

St. Patrick's Parish

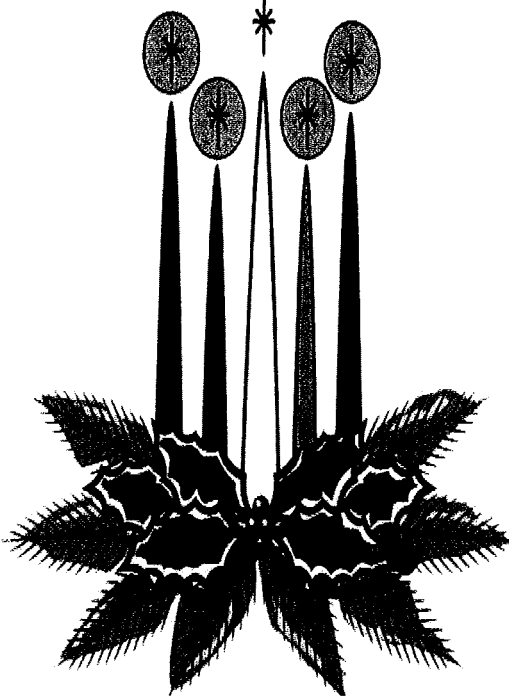
Website: stpatcatholicchurch.com

403-526-2265

Email: stpatrch@telusplanet.net

Year C

December 20, 2015 - - 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT



4th Week of Advent

Candle-Lighting Song (to the tune of Away in a Manger):

A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above.
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.

Pastor: Rev. Tomy Manjaly 403-866-9940
manjalytomy@yahoo.co.in

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Terry Olson 403-504-4352
ttolson@telusplanet.net

Hospital and Senior Homes

Chaplain: Rev. Francis Tran 403-977-4656
toan.2010@hotmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council: (Chair) Stan Aberle
403-526-2642 stanaberle@yahoo.ca

Youth Ministry: Louisa Gietz 403-527-6933
medhatcatholicyouth@gmail.com

Sacramental Prep: Sally Myers 403-527-6933
sallym@holymfamilymh.ca

Catholic Women's League: (CWL President) Jan Hintz
403-526-7433 jklhintz@telus.net

Knights of Columbus: (Grand Knight) Dan White
403-488-6210 daniel_white@shaw.ca
(District Deputy) Bill Fardy
403-977-0624 billymoose1073@yahoo.ca

Mass Times: Saturday 5:00 pm
Sundays 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Weekdays: Tue 7 pm - Wed, Thu, Fri 8:15 am

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00 am - 11:00 am
238 2nd Ave NE Medicine Hat, AB T1A 6A1

Fax: 403-526-0058

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

CLOSED ON WEEKENDS & STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

Welcome to St. Patrick's. We offer you a warm welcome, here in God's house.
If you are visiting you are very welcome; we hope you make yourself at home.
If you are new to our parish and would like to register, please fill out the form below and leave it in the collection plate and we will register you with our parish. If you are a registered parishioner and have a change of address or other information, please feel free to fill out the form and drop it in the collection. **Thank you.**

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

P/C _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Would you like Weekly Offering Envelopes? _____

