastor:
Fr. Ben St. Croix, CC

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Marcus Schonnop, CC

Priest in Residence:

Fr. Allan MacDonald, CC

Deacons:

Deacon Kevin O'Shea:
deaconkevin@stmauriceparish.com
Deacon Alvaro Sanchez:
deaconalvaro@stmauriceparish.com

Parish and HR Manager:

Carol Gariepy:
carol@stmauriceparish.com

Evangelization & Discipleship Team Lead:

Avery Burrowes:
avery@stmauriceparish.com

Evangelization & Discipleship

Pauline McGrath as Co-Team Lead
pauline@stmauriceparish.com

Communications and Sunday Experience Team Lead:

Glenn Pereira:
communications@stmauriceparish.com




THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY COMMUNITY
 invites you
 to
 the First Profession of Temporary Vows
 of
Sr. Mikaila Sullivan
 Wednesday, January 1st, 2025
 4:00 p.m.
 St. Maurice Parish,
 Ottawa
Reception to follow
 Please RSVP at www.queenshipofmary.ca

SUPPORT TEAM

Office Administrator:

Alfred Lai:
office@stmauriceparish.com

Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation:

Dale Balkovec:
dale@stmauriceparish.com

Sacramental Prep Coordinator:

Ellen Hong:
ehong@stmauriceparish.com

Seminarian:

Gabriel Gauthier:
gabriel@stmauriceparish.com

MINISTRY RETURN DATES FOR JANUARY

| | | |
|------------|-----------|---|
| SAT | 4 | HANDMAIDS OF THE QUEEN 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM IN THE ATRIUM AND CHURCH |
| WED | 8 | MOM'S GROUP 9:30 AM TO 12:00 PM IN THE ATRIUM WAY OF THE LORD 6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM IN THE ATRIUM |
| FRI | 10 | CAFÉ MAURICE 9:30 AM TO 11:00 AM IN THE ATRIUM SURGE 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM IN THE CHURCH |
| SAT | 11 | MOVIES WITH MEANING 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM IN THE ATRIUM |
| MON | 13 | 55+ GROUP 1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM IN THE ATRIUM |
| WED | 15 | THE WAY JR YOUTH GROUP 6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM IN THE ATRIUM |
| FRI | 17 | OVERFLOW SR YOUTH GROUP 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM IN THE ATRIUM |



Christmas
Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE
 DECEMBER 24 • 4 PM, 7 PM & 9 PM
 (PAGEANT & LIVE STREAM 4 PM)

CHRISTMAS DAY
 DECEMBER 25 • 9 AM & 11 AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD
 DECEMBER 31 • 5 PM & 11 PM
ADORATION IN THE CHURCH FROM 8PM UNTIL 10:45PM
 JANUARY 1 • 9AM & 11AM

The Christmas Story

“FOR TO US A SON IS GIVEN.”

Christmas is such a special time of year, filled with friends and family. Beneath the candy canes, last-minute shopping, and endless loop of Mariah Carrey hits, it speaks to our deepest desire for connection: to our longings for hope, peace, joy, and love. But what is the story behind it, what is Christmas all about?

GOD’S LOVE

God loves you! That is the most basic truth of life. God made you and all that exists out of love. His plan for each one of us is a plan of peace, joy, and blessings.

THE STORY GOES WRONG

So, what happened? When we look around the world, we see so much suffering and pain: clearly, this wasn’t God’s plan for us.

Throughout history, humanity has rejected God’s plan of love for the world. If we’re honest with ourselves, we often fail to love God and others as we should (this is called sin), which breaks our relationship with God.

A CHOSEN PEOPLE

God doesn’t give up on us! Even when we may turn away from him or feel unlovable, he never stops loving us.

God begins his plan for redeeming the world by choosing a specific people, the Israelites, and gradually revealing himself to them. But this wasn’t enough... God had more for us.

THE SAVIOUR IS BORN!

From this chosen people, God’s Son is born. Although the Son is equal with the Father, he humbles himself and becomes a man. He lives a life of complete service, working miracles, teaching the crowds, and revealing that God is love.

The story culminates with the Cross of Jesus and his rising from the dead at Easter. Through Jesus’ perfect love and obedience, we can be reconciled to the Father. The joy of Christmas can only be fully understood in light of the Cross and the Resurrection.

THE STORY ISN’T OVER...

The Christmas story isn’t over because that story involves you! God wants to give us the gift of his Son this Christmas. If we receive him into our hearts through faith, we will experience the true joy and peace we were made for.

