

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

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MERRY CHRISTMAS &
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Painted by Jane MacCabe-Freeman

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 21, 2025 – Year A



Mass Intentions – December 23 rd – December 28 th , 2025		
Tuesday	8:00 am	† Annamaria Ching & Louis Chua † Lloyd Farnand
Wednesday	8:00 am	No Morning Mass
Wednesday	4:00pm	† Robert & Maureen Forbes
Wednesday	8:00 pm	† Ralph Naccarato † Ron Butwick
Thursday	12:00 am	† Michael Neo † Maria & Francis Bruno
Thursday	11:00 am	† Steven & Sylvia Djumlin † Erminia DeMelo † Joe Wintar Jr. † Kamil Szmurlo
Friday	8:00 am	No Mass
Saturday	5:00 pm	† Betty Serra † Wendy & Joe Fenech Intentions of Sr. Roxie Intentions of Margaret Hovanec & Peter Warrian
Sunday	9:00 am	Intentions of Bogdan Golonka Intentions of Joanne Markum Intentions of Edward Brennan Intentions of Jo-Ann & Jerry Mc Clure
Sunday	11:30 am	Mass for the People of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish



Parish Office Closure During Christmas holidays....

The office will be **closed beginning December 24** for the Christmas holidays and will **reopen on January 5, 2026**. During this time, emails and phone calls will be monitored periodically. For any urgent matters, please contact **Fr. Francis directly (647-967-5712)**. We wish everyone a safe and blessed Christmas season and a Happy New Year!

The Blessings Of
Christmas
PEACE★HOPE★JOY★LOVE

Dear Parishioners,

As we gather again at the manger this Christmas, we are invited to pause and behold a profound mystery: **God chooses to come to us not in power or splendor, but in vulnerability, humility, and love.** The Christ Child reminds us that hope is often born quietly, in places we least expect, and that even in the darkest nights, God is already at work.

This past year has carried its share of joys and burdens for many of us. Some have known blessings and new beginnings; others have walked through loss, uncertainty, or silent struggles. Whatever your journey has been, please know this: **you are not forgotten.** At Christmas and always, God draws near to every heart, especially those that feel weary, broken, or alone. The light of Bethlehem still shines. It calls us to trust again, to forgive more freely, to love more generously, and to believe that goodness is stronger than fear. May the peace the angels proclaimed fill your homes, your relationships, and your hearts.

As we step into the New Year-2026, we do so not alone but accompanied by Emmanuel—**God with us.** May the year ahead be a time of renewed faith, gentle healing, and fresh hope. I pray that God grants you wisdom in your decisions, courage in your challenges, patience in your waiting, and joy in the simple gifts of everyday life.

Thank you for being a faith-filled community, for your prayers, kindness, service, and quiet acts of love throughout the year. **You are a blessing to me and to one another.** May the joy of Christmas remain with you long after the decorations are taken down, and may the New Year ahead be filled with peace, good health, love, and God's abiding presence. Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Christmas and a grace-filled New Year.

With prayers and blessings, **Fr. Francis**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph – December 28, 2025 – Year A

Mass Intentions – December 30 rd – January 4 th , 2026			Close of the Jubilee of Hope
Tuesday	8:00 am	† Micheline & Alan Murdoch	<p>All are welcome to join Bishop Crosby and Bishop Lobsinger for the close of the Jubilee Year at a Eucharistic Celebration on Sunday, December 28, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton.</p> <p>We will have an opportunity during this Mass to offer thanks for Bishop Crosby's ministry as Bishop of Hamilton at this celebration!</p>
Wednesday	8:00 am	No Morning Mass	
Wednesday	5:00pm	† Josephine Micallef	
Thursday	11:00 am	† Lloyd Farnand Intentions of the Staff of St. Thomas Parish	
Friday	8:00 am	Intentions of Issac, Elias, Clive, Ann & Frank	
Saturday	5:00 pm	† Steven Ribeiro † Anna Hovanec † Natalie Crosby † Al Tanguay	
Sunday	9:00 am	† Nora O'Donnell † Rose Smith † Peter Velenosi Intentions of Darlene & Robert Zeni	
Sunday	11:30 am	Mass for the People of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish	

SUPPORTING ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

Thank you very much for your generosity towards St. Thomas Parish. 2026 Envelopes are now out in the Narthex. I invite you to **consider pre-authorized withdrawal**. It is an easy & convenient for you to support the parish. You can also sign up for online giving through our website. If you wish to make any donations that you want to be included in 2025 income tax receipt, please do so before the **30th of December**.

Thank you and God bless your generosity.



Downsizing? Have too much? CONSIDER DONATING YOUR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS for the 2026 BAZAAR- CHRISTMAS ROOM

This year we are again requesting that parishioners keep us in mind when going through their Christmas items. **We will be collecting items for our Christmas Room for the parish bazaar throughout January.** Should you have any Christmas items such as decorations, lights, etc., that you no longer want please consider donating them to the parish for the Bazaar. Maybe if you are boxing day shopping and see some good deals on decorations, etc., please consider buying some of these for the Christmas Room.

All donations can be left in the Narthex after any of the Masses in January.



The Church extends an invitation to children of Grade 2 to prepare for and celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. It is the child's parents who will decide when the proper time has arrived to celebrate these Sacraments. This is an important decision, as it will shape your child's faith journey throughout his/her life.

A mandatory meeting will take place for both parents and children.

Please attend one meeting: Thursday February 5th at 6pm OR Saturday, February 7th at 10am.

First Communions Celebrations Dates are:

Guardian Angels CES – Saturday, May 23, 2026, at 11:00am

St. Thomas CES – Saturday, May 30, 2026, at 11:00am

Any questions, please reach out to the office.
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