Yes _____ or No _____



St. Patrick's Parish Ministry Schedules: Christmas Season Pt. 1

MASS TIME	Intention	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTORS	MINISTERS OF Holy Communion	GIFT BEARERS	GREETERS	USHERS
Nativity of the Lord Christmas EVE Thurs Dec 24 5:00 PM	Maureen & Peter Lesko & Family	Riley Lamb Cey Family	<u>1st Reader</u> Mel Deydey <u>2nd Reader</u> Juanita Rebman	Deacon Terry Maureen Lesko Annita Pinder Leisha Lesko-Openo Claude Michaud Gerry McKee Anne McKee	Virginia Davies Juanita Rebman	Anne McKee Marie West	Kelly Mastel Jason Openo Peter Lesko George Bleile Jim Steinke
Nativity of the Lord Christmas EVE Thurs Dec 24 8:00 PM	Peter Litkovich +	Jacquelyn Turaray Abree Toews Volunteer	<u>1st Reader</u> Mary Anne Vallely <u>2nd Reader</u> Jessica Dirk	Rita White Elaine Stroh Shirley Bachmeier Marion Stein Matthew Wells	Volunteers	Val Wist Margaret Wist	Jim Steinke George Bleile Keith Cockerill Babu Mathew
Nativity of the Lord Christmas EVE Thurs Dec 24 11:00 PM	Gill McNeil +	Shane Lambert Volunteer	<u>1st Reader</u> Sandy Morrice <u>2nd Reader</u> Theresa Olson	Deacon Terry Carol Kimenius Dolores Hoffart Rob Stroh Sue Van der Sloot	Raymond Lambert Therese Lambert	Yvonne Ancil Bev Dirk	Wifl Hoffart Keith Cockerill Volunteer Volunteer
Christmas DAY Fri Dec 25 9:00 AM	Shirley Hart +	Jeff Neumann Candy Neumann	<u>1st Reader</u> June Streifel <u>2nd Reader</u> Lawrence Streifel	Rob Stroh Rita White Dory Simon Bob Wist Shelley Blitz	June Streifel Lawrence Streifel	Elaine Brandt Yvonne Exner	Wifl Hoffart Ron Ruetz David Leahy Anita Leahy
Christmas DAY Fri Dec 25 11:00 AM	Shawn Chevell	Alei Kutthping Aowen Kutthping	<u>1st Reader</u> <u>2nd Reader</u> Tom McCormick	Kathleen Beierbach Maria Thompson Yvonne Ancil Sue Van der Sloot Volunteer	Bev Dirk Gloria Greenwald	Gloria Greenwald Grace Phillips	Ed Heino Harold Phillips Damiano Dalla-Longa Volunteer
The Holy Family Sat Dec 26 5:00 PM	James Simpson +	James Lee Riley Lamb	<u>1st Reader</u> Lois Gagley <u>2nd Reader</u> Carol Kimenius	Gerry McKee Lorraine Prince Anne McKee Marion Stein Claude Michaud	Baptism Family	Ginny Stein Mag Bischoff	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer
The Holy Family Sun Dec 27 9:00 AM	Silvia Dalla-Longa +	Quinten Getz Bryce Getz	<u>1st Reader</u> Loretta Anderson <u>2nd Reader</u> Bob Anderson	Deacon Terry Shelly Blitz Dolores Hoffart Rita White Matthew Wells	Dolores Hoffart Wifl Hoffart	Yvonne Exner Carol Bolduc	Wifl Hoffart George Bleile Keith Cockerill Babu Mathew
The Holy Family Sun Dec 27 11:00 AM	Ivana Dalla-Longa +	Alei Kutthping Aowen Kutthping Volunteer	<u>1st Reader</u> Jacquelyne Turaray <u>2nd Reader</u> Margaret Devine	Deacon Terry Jadeyn Kastning Yvonne Ancil Volunteer Volunteer	Baptism Family	Bev Dirk Gloria Greenwald	Damiano Dalla-Longa Harold Phillips Ed Heino Volunteer

Tues Dec 22 7:00pm

Intention: Alice Lambert +

Wed Dec 23 8:15am

Intention: Tony Neigum

WEEKDAY MASS:

Dec 20, 2015 - 4th Sunday of Advent

This week's Readings:

1st Reading: Micah 5.2-5a [The Messiah from Bethlehem]

From you, O Bethlehem, will come the ruler of Israel

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10 [Doing God's Will]

I come to do your will.

Gospel: Luke 1.39-45 [The Visitation]

Why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

Ushers,

There will be a workshop this weekend, Dec. 19th & 20th after each Mass. This workshop is for all ushers, new and existing, and for anyone interested in becoming an usher. The workshop will take about 30 minutes and will have important information.

Thank you.

TUESDAY DEC 22

- 4:00 pm SVDP Meeting @ St. Patrick's

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (SVDP)



...wishes to thank the people of St. Patrick's for making it possible to meet some of the needs of our neighbours. Merry Christmas!

WEDNESDAY DEC 23

- 10:00 am Legion of Mary in the Hall Meeting Room
- 7:30 pm Reconciliation

THURSDAY DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

Mass Times

5:00 pm; 8:00 pm; 11:00 pm



- The Parish Office will be closed at noon.

FRIDAY DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY



Mass Times

9:00 am; 11:00 am



- The Parish Office is closed.

Merry Christmas!

SATURDAY DEC 26

No Reconciliation this week

- 5:00 pm Mass



UPCOMING EVENTS

Grief Share

Grief Share is starting on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 1 pm in the Hope Room at Holy Family.

If you have lost a loved one and are grieving, Grief Share is for you.

It is a Christian-based, 13 week program. You will find yourself among others who all share Grief. You are not alone.

We provide a confidential support group, with films and sharing.

