

**WELCOME TO
ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
DEC. 24TH, 2023— FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DEC. 25TH, 2023— THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**



The fourth candle is purple and represents LOVE, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. It is called the “Angels’ Candle” leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth. Pope John Paul the second wrote: “And in the end, everything else will turn out to be unimportant and inessential except for this: FATHER, CHILD and LOVE.”

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men. Open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Your child and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.



December 17th

Sunday Offerings	\$ 1950.00
Sunday Loose	\$ 374.95
Christmas	\$ 100.00
Building Fund	\$ 620.00
Snow Removal	\$ 20.00
Candles	\$ 114.75
Funeral Luncheon	\$ 150.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 85 .00

Total: \$ 3414.47



PADP—Weekly for the month of December 2023

Sunday Offerings	\$ 483.00
Building fund	\$ 167.00

Total \$ 650.00

WEEKDAY MASSES: Tuesday to Friday at 12 Noon

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 4:30pm and Sunday at 10:00am

CONFESSION: Saturday at 3:30pm and Sunday at 9:00am

HOLY ROSARY: Every Thursday after 12 Noon Mass

Our Website: www.standrewsudbury.com

Our Email: standrewsudbury@gmail.com

Office hours: Tues. and Thurs. 9am—noon Ph: 705 - 566 - 1876.

May God's blessings be yours this Christmas

Fr.Denis Vaiz - Parish Priest

John Noble - Deacon Emeritus

Carol Noble - D.O.S

Sunday, 24th December at 4.30pm [The Nativity](#)

Gina and Butch Tosato by the Lepage & Tosato families

Irene McIlveen by Carmen Shepherd

Sunday, 24th December at 8.00pm [The Nativity](#)

Kenneth & Donald Longlade by Barbara Longlade & family

Intentions of the parishioners by Fr Denis Vaiz

Monday, 25th December at 10.00am [The Nativity](#)

Genesio Gregorini by Elisa Gregorini and family

Edward & Darryl Bednis by Arleen Bednis & family

Eileen Fowke by Kevin and Angela Fowke



No Masses from Tuesday, 26th December to Friday, 29th December.

Saturday, 30th December at 4.30pm [The Holy Family of Jesus](#)

In honour of the Holy Family by Jacqueline Bosse

Teresa Le Thi Bao & Micae Tran Dan by the Tran family

Sunday, 31st December at 10.00am [The Holy Family of Jesus](#)

Anita Verrilli by Rocco & Melina Verilli

Paul Kennedy by Joe Drago and **Intentions of the parishioners** by Fr Denis Vaiz

Sunday, 31st January at 4.30pm [Mary, Mother of God](#)

Intentions of the parishioners by Fr Denis Vaiz

Monday, 1st January at 10.00am [Mary, Mother of God](#)

Genesio Gregorini by Elisa Gregorini and family



Monday Dec 25th	Isaiah 52: 7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1: 1-18	Psalm 98
Tuesday Dec. 26th	Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59 Matthew 10: 17-22	Psalm 31
Wednesday Dec. 27th	1st John 1:1-4 John 20: 1a and 2-8	Psalm 97
Thursday Dec. 28th	1st John 1: 5-2:2 Matthew 2: 13-18	Psalm 124
Friday Dec. 29th	1st John 2: 3-11 Luke 2: 22-35	Psalm 96
Saturday Dec. 30th	1st John 2: 12-17 Luke 2: 36-40	Psalm 96
Sunday Dec. 31st	Sirach 3. 2-6, 12-14 Colossians 3. 12-21 Luke 2: 22-40	Psalm 128

Mary is a true hearer of the Word of God:

How does Mary respond to the word of God delivered by the Angel Gabriel? She knows she is hearing something beyond human capability. She is a true hearer of the Word and she immediately responds with faith and trust.

Mary's prompt response of **"YES"** to the divine message is a model of faith for all believers. Mary believed God's promises even when they seemed impossible. She was full of grace because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. She was willing and eager to do God's will, even if it seemed difficult or costly.

Mary is the **"Mother of God"** because God becomes incarnate when He takes on flesh in her womb. When we pray the Nicene Creed, we state our confession of faith in this great mystery: "For us men and for our salvation, He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man."

Fr Denis Vaiz



Dear Parishioners, 2024 envelopes are ready for pick up in the lobby. Please note that some of your old envelope numbers may have changed. **Do not use the new envelopes until January 1, 2024.** Complete the information on the front of your new envelope for the first two weeks of the New Year.

2023 envelopes must be handed in prior to Jan.1st to ensure they are added to your 2023 income tax receipt.

New parishioners of St. Andrew the Apostle may find a parish registration form on the lobby table. Please take one home, complete the information required and place your completed form in the collection. Thank you!



Job posting—Administrator in our Parish

We are looking for
a new parish office administrator.

Please send a resume to:
standrewsudbury@gmail.com

On the **4th week of this month**, we remember those who died in our families.

Let us pray for the repose of their souls.

O God! Listen to the prayers of your Church on behalf of the faithful departed and grant to your servants, whom we remember today, the inheritance promised to all your servants. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Thank You Knights of Columbus!

