

# SACRED HEART PARISH

[www.sacredheartniagarafalls.com](http://www.sacredheartniagarafalls.com)

**Office:** 3882 Main St, Niagara Falls, ON L2G 6B6 (905-295-4455)

**Rectory:** 3718 Netherby Road, Stevensville, ON L0S 1S0 (905-382-3826)

## **St. Joseph's Church, Snyder (1849)**

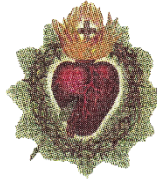
3718 Netherby Road  
Stevensville



### **Mass:**

Saturday 8 a.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m.



## **Sacred Heart Church, Chippawa (1924)**

3882 Main Street  
Niagara Falls

### **Mass:**

Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.,

Mon., Tues., Wed. 8 a.m.,

Thurs. 7 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m.

**Confessions:** Thirty minutes before each Mass

**Baptisms:** Sundays. Contact the parish at least one month in advance.

**Weddings:** On any day except Sunday. Contact the parish at least six months in advance.  
Preparation course required.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Do **NOT** wait until the last hours of life to call a priest: he may not be available immediately. If your loved one is in hospital, ask the nurse to call the priest on call 24/7.

**Funerals:** Contact the parish upon notice of death **before** going to the funeral home.

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**Pastor:** Father Stuart MacDonald, JCL

Email: [pastor@sacredheartniagarafalls.com](mailto:pastor@sacredheartniagarafalls.com)

**In Residence:** Fr. Jean-Bosco Iyamuremye

**Deacon:** Mr. Anthony Calaycay

**Secretary/Bookkeeper:** Tina Bruzzese [office@sacredheartniagarafalls.com](mailto:office@sacredheartniagarafalls.com)

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Fridays 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Building Superintendent:** Francisco Cho

**St. Joseph's Cemetery, Snyder**

Mike Collee: 905-931-0126 or [mcollee@ymail.com](mailto:mcollee@ymail.com)

If you wish to make an online donation, it may be done by e-transfer on your bank's website using: [donation@sacredheartniagarafalls.com](mailto:donation@sacredheartniagarafalls.com)

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday**

Mass Schedule		
Masses at St. Joseph's Masses at Sacred Heart	Intention	Requested by
Monday, April 7	8 a.m.: +Ron Bryant	friends
	10-11 a.m. Prayer for parish renewal	
	7 p.m.: +Gary Lavigne	John & Julia Mein
Tuesday, April 8	8 a.m.: George Dienisch & family	Richard & Loretta
Wednesday, April 9	8 a.m.: James Mackenzie	Richard & Loretta
Thursday, April 10	<b>40 Days for Life</b>  7 p.m.: Fr. Stuart	Richard & Agnes Sekutowski
Friday, April 11	8 a.m.: Holy Souls  6:30 p.m.: Morris Alphonsus Flores  7 p.m.: Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.: parish discussion chapter <b>5</b>	George & Henedina Mavromattis
	7 p.m.: Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.: parish discussion chapter <b>6</b>	
Saturday, April 12	8 a.m.: +Ross Karner	
	5 p.m.: +Gary Lavigne	CWL
Sunday, April 13 <b>Palm Sunday</b>	9 a.m.: David & Kelly	Mike & Marjorie Eagan
	11 a.m.: <i>pro populo</i>	

**Offertory**

January: **\$14,365**; February: **\$8701**; March: **\$15034**  
(weekly average: \$2930.)

The parish day for 40 Days for Life is this **Thursday, April 10**. It is important that we have at least two people for each hour throughout the day. **I really DO expect to see a large number of parishioners participate**. It is what disciples do. Make the time: you will feel better for doing it. If you wish to hold a sign, they may be picked up around the corner from the hospital at 6111 North St. in a bin at the back of the house. – Fr. Stuart



### Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13 – regular Mass schedule

Monday, April 14 – regular parish Masses; **confessions** at **BOTH** churches 6 – 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15 – regular parish Mass; **Chrism Mass** at the Cathedral 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16 – regular parish Mass

Holy Thursday, April 17 – **Mass of the Lord's Supper** **ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH** 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18 – **Commemoration of the Lord's Passion** at **BOTH** churches 3 p.m.;  
**Stations of the Cross** at **BOTH** churches 7 p.m.

The annual Good Friday collection is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world. The collection helps the Church of the Holy Land to maintain Christian sites, so important for Christians everywhere, and to provide pastoral, educational, and social works among the small Christian population. The Church and our Christian brothers and sisters count on your help to retain a faith filled Christian presence in this land of our Lord. Please give generously.

Holy Saturday, April 19 – **Easter Vigil** at **SACRED HEART CHURCH** 8:30 p.m.; **NO 5 p.m.**

Easter Sunday, April 20 – regular Sunday schedule

Bishop Bergie's Easter message is available in the vestibule of the churches. Please pick up a copy.

**Voting like a Catholic:** A federal election will take place in Canada on April 28, 2025. Catholics have a moral obligation to vote, if they are eligible. However, it can be difficult to find clear, unbiased information on the different parties' plans so as to make an informed vote. Catholic Conscience, a non-partisan lay group dedicated to civic engagement, have created a number of resources that could help you discern your vote. A quick reference guide may be found on their website: [www.catholicconscience.org/canada/federal/2025federal](http://www.catholicconscience.org/canada/federal/2025federal).

### **Go, and sin no more!**

How far are you willing to go when it comes to mercy? It is easy for us to resort to condemnation when we see the sins of others. We might feel justified in condemning them and even obliged to do so out of a desire to condemn sin itself. But Jesus' action shows that the sin must not be equated with the sinner. Sin must be condemned and was condemned by our Lord when He said to the woman in today's Gospel, "Go, and from now on do not sin any more." Though He condemned her sin, he did not condemn her: "Neither do I condemn you."

The mercy of God is incomprehensible. For example, recall that Jesus cried out from the Cross, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." Imagine the surprise that the first hearers of those words would have had. How could this man ask that God forgive the people who were murdering Him? Perhaps the only person who truly understood this prayer of mercy from the Cross was Jesus' own mother as she stood there gazing at Him with love.

An important lesson for us to learn from Jesus' depth of mercy is that, at first, it will most likely scandalize us also. Mercy to this extent is supernatural. It challenges our natural reason and calls us to a new way of thinking and relating to others. The only way to overcome the "scandal" we might feel in the face of God's mercy is to live it ourselves. Doing so will require that we put on new eyes to see sin, mercy and forgiveness through the eyes of God. If doing so shakes you to the core of your being, that might be a good sign. Are you allowing the apparent scandal of God's abundant mercy to transform you so that it is no longer a shock or scandal to you, but is experienced as good and holy and from the Heart of our God?

Reflect, today, upon how deeply you understand God's mercy. Do you rejoice when mercy is offered to another? Or do you find yourself condemning? Our Lord said, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." None of us is without sin; therefore, none of us has the right to cast a stone at another. Allow the apparent scandal of God's mercy to challenge you so that you come to not only understand God's infinite mercy but also to act as an instrument of that mercy to everyone.