Comments from those who attended the last session:

- I am not alone
- Knowing others are there for you and going through the same experience.

- Helped me cope.
- Supportive and friendly.
- Made new friends.

Please phone the office at Holy Family Parish to register.

403-527-6933

"Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible" is an 8 week study (30 min a session) that provides the easiest way to understand the Bible. Discover the remarkable connections between the Old and New Testaments. See how the sacraments, the Church, and our entire Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture, and much more!

Starting January 13, 2016 @ noon in the God-Time Room.

Bring your lunch if you wish. For more information and to register contact the Parish Office. Workbook cost is \$25.00.

Ministry Appreciation Dinner

Saturday, January 23, 2016

After the 5 pm Mass

We are having a catered dinner to show our appreciation to the many ministries that make our parish thrive. There will be no cost to the dinner (and no dishes to wash, either!). Please sign up at the back of the church so that we can accurately give numbers to the caterer. It is for ministry volunteers and their immediate family.



Holy Childhood Association

"Whatever you do for the least of these, my children, you do to me." (Mt.25)

Caring makes a difference in someone's life!

Open your heart Share your love.



Boxes are available for families to pick up and put on your table during mealtime as a reminder of your sharing and caring for mission children. At Christmas the boxes can be put at the Nativity & we will forward all offerings by cheque to the Holy Childhood office.

TOGETHER IN ACTION Campaign 2015-2016

*United
in Faith.
Together
in Action*

2015-16 Provincial Campaign Report



Thanks to the generosity of all our parishioners, we raised **\$1,285.40** for Mission Mexico last week!

GOAL
39,534
35,940
32,346
28,752
25,158
21,564
17,970
14,376
10,782
7,188
3,594



Together In Action Update 2015 Annual Campaign

Our Goal:	\$	39,534.00
Collected:	\$	(30,282.95)
To Collect:	\$	9,251.05

4 WEEKS LEFT TO REACH OUR GOAL!!!

Our Goals for this year are:

Year:	\$	39,534.00
Monthly:	\$	3,294.52
Weekly:	\$	823.63

Financial Update



Week of Dec 13, 2015

Regular Env:	\$	6,612.00
Loose:	\$	802.14
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$	1,541.00

REJOICE IN GOD'S MERCY

Pope Francis has declared an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy (December 2015 - November 2016). The Year officially opened **December 8, 2015**. Jubilee Prayer cards are available in the pews and at the back of the church. Find out more at www.jubileeofmercy.ca



As part of the Year of Mercy, the Diocese of Calgary invites you to re-discover the meaning of the sacrament of Reconciliation in your life. In addition to the regular parish schedule, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be

available at parishes throughout the Diocese of Calgary all the Wednesdays of Advent from 7:30 - 8:30 pm.

December 20th: Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. John the Baptist leapt in the womb as he encountered Jesus for the first time. Each time we go to Reconciliation we have an intimate encounter with our Lord, one in which we should leap for joy as we experience God's mercy and love. Action: Mary and Elizabeth greeted one another with a hug and kiss. In Reconciliation we receive that ultimate hug from God. Share God's hug with others.



Let Us Pray:

For the Sick of our Parish

May the Lord's healing and life-giving touch be upon those whose cross is heavy to bear.

Especially:

Jerome Herle
Adam Marshall
Peter & Edith Garrecht
Jerome Bitz



AMEN

Parish Year of Mercy Action Plan

- Wed evening confession 7:00-8:00 pm throughout the year with the exception of the summer months, July and August. Advent and Lent confessions will still be on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 - 8:30 pm.
- Thursday Morning after 8:15 am Mass there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for 1/2 hour. 8:45 - 9:15 am.
- Sponsoring a refugee family
Please see our update in the bulletin on the sponsorship process, or download a copy from our website.

THE YEAR OF MERCY

Please read the letter from Bishop Henry, which outlines the actions that the Diocese and parishes will be taking in the next year. It is available for download on our website, and at the back of the church.

St. Pat's Quilting Club

Winners of the December 13th Raffle:

1st Brown Quilt - **Yanina Evia**

2nd Knitted Afghan - **Gladys Garyk**

3rd Baby Quilt - **Claudette Foerster**

4th Knitted Baby Afghan - **Leona Bosch**

We have proudly donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society:

15 adult quilts

7 baby quilts

1 youth quilt

5 adult knitted afghans

2 knitted baby afghans

mittens, slippers, and toques



We have also donated 100 Christmas stockings filled with candies and licorice to the Women's Shelter.

