

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK



Monday, December 25
Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26
No Mass

Wednesday, December 27

8:00 a.m. Ethel Linseman and Nancy Pletz

Thursday, December 28

10:00 a.m. Marie Schaman (at Sunnyside)

Friday, December 29

8:00 a.m. Fred Masters

Saturday, December 30

5:00 p.m. Peter Nhi Vu and Family
Angelita Carino
Peter Zlatic
Gord Morrison
Patricia Flanagan
Steve Maloney

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 24

Sunday Morning Masses at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Eve Masses at 5:00, 7:30 and 10:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25

5:00 p.m. St. Paul Chung Mass followed by Social

Thursday, December 28

1:00 p.m. CWL Executive Meeting

Saturday, December 30

8:00 a.m. Cursillo

Sunday, December 31

12:00 noon Baptisms
2:00 p.m. St. Paul Chung Mass

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 23, 24, 2017

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a,16
Luke 1:26-38

Romans 16:25-27



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

New Parish Office Hours

Beginning in the new year, the parish office hours will change slightly, opening one half-hour later Monday to Friday, at **9:30 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m.** The office will still be closed at 4:00 p.m. and between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. While there may be activity around the Church or in the office during these times, parishioners are kindly asked to hold their requests and inquiries until the office is open. Email and phone messages can be left at all hours for reply in a reasonable amount of time.

Paving Project

It is with joy and gratitude that I announce the completion of the most difficult phase of our paving project: payment. Last week, I signed the final cheque repaying our parish's debt to the Diocese for this endeavour. This means that since the summer, we have repaid \$175 000, a truly remarkable feat! This is still further evidence of the generosity of spirit residing in the people of St. Anthony Daniel Parish. I am deeply grateful to all those who contributed to this project in any way. Please note: Any donations made to the Paving Project/Building Fund after repayment will remain on hand for the next major capital endeavour our beautiful (but 50-year-old) building provides.



Christmas Charitable Donations

Many parishioners are unaware of the substantial charitable giving the parish engages in, especially around Christmas time. Donations made to the parish Underprivileged Fund are distributed periodically throughout the year to local and international charities. Gifts ranging from \$500 to \$3000 were made this year on behalf of the people of St. Anthony Daniel Parish to the following charities:

Anselma House
CYO Camp Fund
Carmel of St. Joseph
Catholic Missions in Canada
Chalice Canada
Camboni Missionaries
Food Bank of Waterloo
Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate
St. John's Kitchen
The Working Centre

It is a privilege and an honour to make these donations on behalf of our community, and I often receive very thankful messages in reply. Thank you to all the parishioners whose donations make this support possible. Our parish is blessed with many generous hearts! Please contact me if you know of any charities that we might consider supporting in the future.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

This week we especially pray for:

Monday Christmas Day (The Nativity of The Lord)
Tuesday Reverend Roshan D'Souza, O.C.D.
Wednesday Franciscan Fathers (O.F.M.)
Thursday Reverend Lawrence Parent, O.F.M.
Friday Reverend Zygmunt Baranowski
Saturday Reverend Brian Quigley, M.C.C.J.

Eternal Father, we lift up to you these and all the priests, religious and lay ministers of the world. Sanctify them. Heal them; guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!"...and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, contact Father Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email mking@hamiltondiocese.com

RCIA - open to those who are not baptized or baptized within another faith tradition, those baptized Catholic but have not received other Sacraments and those interested in learning about the Catholic Faith. Can begin at any time. Meet each Wednesday 7 – 9 p.m. in the Marian room. Call or email office and a team member will contact you with information.



PLEASE NOTE: RCIA will not meet in January, but will resume again in February of the new year).



THE JESSE TREE, ADVENT 2017

Fourth Week of Advent Symbols:

1. **The Sun**
2. **A Scallop Shell**
3. **A Lily**
4. **A Carpenter's Square**
5. **The Manger and the Star**

An explanation of the symbols can be found by the Jesse Tree in the PLC foyer.



DRAYTON ENTERTAINMENT 2018

Five great shows have been booked for the 2018 season. Check out the green flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex.

TAX RECEIPTS

Please note that all donations requiring tax receipts for 2017 must be received in the parish office **by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 28th**.



PEACE LIGHT

The Peace Light is a tradition that was started in Austria in approximately 1988. It is carried out by the boy scouts of Austria. Every year an Austrian child travels with a group to Bethlehem to the Church of the Nativity to enter the birthplace of Christ and gets the flame from there. The flame is then carried from Bethlehem on Austrian Airlines to Vienna. From there the flame is spread all across Europe, much like the Olympic torch is passed.

This year, through the assistance of local people, arrangements were made to have the flame flown to Ontario. We will be receiving this peace light and we will keep this candle lit until the feast of the Epiphany. Now, more than ever, let us pray for peace.

Christmas – The Nativity of the Lord



Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th
5:00 p.m. (Family Mass), 7:30 p.m., 10:00 p.m.
(Carols 30 minutes before each Mass)

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th
8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31st
5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day- Monday, January 1, 2017
8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



Dear Friends:

What we'd really like to give you
for Christmas is a star...
Brilliance in a package,
something you could keep in
the pocket of your jeans
or in the pocket of your being.
Something to take out in times of darkness,
something that would never snuff or tarnish,
something you could hold in your hand,
something for wonderment,
something for pondering,
something that would remind you of
what Christmas has always meant:
God's Advent Light into the Darkness
of this world.

But stars are only God's for giving,
and we must be content to give you words and
wishes and packages without stars.

But we can wish you Life
As radiant as a star
that announced the Christ Child's coming,
and as filled with awe as the Shepherds
who stood beneath its light.
And as we pass on to you the love
That has been given to us,
ignited countless times by others
who have knelt in Bethlehem's Light,
perhaps, if you ask, God will give you a star.

*May the true spirit of Christmas be
yours just as in the manger on that Holy
Night, when the star first shone above.
And may the peace of this Holy Season
be in your hearts and in your homes all
through the coming year.*

**HOLIDAY PARISH
OFFICE HOURS**



Please note the following:

Tuesday, December 26: Closed

Wednesday, December 27: Closed

Thursday, December 28: Closed

Friday, December 29: 9:00 a.m. to noon

Monday, January 1: Closed

Tuesday January 2: Closed

*Regular office hours will resume on
Wednesday, January 3rd at 9:30 a.m*

The Parish Staff