

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH, WELLAND

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 2022

4 St. Andrews Ave Welland ON
OFFICE: 22 Golden Blvd E.
 Welland ON L3B 1H4
www.saintandrewrccchurch.com
sandrewrcc@outlook.com
 (905) 732-5046



Tuesday & Friday
 10:00am to 2:00pm
*(Please call before
 visiting the office)*

Donations:
 Kindly send a cheque, payable to
 St. Andrew Catholic Church, Welland
 E-transfer: saint2020andrew@gmail.com



In the ninth chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah we find these words, "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). Approximately seven hundred years after the death of Isaiah, this prophecy was fulfilled in the birth of Jesus. On a cold winter night in Bethlehem, we received the 'Prince of Peace' and the world was changed forever.

In the Gospel of St. Luke, we are told that at the time of Jesus' birth angels from heaven appeared to shepherds saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those he favours" (Luke 2:14). From that moment to the present, the gift of God's peace has continued to be offered in many wondrous ways. People of faith believe that Christmas is a time of miracles.

A beautiful example of this truth can be found in an event that happened in 1914 at the beginning of the First World War. On Christmas morning, after many months of fierce fighting with great loss of life, the guns mysteriously became silent. Eventually both the British and German troops ventured out of the trenches. The two enemies gathered on the battle-scarred terrain and spontaneously began to sing Christmas carols in their own languages. They also shared food and drink and exchanged simple gifts. Similar encounters took place across the entire Western Front. Historians call the event the Christmas Truce of 1914. It can also be called a Christmas miracle.

As the world continues to deal with the ongoing war in Ukraine, and the many other places where there is armed conflict, we can begin to lose heart. It is so easy to become discouraged when we do not believe in miracles. With God all things are possible!

This Christmas, let us pray for more than just a truce in Ukraine. May the Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, soften the hardened hearts of those at war. May enemies, touched by Divine Love born in Bethlehem, become allies and even friends. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those he favours."

May you have a blessed Christmas
 and a grace-filled New Year.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
 Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
 Bishop of St Catharines



A THRILL OF HOPE, THE WEARY WORLD REJOICES

Mass Schedule & Intentions - December 24th to January 1st, 2023

SATURDAY DECEMBER 24th (Feast: The Nativity of the Lord)

{For all your intentions}

5.00pm Christmas Eve Family Mass
 11.40pm Christmas Carols
 12.00am Midnight Mass

SUNDAY DECEMBER 25th

9.00am Mass of Thanksgiving
 11.00am Mass of Thanksgiving

TUESDAY DECEMBER 27th - 5.00pm -Mass & Adoration-

Martin Nenadovich by Rosemary Lastovic

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28th - 9.00am (Feast: The Holy Innocents)

Domenico Locco by Leah Locco

THURSDAY DECEMBER 29th - 5.00pm -Mass & Adoration-

Kevin Kiss by John & Kay Kiss

FRIDAY DECEMBER 30th - 9.15am (Feast: The Holy Family)

In honor of St. Rita by G.Pang

SATURDAY DECEMBER 31st

5.00pm New Year's Eve Mass and
 Adoration until 6.30pm

SUNDAY JANUARY 1st, 2023 (Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God)

9.00am In Honor of Our Blessed Mother
 11.00am For World Peace by R&S Lastovic



My dear friends,
 I wish you all a very Merry Christmas
 and a Blessed New Year.
 Thank you for your love, prayers, dedication and
 continued support. God bless you!
 Fr. Paul Vellakunnath