The Knights of Columbus have been called “the strong right arm of the Church” in our country. That has certainly been our experience here in our parish. On behalf of our parishioners, I wish to express my gratitude to the Knights in our parish for their unfailing support. Thank you for your faithful witness to Christ through charity! May the Lord continue to bless you and your service of the Gospel.

Fr Denis Vaiz

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy resumes **Sunday, January 14th, 2024.**

The liturgy team wishes you all a Merry Christmas and see you in the New Year.



Christmas Season Mass Schedule-2023-24

Feast of the Holy Family

December 30th, Saturday at 4:30pm

December 31st, Sunday at 10:00am

Mary the Mother of God (New Year)

December 31st, Sunday at 4:30pm

January 1st, Monday at 10:00am

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6th, Saturday at 4:30pm

January 7th, Sunday at 10:00am





The Joy of Christmas

God wants to fill our hearts anew with joy and gratitude for the greatest gift He could possibly give us - His beloved Son, Jesus. What can we give thanks for, in this great feast of the Incarnation? We can praise and thank God our Father for the fact that the Son of God freely and joyfully assumed a human nature to accomplish our salvation in it.

This day the whole community of Heaven joins with all believers of good will on earth in a jubilant song of praise for the good news proclaimed by the angels on Christmas eve: Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

The joy of Christmas is not for a day or a season. It is an eternal joy, a joy that no one can take from us because it is the joy of Jesus Christ Himself made present in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which no pain nor sorrow can diminish and which neither life nor death can take away. Do we know the joy of our salvation in Jesus Christ?

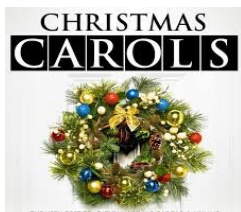
Fr.Denis Vaiz

Interesting facts about Christmas

- The name 'Christmas' comes from the old English phrase *Cristes mæsse*, which means 'Christ's mass'. But what about 'Xmas'? Lots of people think this is just a modern-day abbreviation – but it actually dates back to the **16th century**! The 'X' is said to represent the **Greek letter 'Chi'** – the first letter in the Greek word for Christ, *Χριστός* (pronounced 'Christos').
- Christmas trees** also became popular in Victorian Britain. But these were first seen in **16th Century Germany** where, at Christmas time, people decorated fir trees with **fruit and nuts** – and later sweets, paper shapes and candles. Amazingly, historians think the origins of this festive tradition may date back to the **Romans** and **Ancient Egyptians**, who used evergreen plants and garlands as **symbols of everlasting life**. Wow!
- We can't talk about Christmas without a mention to the big bearded, rosy-cheeked jolly man... **Father Christmas**! But have you wondered how he got the name **Santa Claus**? It's from *Sinterklaas*, which means **Saint Nicholas** in Dutch, the language of the **Netherlands**. St. Nicholas was a Christian bishop who lived in the 4th century – known for being kind and generous, he later became the **patron saint of children**.
- We all love to sing along to *Jingle Bells*, but have you ever noticed that the song doesn't have the word Christmas in it? Or Jesus or Santa Claus? That's because it wasn't originally a Christmas song! In fact, the jolly anthem was written in 1850, entitled *One Horse Open Sleigh*, for the **American** holiday, **Thanksgiving**!



Courtesy: National Geographic



Our parish Choir presents

The Carols of Christmas

December 24th at 7.30pm

Join us for the Carols followed by Solemn Mass of the Nativity of the Lord



Christmas and New Year's message from the pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters, At this special and sacred time of the year, I wish to extend to you and your loved ones Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year. At "this most wonderful time of the year" may you and your loved ones find joy and fulfillment as surely did Joseph and Mary. Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of goodwill.



Christmas Season Mass Schedule-2023-24

Christmas Eve

December 24th, Sunday at 4:30pm
(Mass with Children's pageant)

December 24th, Sunday at 8:00pm
(Christmas Solemnity Mass)

Christmas Day

December 25th, Monday at 10:00am
(Christmas Solemnity Mass)

(No weekday masses this week)



Feast of the Holy Family

December 30th, Saturday at 4:30pm

December 31st, Sunday at 10:00am



Mary the Mother of God (New Year)

December 31st, Sunday at 4:30pm

January 1st, Monday at 10:00am

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6th, Saturday at 4:30pm

January 7th, Sunday at 10:00am



Best Wishes from

The Loughheed Family & Staff

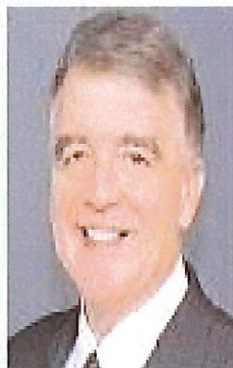
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Knight of Columbus Centennial Council 6074

We invite all catholic men with the desire to build up families, our parish, church and community to join the Knights of Columbus.

Council's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Knightsofcolumbus6074/>

Online Membership Registration:

<https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html>

For more information on this council's activities and joining please contact:

Grand Knight - Jamie Jamieson (Phone #: 705-524-5477)



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Prayer of St. Gertrude

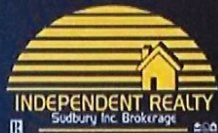
Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious
Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with
the Masses said throughout the world today,
for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners
every where, for sinners in the universal
church, those in my own home and within my
family.

Amen.



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