We wish to thank parishioners and friends for supporting us so generously in 2015. We are happy to report that the total funds raised from the raffle is \$1064.30. Thank you so much for your generosity!

God Bless one and all! Have a Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year.

The Quilting Girls

FOUND:

A small electronic device was left in the Parish Office.
Please contact the office to identify. 403-526-2265.

2016 Calendars

(courtesy of Cook Southland Funeral Chapel,
and Glyn Yuhas)
are available now at the back of the church.



The CWL would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the Craft & Bake Sale last weekend. It was a huge success! Our thanks go out to everyone who pitched in to help with the sale, and especially to everyone who donated such awesome baked goods! We truly appreciate your hard work and support. *Merry Christmas!*

Knitting Klub Raffle Winners



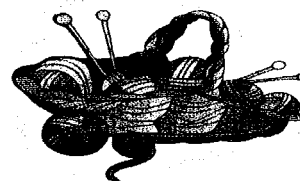
Draw #1 – Shawl

Winner: Claudette Foerster

Draw #2 – Baby Set

Winner: Bridget Fardy

Congratulations, and thanks to all for taking part!



Kolbe Times

The Kolbe Times is a great magazine that helps you support social justice initiatives and the arts in our faith community, and find out all the latest news and views. If you are interested in subscribing, good news – it's moving to a new, monthly format, distributed as a free email newsletter. Don't miss out! It's easy to subscribe at www.kolbetimes.com.

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Bulletin

The following documents have been developed and approved by the PPC:

- **Guidelines for the St. Patrick's Pastoral Council**
- **St. Patrick's Parish Pastoral Plan**
- **St. Patrick's Parish Pastoral Council Constitution**

If you would like a copy of any of these documents please contact Stan Aberle at stanaberle@yahoo.ca.

- The PPC is in the process of developing a **parish organization structural diagram** to better coordinate the efforts of the more than 40 ministries, activities, and programs at St. Patrick's Parish.
- Due to the number of local businesses selling these items and to the lack of space in our church the decision has been made not to proceed with the **sale of religious items**.
- After discussion we will continue with our present **recycling** procedure rather than contracting the service.
- Thanks to financial support from the St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus Council #1732 an **AED/CPR training** course was provided to 20 of our parishioners in early November.
The PPC has agreed in principle to advertise and support the **Bishop's Dinner** in November of 2016. Further discussion will take place at the April 2016 PPC meeting.
Ryan Wiest, the Site Administrator for Covenant Health (St. Joseph's Home) has informed us that along with the **St. Joseph's Home building, the Stations of the Cross area and the land that it sits on** is owned by Covenant Health and as such they will maintain the area as long as they own and operate the facility.
- The PPC has agreed in principle that St. Patrick's Parish will **support a refugee family**. More details to follow.
- Along with the petition signed by a number of our parishioners, a letter was forwarded to **Canada Post** regarding the mailboxes on the east side of the church. We have not yet received any feedback.
- One of the goals of the PPC is to expand our presence on the Web. Please visit the **St. Patrick's Church website** at www.stpatscatholicchurch.com.
- We are presently reviewing the need and cost of expanding our **photocopier** with the ability to copy in color.
- St. Patrick's Parish does not presently have a **Bereavement Ministry**. If you are interested please call Lorraine Prince at 403-866-9338 or email blprince@shaw.ca.
- The PPC is planning a parish community **general meeting** in April 2016 to discuss items of concern, to invite suggestions and to introduce any major changes or projects in the parish.

Please feel free to contact any of the PPC members with your suggestions or concerns.		
Aberle, Stan	878-7422	stanaberle@yahoo.ca
Bachmeier, Shirley	529-5922	4shirleyandken@gmail.com
Cey, Terry	528-3239	tccey@shaw.ca
Deydey, Mel	527-0054	49ermh@gmail.com
Mckee, Anne	527-4593	agmckee@shaw.ca
Prince, Lorraine	866-9338	blprince@shaw.ca
Stein, Marion	528-7378	bmstein@shaw.ca
Steinke, Jim	548-3072	jimsteinke@gmail.com

St. Patrick's and Holy Family Refugee Family Sponsorship

The sponsorship of Syrian refugees by parishes has been advocated and supported by both Pope Francis and Bishop Henry. A committee which includes several members of the parish as well as Father Tomy was formed and has been meeting for the past two months to obtain more information and discuss the possibility of sponsoring a Syrian refugee family.

