



† This symbol signifies repose of the soul.

Sunday, December 29

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

9:00 a.m. For the parishioners of St. Theresa Parish.

10:30 a.m. †Rudolph LaTour, by his family.

For all the sick, by Jeanette of Nazareth.

To consecrate Judette to God the Father, to bring reconciliation, restoration, peace & success, & for Elijah's rain over Judette & her mother Marie, by Cy, Elza, Eliza, John and Jude.

For the intentions of the Handmaids of the Lord.

Tuesday, December 31

Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity

4:30p.m. †Chris Mooney, by Dave & Lynn Webb.

Wednesday, January 1

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10 :30p.m. †For the souls in purgatory.

Thursday, January 2

Memorial of St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen

9:00 a.m. ---

Friday, January 3

9:00 a.m. †Margaret Vice, as requested by Peter.

Saturday, January 4

4:30 p.m. †Andrea Neill.

Sunday, January 5

The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 a.m. For the parishioners of St. Theresa Parish.

10:30 a.m. †Leo Desmarteau, by the family.

Pacita & Antonio Maraya, by Marissa Bagabuyo.

†Gord Reid, by the Reid family.

For the intentions of the Handmaids of the Lord.

Please remember the sick in your prayers:

Michelle Boyer, Baby Ivy Murray, Nickie Shaw, Marie-Andrée Boyer, Patricia McNamara, Rachel McIntyre, Zygumt Wysocki, Linda MacNay, Theresa Tam-Sue, Alice Hilchie, Lily Harmon, Debby MacAdam, Michael Budge, Robby Felteau, Lise Campbell, Elaine Taylor, Richard Lafleur, Wanda Staples, JoAnne Valiquette.

Vocation Prayer:

- That men and women will accept how God is calling them to serve as Mary responded to the angel Gabriel, we pray to the Lord.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

For the right to an education ~ Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH
(Year B)**

First Reading: Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14

Second Reading: Colossians 3.12-21

Gospel: Luke 2.41-52



Lectors & Commentators

Coming soon.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Coming soon.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the parishioners of St Theresa Church. Your support of the Social Committee's Christmas Bake Sale was greatly appreciated. With your help, we raised just over \$1,073 dollars. We have offered to help with the Knight's campaign for Coats for Kids. A final determination will be made in conversation with The Knights. In addition to the dedicated committee members, we would especially like to thank a few great bakers, Allan Barnes, Erin McClement, Seraphina Sebastyan, Cathy Major and Margaret Kilby, we could not have done it without you all. Thank you.

FR. VINCENT'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

Blessings to all of our parish community for their hard work, contributions, and support this year. I pray that our parish and its community can continue to grow, striving for faith, hope and charity this year. Let us pray for a fruitful, peaceful, and productive new year - full of health and happiness.

Thank you everybody. Happy new year.

Your one & only beloved Pastor, Fr. Vincent Pereira, jcd, jr.

2025 ENVELOPES FOR PICKUP

Please collect your envelope box for the year 2025. They are at the entrance of the parish. **Do not take an envelope box if you do not see your name attached to it.**

If you would like an envelope box but do not see your name, please inform the parish secretary. If you no longer wish to use envelopes for 2025, please let the secretary know.

Secretary: #613-235-5119

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 29

9:00a.m.

10:30a.m.

Tuesday, December 31

4:30p.m. ~ New Years Eve Mass

Wednesday, January 1

10 :30p.m. ~ New Years Day Mass

ONLINE MARRIAGE PREPARATION-MARRIAGES FOR MARY

The Marriage Preparation course that we offer will prepare you for the Sacrament of Matrimony. A certificate of completion is given at the end of the course.

January 25, 2025

Phone: (709) 697-2788 or (613) 408-0383

Email: marriagesformary@gmail.com

ANCHOR – ALTERNATE NEIGHBOURHOOD CRISIS RESPONSE

The ANCHOR program will be a key resource for:

1. Community-based De-escalation
2. Overdose and Intoxication Response
3. Mental Health Crisis
4. Reducing Cycles of Criminalization
5. Safety Planning
6. Well-being Checks
7. System Navigation
8. Reducing Barriers to Care

CALL 2-1-1 to contact community navigators from community navigation of eastern Ontario. ANCHOR services are available in Centretown, and West Centretown Ottawa; located on unceded Anishinaabe territory.

SAINT LUCIA FEAST DAY DECEMBER 13

Saint Lucy was a girl who lived in Syracuse (Italy) during the late fourth century. She was killed during one of the Roman persecutions of Christians—but not before God miraculously protected her several times! She is venerated as a saint in Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, and Eastern Orthodox Christianity. She is one of eight women (including [the Virgin Mary](#)) explicitly commemorated by Catholics in the [Canon of the Mass](#). Her traditional feast day, known in Europe as [Saint Lucy's Day](#), is observed by [Western Christians](#) on 13 December. She is one of the best known [virgin martyrs](#), along with [Agatha of Sicily](#), [Agnes of Rome](#), [Cecilia of Rome](#), and [Catherine of Alexandria](#).

The single fact upon which various accounts agree is that a disappointed suitor accused Lucy of being a Christian, and she was executed in 304 AD.^[1] She is one of eight women In medieval accounts, Saint Lucy's eyes were gouged out prior to her execution. According to the traditional story, Lucy was born to rich and noble parents in 283. Her father was of Roman origin,^[1] but died when she was five years old,^[2] leaving Lucy and her mother without a protective guardian.

Like many of the early martyrs, Lucy had consecrated her virginity to God, and she hoped to distribute her dowry to the poor.^[1] However, her mother, not knowing of Lucy's promise, and suffering from a bleeding disorder, feared for Lucy's future. She arranged Lucy's marriage to a young man of a wealthy pagan family.

Saint [Agatha](#) had been martyred 52 years before during the [Decian persecution](#). Her shrine at Catania, less than 50 miles (80 km) from Syracuse, attracted a number of pilgrims; many miracles were reported to have happened through her intercession. Her mother was persuaded to make a pilgrimage to [Catania](#), in hopes of a cure. While there, St. Agatha came to Lucy in a dream and told her that because of her faith, her mother would be cured and that Lucy would be the glory of Syracuse, as she was of Catania. With her mother cured, Lucy took the opportunity to persuade her mother to allow her to distribute a great part of her riches among the poor.^[1]

News that the patrimony and jewels were being distributed came to Lucy's betrothed, who denounced her to the governor of Syracuse. The Christian tradition states that when the guards came to take her away, they could not move her even when they hitched her to a team of oxen. Bundles of wood were then heaped about her and set on fire, but would not burn. Finally, she met her death by the sword^[1] thrust into her throat.^[9]

When her body was prepared for burial in the family mausoleum it was discovered that her eyes had been miraculously restored.^[2] This is one of the reasons that Lucy is the patron saint of those with eye illnesses. Lucy's Latin name *Lucia* shares a root (*luc-*) with the Latin word for light, [lux](#). A number of traditions incorporate symbolic meaning of St. Lucy as the bearer of light in the darkness of winter, her feast day being 13 December.

She is also the patron saint of the blind, ophthalmologists, authors, cutlers, glaziers, laborers, martyrs, peasants, saddlers, salesmen, stained glass workers, photogrammetry

It is said that to vividly celebrate St. Lucy's Day will help one live the long winter days with enough light.^[29]