

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

Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14

SECOND READING

Colossians 3.12-21

GOSPEL

Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23

Psalms 128

BLESSED IS EVERYONE
WHO FEARS THE LORD,
WHO WALKS IN HIS WAY

LIVING AS A HOLY FAMILY

The readings today invite us to reflect on the beauty and challenge of family life, modeled perfectly by Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The first reading from Sirach reminds us to honor our parents, care for them in their old age, and recognize that family relationships are both a gift and a responsibility. In the psalm, we hear that blessings flow to those who walk in God's ways and love their family deeply, suggesting that the health of a family is rooted in faithfulness and love.

St. Paul's letter to the Colossians offers practical guidance for Christian households: kindness, humility, patience, and forgiveness should guide

our interactions. He reminds us that love is the bond that unites, and the peace of Christ should dwell in our hearts, guiding how we relate to one another.

In the Gospel, Matthew recounts the Holy Family's flight to Egypt and return, illustrating courage, obedience, and trust in God's providence even amid uncertainty. Like them, families today face unexpected trials, yet they are called to move forward in faith, grounded in God's love.

As we celebrate the Holy Family and enter a new year, let us ask God for the grace to treat each family member with patience, respect, and understanding.

December 28

Preserving the Gift of Family

The Feast of the Holy Family invites us to reflect on a truth we sometimes take for granted: the family is a precious gift from God. It is in the home that we first learn love, faith, and responsibility. The readings today remind us that honoring, caring for, and nurturing one another is at the heart of family life.

Yet the family is more than a social unit, it is a sacred institution, entrusted to us by God. In a world where it can be fragile or its importance downplayed, we are called to protect it, to invest in it, and to model Christ's love within it. Like the Holy Family, we are called to walk together in faith, facing challenges with patience, courage, and trust in God's providence.

As we celebrate this feast, let us renew our gratitude for our families and commit ourselves to safeguarding this gift for generations to come.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">† Agnes, Francis, Douglas, and Rose Wijesekera, by Anne, Sherine, and the family.
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">† Genneth Meraw, by Joe and Elizabeth.† Liam and Nuala Connolly, by The Connolly-McRae family,† Genneth Meraw and Kerri Lynn Callaghan, by Joe & Elizabeth.
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">People of the Parish
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">† All Souls Intention
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">† Teslin Russell, by the Russell Family.
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">† Eleanor and Lisa Dinnen, by Matt and the children.
Friday	9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">† Larry Shepherd (10th anniversary), by the family.
Reconciliation: Saturdays 4-4:45 p.m. in the sacristy or by appointment		



Seek God’s will together as a family; holiness begins at home.



January 1

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Grace, Obedience, Strength

We celebrate Mary as the Mother of God, a title that reminds us of her unique role in salvation history. From the moment she said “yes” to God, she became the vessel through which the Word became flesh, showing perfect faith, humility, and obedience.

Mary’s life is a model for all Christians: she teaches us to trust in God’s plan, to receive His grace with openness, and to carry our own responsibilities with courage and love. As we begin a new year, may we turn to her as our guide and intercessor, asking her to help our families, our communities, and our hearts remain rooted in Christ.

Mary’s “yes” changed the world; may our lives echo hers in faith, hope, and charity.

NEWS & EVENTS

Sacraments: Parent Information Night

Thursday, Jan. 8th, 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.

Seeking Student Volunteers for Digital Archiving Project

We are looking for high school students from our parish with strong technical skills and good critical thinking to assist with our digital migration to SharePoint. Beginning in the New Year, this project involves organizing thousands of parish files and photos, applying consistent naming conventions, entering file metadata within an established structure, and beyond. This volunteer role can be done from home and offers a valuable opportunity to gain practical experience in digital organization and information management. If you are interested and have the necessary skill set, please email: communications@stpatricksfallowfield.com.

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.



DEI GRATIA

January 2 St. Basil and St. Gregory: Faithful Teachers

St. Basil and St. Gregory are two towering figures of the early Church. Both were bishops who devoted their lives to guiding the faithful and defending the truth of Christ. Their writings and teachings remind us that faith is both lived and reasoned: it calls us to devotion, yes, but also to understanding, reflection, and dialogue. In honoring these saints, we are encouraged to deepen our own knowledge of God, to live out our faith with courage, and to support one another in building a Church that is both faithful and loving.

January 3 Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

This memorial honors the name above all names, given for our salvation. This day invites us to revere and call upon the name of Jesus with love, faith, and trust, recognizing its power to bring peace and hope.



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.



NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

December 31 5 p.m.

January 1 11 a.m.



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



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.

PARISH CONTACTS

Pastor:
Fr. Paul Shepherd
pastor@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Sacrament Administration:
Anita MacNeil
admin@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Deacon:
Mark Masson
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Bookkeeper:
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Parish Manager:
Kati Holica
office@stpatricksfallowfield.com

Communication Specialist:
David Piccolo
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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.

Sunday Missals

Sunday Missals for 2026 cost \$5 per book, and Sunday Missal for Young Catholics for 2026 cost \$10 per book. They can be purchased from the ushers after weekend Masses and from the parish office, during office hours (Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.).

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 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.