Calgary Catholic Immigration Society has advised us that the Syrian refugees currently being housed in Lebanon are Christians belonging to an Eastern Rite Church, also called Eastern Catholic Church. They don't stay in refugee camps because they would be persecuted for their beliefs. Some fled their homes at the beginning of the Syrian civil war. The refugees go through a vetting process in Lebanon and then Canadian Immigration Services does an assessment, which includes medical and criminal record checks.

An education and training session by Calgary Catholic Immigration Society was scheduled in Medicine Hat for December 11 however was cancelled due to the unexpected arrival of Syrian refugees in Calgary. Another session will be planned by Calgary as soon as possible.

Bishop Henry has approved two Syrian families currently living in Lebanon to come to Medicine Hat. During the Jubilee Year of Divine Mercy (December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016) the Diocese of Calgary, through partnership with Calgary Catholic Immigration, will provide a grant of \$5,000.00 to parishes who sponsor a refugee family through private partnerships. The average cost to sponsor a family for a year is \$30,000.00.

If you would like to offer financial support please make your donation to Refugee Sponsorship Fund. Information about the donation of clothing, household and other goods will be provided at a later date. If you have questions or would like to be involved in any way in this initiative please contact:

Lorraine Prince

Phone (403) 866-9338

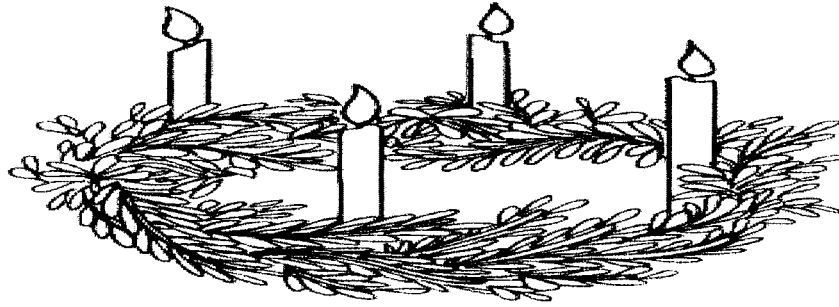
Email blprince@shaw.ca

Kathy Farrell

Phone (403) 528-9066

Email kmfarrell@telus.net

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT



This week, we light all four coloured candles on the Advent wreath. The increasing light represents the progressive departure of darkness from the world. This candlelight represents for us the light of God that came into the world through Christ to bring newness, life, and hope.

In addition to the previous candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy, this week we light the Candle of Love. This candle represents the love of God for all people that has come into the world through the birth of His Son. As we look at this candle, we celebrate the love we have in Christ.

FOURTH WEEK BLESSING

As you make your Advent preparations at home, here is a blessing you may wish to use with your own wreath.

Leader: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord.

All: May His love shine in our hearts.

Leader: Any may the Lord's peace be with us all.

All: The Lord is our hope and our life.

(All four candles are lit. During the rest of the week, these candles are relit at the evening meal or whenever the family gathers together.)

Leader: Let us pray: that the newborn Saviour will bring us His love which lasts forever.

(Pause for silent prayer.)

Lord, our minds and hearts are filled with hope. We long to hear the voice which tells us of the coming of the Christ Child.

All: Amen.¹

Many Advent wreaths, such as our own wreath at St. Patrick's, also have a fifth, white candle placed in the centre. This Christ Candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to represent the light of Christ that has come into the world in fulfillment of the prophecies.

¹ <http://www.catholicdoors.com/misc/adventwreath.htm>

Equip

Grades 6-8

Friday Nights 7-9pm

Unchained

Grades 9-12

Sunday Nights 7-9pm

Thanks to all volunteers and youth!



Equip New Year Kick-off!
January 15th
@ Holy Family Parish
January 22nd
@ St. Patrick's Church

Unchained Kick-off
January 10th @ Holy
Family Parish



See you in January!

Have a blessed Christmas.



