

# ST. PATRICK PARISH, FALLOWFIELD



We are a vibrant and engaged faith community committed to building up one another in Christ. We are nourished by the sacraments, and our shared service to one another and the wider community.



## FIRST READING

Isaiah 52.7-10

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 1.1-6

## GOSPEL

John 1.1-18

Psalms 98

ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH  
HAVE SEEN THE SAVING  
POWER OF GOD.

### Celebrating Christmas Together: A Renewal of Faith and Community

This Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of Christ, our hearts are filled with gratitude seeing the church alive with your presence. This year, we do so for the first time surrounded by newly completed sacred art, which lifts our minds and hearts more fully toward the mystery we celebrate. Your presence here brings joy and vitality to our community, reminding us of the strength we find in worshipping together. We hope you will continue to join us in our journey of faith in the coming year, deepening your connection to God's love and grace. May the beauty and peace of this holy season renew your faith and inspire you to embrace the fullness of life that Christ offers.

### Follow Us on Social Media!

Stay connected with us on social media for the latest updates and events.



## THE LIGHT OF CHRIST HAS COME INTO THE WORLD

Today, we join the heavenly host in proclaiming, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests." The long-awaited promise is fulfilled: the Word has become flesh and dwells among us. In the humble birth of Jesus, eternity meets time, and the infinite love of God takes on human form.

The manger in Bethlehem reveals the profound mystery of Emmanuel—God with us. He comes not with power or splendor but in humility, inviting us to approach Him with awe and love. In this tiny child, we see the light that dispels darkness, the hope that triumphs over despair, and the peace that the world cannot give.

Christmas is not just a celebration of the past but an invitation for today. The Christ Child longs to be born in our hearts, transforming us into bearers of His love and light. Like the shepherds who left their flocks to behold the Savior, we are called to respond to this gift by sharing it with others.

On this holy day, may we kneel before the manger in gratitude, offering our lives as a dwelling place for the King of Kings. And as we rise, let us go forth, carrying the joy and peace of His birth into the world.

"Christ is born! Let us adore Him!"

# MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Helen and Martin Conway, by Patricia Conway.</li> <li>† Omar and Joan Conway, by Nancy and Earl Conway.</li> <li>† Ron Vidal, by Maia.</li> </ul>
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† All Souls Intention</li> <li>† Liam and Nuala Connolly, by the Connolly-McRae family.</li> <li>† Catherine O'Donnell, by Cathy, Nancy and Carolyn.</li> <li>† Steven Burnett, by Ann Burnett &amp; family.</li> </ul>
Wednesday	10:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† John Patrick and Kathleen (O'Grady) Houlahan and deceased children, by Ronald and Jan Houlahan.</li> <li>In Thanksgiving, by the Boucher family.</li> </ul>
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People of the Parish</li> <li>† Catherine O'Donnell, by Cathy, Nancy and Carolyn.</li> <li>† Frances Ann Facto, by Edwin, Bernadette and Jan Facto.</li> </ul>
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the intention of Dr. Murray Allen, by Carolyn Montcalm.</li> </ul>

Reconciliation: Saturdays 4-4:45 p.m. in the sacristy or by appointment



Embrace the Word made flesh; walk in His eternal light.



December 26

**Feast of St. Stephen, First Martyr**

St. Stephen was the first to give his life for Christ, he died praying for his executioners. He was one of the seven deacons who helped the apostles; he was "filled with faith and with the Holy Spirit," and was "full of fortitude." The Church draws a comparison between the disciple and his Master, emphasizing the imitation of Christ even unto the complete gift of self. His witness reminds us that following Christ calls for courage, faithfulness, and mercy, even in the face of suffering.

"Lord, do not hold this sin against them!"

—St. Stephen, Acts 7:60

**EVENTS**

**New Year's Eve Dance**  
Wednesday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>

Ring in 2026 with the Knights of Columbus! It will be an evening of lively music, delicious food, and festive celebration. Tickets are \$75 each, and there are only a handful remaining. If you are interested in coming, visit our website or contact the office for more information.

**Sacraments: Parent Information Night**  
Thursday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

The 2026 Sacramental Preparation Parent Information Night will be held in the Parish Hall from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for registered participants. We look forward to your presence! Please note these retreats are mandatory. If your child does not attend, they will not be able to receive the sacrament. See our website for more information.

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Reflecting on the Blessings of 2025

As we celebrate this holy season, we give thanks for a year rich in spiritual milestones and growth in our parish life.