ARE YOU READY TO BE PART OF THE STORY?

Jesus invites everyone to have a personal relationship with him. No one is disqualified!

He says to each of us:

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”

-Revelation 3:20

If you would like to invite Jesus into your heart today, please pray the following prayer:

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for becoming Man for our sake. Thank you for loving me, personally.

Please forgive me the times I’ve failed to love you and others; please take away my sins.

I welcome you into my heart today, to be Saviour and Lord. Please fill me with your Holy Spirit and guide me. Amen.

NOW THAT I’VE ACCEPTED HIM INTO MY HEART, HOW DO I FOLLOW JESUS?

1. Pray daily: Start with 15-20 minutes a day. If you’re unsure how to do it, check out our website for resources and tips.
2. Come to Church on Sundays. Worshipping as a community is essential to our Christian lives. We need to connect with and pray with others regularly.
3. Receive Reconciliation: If it’s been a while, make a point of receiving the sacrament of confession. God always wants to embrace us with his mercy in this way.

Don’t journey alone! We would love to walk with you, wherever you are at in your journey of faith.



“COME TO ME, ALL YOU THAT ARE WEARY AND ARE CARRYING HEAVY BURDENS, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.”

Are you in need of rest? Are you searching for peace, joy, and life? God wants to provide you with peace and joy in his presence. Spend time with him and experience restoration.



We'd love for you to join us for Surge! Our special Surge evenings bring together prayer, uplifting music, a brief talk, and plenty of fellowship. Plus, you'll have wonderful opportunities to go to confession or to receive personal prayer from our trained prayer teams. Surge happens every month on the 2nd Friday from 7 to 9 pm. We truly hope you can be there with us!

For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.
- St. Therese

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Calling All Young Adults (18-30)

We cordially invite all young adults aged 18 to 30 to join us for informal hangouts right after Tuesday night Mass! Each week Tuesday evening Mass begins at 7 pm, followed by adoration and confessions from 7:30 to 8:45 pm. Afterwards, we'll enjoy some social time together from 8:45 to 10:00!



Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.
Timothy 4:12

THE WAY YOUTH MINISTRY

Grades 6-8

- ✓ Games
- ✓ Snacks
- ✓ Socializing

2025 DATES
January 15
January 29
February 12
February 26
March 12

Join the Mailing List!
Scan the QR Code or email youth@stmauriceparish.com

St. Maurice Senior Youth Group: OVERFLOW

Grades 9-12

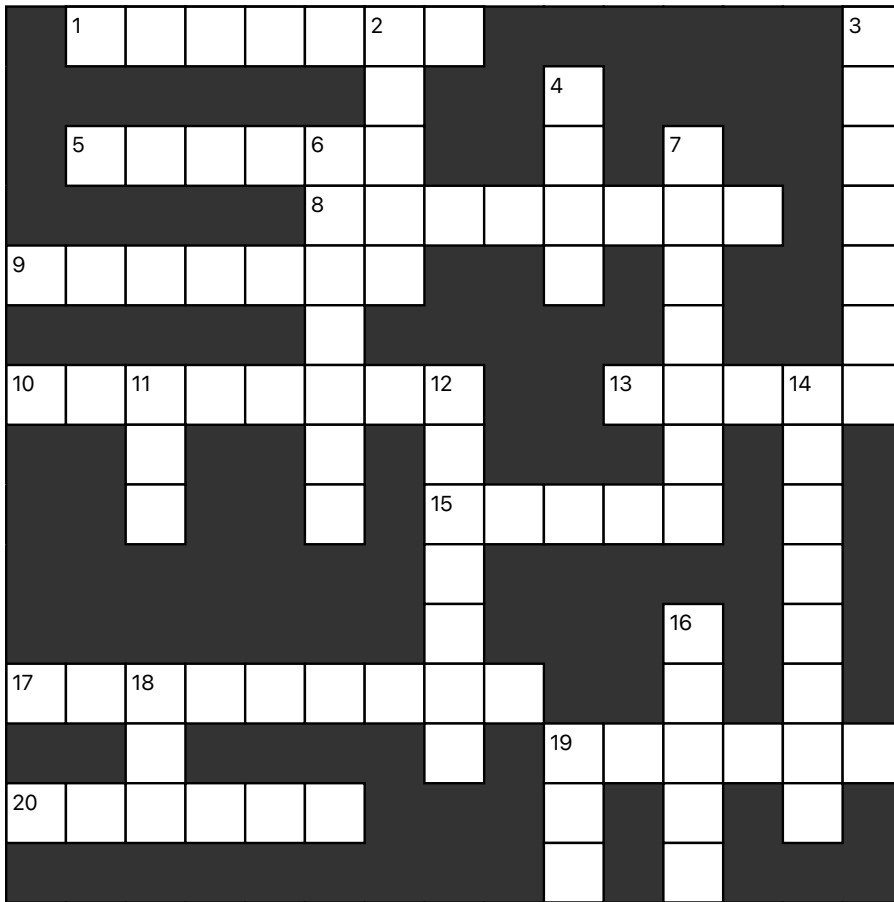
Meetings every other Friday

Next Meeting: January 17
7PM @ St. Maurice

Email youth@stmauriceparish.com
or reach out on Instagram @stmaurice.yg
for any questions!

YOUNG AT HEART

ST. MAURICE PARISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Name of the parish seminarian and the angel who appeared to Mary.
5. Artist who recorded I'll be Home for Christmas.
8. Feast that celebrates the Wise Men visiting Jesus.
9. Parish Group that runs the annual Christmas hampers.
10. Saint that Santa Claus is based on.
13. Number of Wise Men.
15. Artist who sang Blue Christmas.
17. Place where Jesus was born.
19. The Three Wise Men: Balthazar, Melchior, and...
20. Holly on top of the Christmas pudding represents Jesus' crown of...

Down

2. Country Saint Maurice was from.
3. Special year proclaimed by Pope Francis that begins this Christmas Eve.
4. Priest who wrote Silent Night.
6. Father Ben's first name.
7. Parish group, which does annual Christmas cards and Youville fundraiser.
11. Pet Father Marcus would own if he could.
12. Saint whose feast day is the day after Christmas.
14. Word for "God with us".
16. O Come Thou Rod of...free.
18. Number of gospels with the Christmas story.
19. Parish group that runs the annual holiday bake sale.

55+ Group

Looking for connection? Join us weekly on Monday afternoons to play cards, just hang out, and enjoy some snacks and goodies. Resumes January 13th. All are welcome.

Playing the Back Nine

Join us monthly for a time of connection, sharing a meal, mass, and discussion. Our next gathering of the Back Nine will take place on Thursday, January 23rd. All are welcome.



—the—
back
nine

Christmas Edition

YOUNG AT HEART AND MATURE IN AGE ONLY!
(AGES 50-ISH TO 100-ISH)

PLEASE JOIN US ON JANUARY 23 AT 12 PM
FOR MASS, FOOD, A TALK & FELLOWSHIP

Connect with Pam or Mary for more info or to register.
Pam @ 613-220- 6279 Mary @ 613-224-0284 or
playingthebacknine@stmauriceparish.com.

YOUNG CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Join us every Sunday at the 9am Mass for children's liturgy (ongoing). All children ages 4-7 are welcome. Join us after Mass for our coffee social which will resume on Sunday, January 12.

MOM'S GROUP

Are you a mom (or dad) with a young child looking to get out? Drop in anytime Wednesdays from 9:30-12:00 for connection, strong coffee, and group parent/child activities. The Mom's Group will resume on Wednesday, January.

HANDMAIDS OF THE QUEEN

The next Handmaid's of the Queen will be on Saturday, January 4 starting with Mass at 9 am at St. Maurice, followed by fun activities, a teaching on Mary our Mother and a time of Eucharistic Adoration.

The group is for girls ages 7-11. Contact Jennea at jennea.boskill@gmail.com to register.