Mass Times for the Christmas Season

Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

St. Joseph's Chapel
8:00 pm

St. Patrick's Church
5:00pm; 8:00 pm; 11:00 pm

Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day

St. Joseph's Chapel
7:25 am

St. Patrick's Church
9:00 am; 11:00 am

Saturday, December 26

St. Joseph's Chapel
NO MASS

St. Patrick's Church
5:00 pm

Sunday, December 27 – Feast of the Holy Family

St. Joseph's Chapel
7:25 am

St. Patrick's Church
9:00 am; 11:00 am

Monday, December 28

St. Joseph's Chapel & St. Patrick's Church
NO MASS

Tuesday, December 29

St. Joseph's Chapel & St. Patrick's Church
NO MASS

Wednesday, December 30

St. Joseph's Chapel
8:30 am

St. Patrick's Church
NO MASS

Thursday, December 31 – New Year's Eve

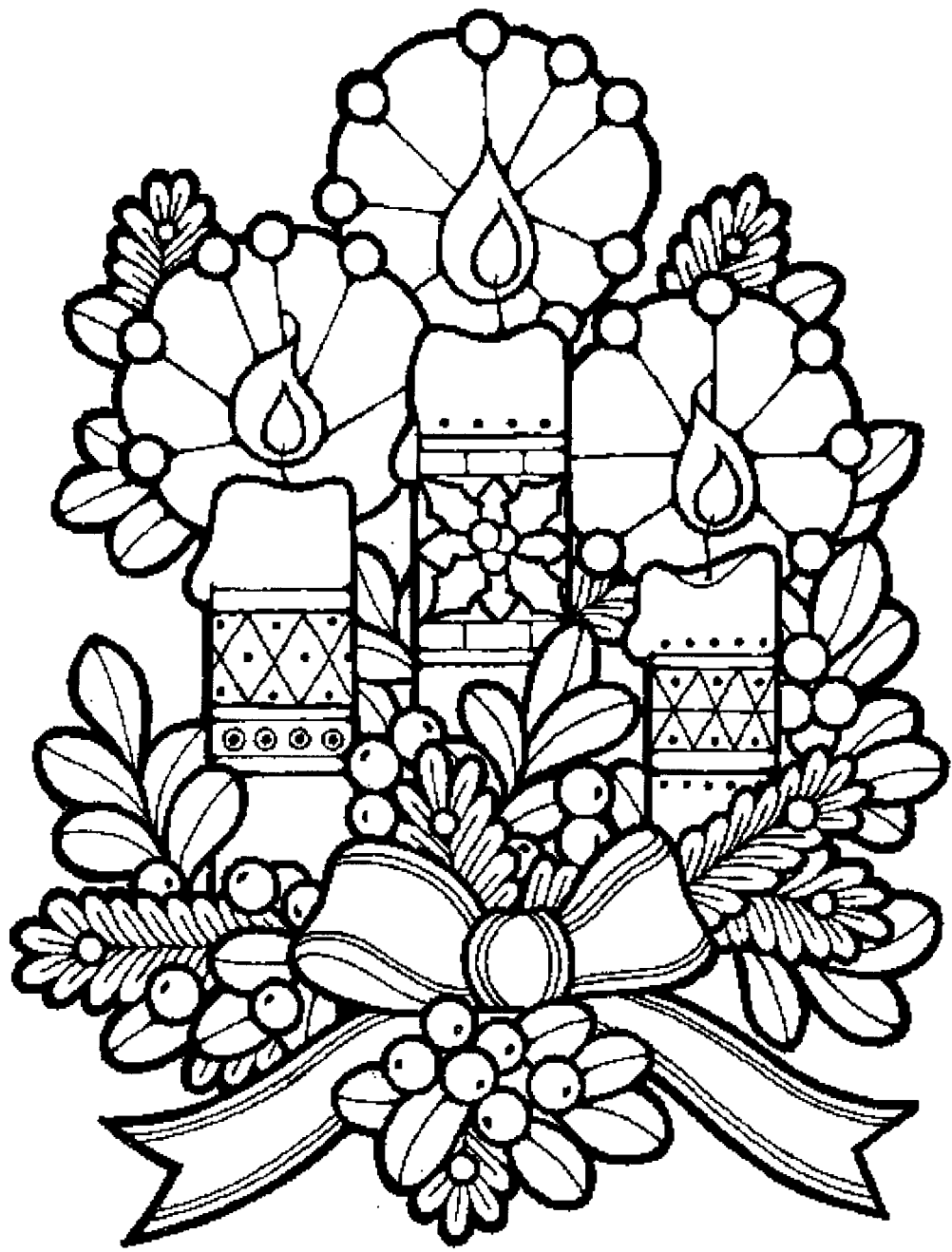
St. Joseph's Chapel
8:30 am

St. Patrick's Church
5:00 pm

Friday, January 1, 2016 – New Year's Day

St. Joseph's Chapel
7:30 am

St. Patrick's Church
9:00 am; 11:00 am



CHISHOLM LIGHTING

MAINTENANCE

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