One of the most beautiful graces of 2025 was the dedication of the Grotto of Our Lady of the Fields in our cemetery. On June 10th, despite uncertain skies, dozens gathered with joy and devotion as Bishop Yvan Mathieu solemnly blessed this sacred space. Built as a heartfelt tribute and expression of Marian devotion, the grotto now stands as a lasting place of

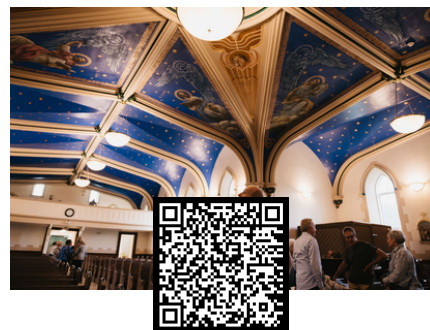
prayer, peace, and reflection for parishioners and visitors alike.



Another landmark moment this year was the restoration and reopening of our church. After months of careful work over the summer, our beloved spiritual home was renewed with stunning hand-painted sacred art, beautifully refinished pews, and refreshed walls and ceilings that speak to the enduring beauty of our faith. The weekend of September 13–14 saw our church reopened to applause and heartfelt thanksgiving as parishioners gathered to celebrate Mass in the transformed sanctuary.

Project 2033 was also launched this year, a long-term initiative to prepare our parish for the 2000th anniversary of Christianity. Behind the scenes, significant work has already begun,

including laying strong foundations based on the many thoughtful suggestions shared by parishioners last February. This has included upgrading our digital infrastructure to better serve the next generation, along with careful planning for new programs and initiatives, which will be announced in the coming months.



Looking ahead, October 2026 will bring a very special celebration as we mark the 160th anniversary of our parish. Plans are underway for a meaningful commemoration, and we hope everyone will join in rejoicing in our shared history and faith.

### The Birth Foretold

#### Promise, Hope, Peace

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7.14)

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
(Isaiah 9.6)

### A Prophecy Fulfilled

#### Humble, Joyful, Triumphant

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. (Luke 2.6-7)



Enjoy a FREE subscription to formed.org – an incredible online gateway to quality Catholic content for both children and adults. To learn more or to register, visit the parish website for details.



DEI GRATIA

# CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

December 24 5, 7, and 10 p.m.

December 25 9 a.m., 11 a.m.

December 31 5 p.m.

January 1st 11 a.m.



Please note: There will be no 9 a.m. Mass on December 24, 26, 31, or January 1.



For those joining us from home this Christmas, both the Christmas Eve Mass at 10 p.m. and the Christmas Day Mass at 11 a.m. will be livestreamed.



For those with scent sensitivities, incense will only be burned at the 10 p.m. Mass on December 24.

## Sacred Art: Almost there!



We're close to completing our Sacred Art fundraiser.

There is just over \$30,000 left to donate to this fund. Your continued support will help us reach our goal and ensure that more of our restoration funds remain available for the parish's future needs.

## New Donation Envelopes

2026 donation envelopes are now available for pickup in the atrium. To ensure accurate record-keeping, please continue using your 2025 envelopes until the end of the year, as envelope numbers have changed for 2026. If you prefer, you can also make donations without an envelope by contacting the parish office.



## Help our Parish Grow

### Leave us a Review!

Do you share our passion for this parish? When people seek to join a parish, they often begin their search on Google. By enhancing our parish's Google rating, you can play a pivotal role in drawing in new parishioners. Join us in spreading the love for our community!



# PARISH CONTACTS

Pastor:  
Fr. Paul Shepherd  
pastor@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Deacon:  
Mark Masson  
deacon@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Parish Manager:  
Kati Holica  
office@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Sacrament Administration:  
Anita MacNeil  
admin@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Bookkeeper:  
Vlado Sigel  
finance@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Communication Specialist:  
David Piccolo  
communications@stpatricksfallowfield.com



## Parish Life

- The 11 a.m. Choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the church.
- The 9 a.m. Choir practices on Thursday evenings at 6:15 p.m. in the church.
- The Legion of Mary meets Wednesday mornings in the McGivney Lounge (after the 9:00 a.m. Mass).
- The Catholic Women's League meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Monsignor Baxter Hall.
- The Knights of Columbus meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month in the Monsignor Baxter Parish Hall.
- Children's Liturgy, for ages 4 through 9, is offered during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

## Get Involved



St. Patrick Parish, 15 Steeple Hill Cres.

Nepean, ON K2R 1G2

613-591-1135

www.stpatricksfallowfield.com

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