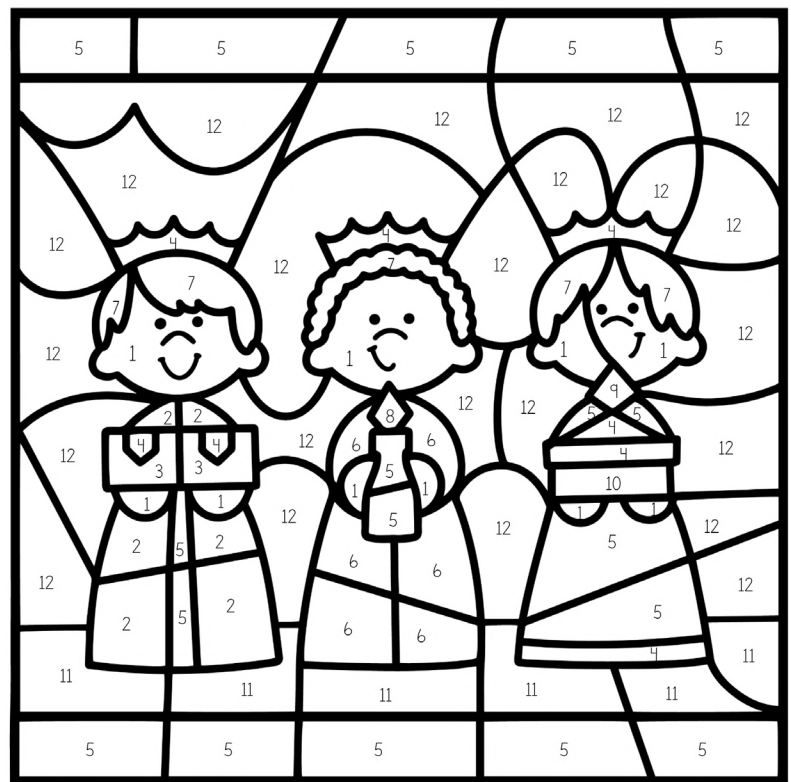
HOCKEY DAY AT *St. Maurice*

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE KNIGHTS OF OUR PARISH**

JOIN US FOR GAMES,
MEMORABILIA, FOOD,
REFRESHMENTS AND
A 50/50 DRAW

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 11
IN THE ATRIUM 12PM TO 3PM**

**PEOPLE OF ALL AGES ARE
INVITED TO ATTEND**



1 – your choice 3 – brown 5 – red 7 – dark brown 9 – purple 11 – cream
2 – light blue 4 – yellow 6 – green 8 – pink 10 – blue 12 – teal

Did you know?

This year, the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord will be celebrated on Sunday January 5, 2025. We will hear of the visit of the Kings or Magi to the home of the Christ Child. Those wise men discerned and followed a heavenly light to find the true Light, born not only for the Jewish people but for all people who will kneel before him.

There is a long-standing tradition of house blessings on this day, to start the year asking for God's blessing and protection of home and family. This Epiphany the blessing written in (blessed) chalk over the entrance to the home, will look like this:
20 + C + M + B + 25

The year is indicated by the numbers at the beginning and end. There are two traditions for the letters in between the crosses. The first commemorates the traditional names of the three kings – Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. The second is a Latin prayer of blessing: *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*: May Christ bless this house.

If you would like more information about how to celebrate this blessing in your own home, there are many resources online. Here is one that includes a simplified blessing for families (you will just have to update to 2025):
<https://ourladygc.org/resources/epiphany-house-blessing>



THE WAY OF THE LORD

A VIDEO-BASED FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

FEATURING TALKS FROM RENOWNED CATHOLIC SCHOLARS AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS MEANT TO EQUIP US

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM - ATRIUM

TALK BY BISHOP ROBERT BARRON
POVERTY, CHASTITY, AND OBEDIENCE

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed from Saturday, December 21, to Monday, January 6, and will reopen on January 7.

Thank you from Fr. Allan MacDonald, CC

A heartfelt thank you to all the parishioners who participated in person or online during the recent "A Shoot Shall Sprout" Advent Parish Mission. The amount raised to support my ministry was \$6,244. I will remember all of you in a Novena of Masses I will celebrate from Christmas Eve until New Year's Day. To follow me on my various social media platforms, please go to www.pdreamac.com.

MOVIES WITH MEANING

Perfect Days tells the story of Hirayama, a man satisfied with his humble job in Tokyo. He lives simply, prioritizing tranquility in his daily tasks.

We warmly invite everyone aged 18 and older to join our friendly group for a delightful finger food potluck in the atrium right after Mass on January 11. For just \$4, you can enjoy the movie and a drink and engage in an informal discussion.

Your help in setting up the atrium before Mass would mean a lot to us!

Looking forward to seeing you at the movies!

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN
613-224-1892 OR
office@stmauriceparish.com



Adoration Vigil

All are invited to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God with an Adoration Vigil and Mass.

The Adoration Vigil will be from 8:00 pm to 10:45 pm on **Tuesday, December 31** followed by Mass at 11pm.

Movies with Meaning

JOIN US IN THE ATRIUM ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 AT 7 PM
FOR A MOVIE, POPCORN AND FELLOWSHIP.
\$4 PER PERSON, 18 YEARS OF AGE AND UP.

THIS MONTH'S MOVIE WILL BE *PERFECT DAYS!*