

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME February 7, 2016

Our e-mail address is: saintbasil@rogers.com

NEW WEBPAGE: stbasilparish.ca

Mass Intentions this week

Please note: Weekday Masses are celebrated in the Rectory Chapel unless otherwise indicated.

February 10 to February 14

ASH

Wednesday 8:00 am †Noreen Corrigan (in Church)
7:00 pm Intentions of Ray Smith (in Church)

Thursday 12:noon †Fr. Wojciech, Canh Tran, Ann Chamberlain, Souls in Purgatory

Friday 12 :noon †Vittorio Perilli

Saturday 5:00 pm †Bill Paling, Cecil & Anne Fulcher, Antonio Tarentello, Brian Main, Marilyn Sankey and sick family members



Sanctuary Lamp this week

Intentions of: Lucien and repose of his soul. Requests accepted by placing an envelope with the name of loved one and a donation of \$10 in the collection basket.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, February 8	Rev. Jeff Bergsma
Tuesday, February 9	Rev. Paul Boucher
Wednesday, February 10	Basilian Fathers (C.S.B.)
Thursday, February 11	Fr. Felix Nwatu
Friday, February 12	Rev. Msgr. Edward Sheridan
Saturday, February 13	Rev. Tony O'Dell, O.M.I.

OFFERTORY for last week was \$3444.35 and our Budget expenses for the week \$5,580.00.

ASH WEDNESDAY!

Wow! – Lent arrives this Wednesday. Mass with distribution of Ashes will be celebrated in our Church at **8:00 am and 7:00 pm, in the Church**

Father Earl will also lead a Word Service with distribution of ashes at each of our three elementary schools:

9:15 am – at St. Basil School

11:30 am – at St. Gabriel School

1:40 pm – at Christ the King School

Ash Wednesday is a Universal day of fasting, and abstinence from meat. Lent is a season of penance, and Lent recalls our Baptism

160th ANNIVERSARY

On February 29th, we celebrate the 160th Anniversary of our Diocese of Hamilton. Let us thank God for the many blessings bestowed on us and our ancestors in the faith! The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Luigi Bonazzi will visit the Diocese on that weekend.

MEDITATION

The greatest miracle of today's gospel reading may not have been that so much fish were caught, filling two boats. Rather, the most astounding miracle could have been that fishermen actually obeyed a carpenter's advice on how and where to do their job!

Many of us are unwilling to listen, much less respond, to the challenge of God's word in our lives. We may feel unworthy. (Could God really be that interested in me?) Certainly we can feel fear at what God's radical message challenges us to do. (Does God really expect me to love my neighbour as myself by visiting the prisoner, clothing the homeless, feeding the hungry?)

Yet here we are asked to consider the example of those who are renowned for giving their entire lives to God: people like Isaiah, Paul and Simon Peter. Surely they also felt trepidation at hearing God's call felt themselves unworthy of the challenge put before them, and incapable of such faithfulness. Yet, they "put out into the deep" – and it changed their lives forever.

What is it that prevents us from "leaving everything" and following Jesus today? How are we being called, in the everyday events of our own lives? How can God's gift of faith, already present in our hearts, be encouraged to grow and bear fruit in all we do?

Joe Gunn, Ottawa, ON

RECONCILIATION

It seems that there has been a change re: the dates and times for Reconciliation at St. Pius X for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

The Diocese has asked us to make the Sacrament available on March 4th and 5th. As a result, **INSTEAD** of March 10th, priests of Brant Deanery will now be available at St. Pius X Church on: Friday March 4th – from 3 pm – 9 pm and Saturday March 5th from 11 am – 4:30 pm.

So, the information I sent out in our Advent-Christmas newsletter needs to be altered in favour of the above. I apologize for the confusion. Thank you. Fr. Earl.

P.S.: Please advise any Catholics you see of this change – and any organizations could make announcements at their meetings! Thank you.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

On May 29th at 1:30 pm Bishop Crosby will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral Basilica Hamilton with couples celebrating special Wedding Anniversaries this year: 25, 40, 50, 60, 60+. Please tear off a registration form from the large poster on the bulletin board near the washroom. Thank you.

THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST

Celebration of First Reconciliation: choose either *Wednesday, March 9th* or *Thursday, March 10th* at 7 pm in the Church

Thursday, April 7th: this Session will focus on Eucharist. **Celebration of First Holy Communion:**

Choose one of 6 Masses: the weekends of **April 23, 24 or April 30, May 1, 2016.**

Prayer and Practice – 9:30 am – 11 am on the Saturday morning of your chosen weekend of First Communion. We begin in the Church and end in our parish hall.

SACRAMENTS!

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be celebrated by Bishop Crosby on *Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.*

Instructions for Candidates only: (parish hall):

Sunday, February 7, 2016, 10:30 – 11:30 am

Sunday, March 6, 10:30 – 11:30 am

Retreat: Saturday, April 16 from 2-4:30 pm in our parish hall.

St. Basil's PARISH

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday February 9, 2016, Church Hall (Crown St.) 5:00- 7:30 PM - Adults -\$7.00 - Youth (13-18) - \$6.00 Children (6-12) - \$4.00 - Children 5 and under - free

The Ontario government is hosting end-of-life consultations (link to the consultation website). Consultations can be done by e-mail, by filling out the on-line survey, or by attending a consultation in person.

The Euthanasia Prevention Coalition has published three articles on the one-side pro-euthanasia consultation.

1. Consultation seeks death on demand (even for children).
2. Panel recommends a dangerous approach to assisted dying.
3. Panel report seeks to protect physicians not patients.
4. E-mail the consultation your thoughts at: endlifedecisions@ontario.ca
5. Complete the online survey at: <http://www.ipsosresearch.com/endlifedecision> survey.

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT WEEKEND -

February 19-21, 2016 at Queen of Apostles, Mississauga. The retreat begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday and concludes with Mass Sunday noon, followed by lunch. Preached by the Centre Team. Please call 905-278-5229 for further information or to register.

The Brantford Cabaret in conjunction with the St. Mary's Hospitality proudly presents...

SALUTE TO GREASE --- A family friendly tribute to one of the most loved films of all time!!!

Sunday February 28th 2pm - St. Mary's Parish Centre, 133 Murray Street - Monetary Donation of your choice.

All ages welcome. Light Refreshments Included

Directed & Choreographed by Joan Minnery. Starring 20 Children & 4 Adults all from Brantford & Brant County. Original script penned by cast members.

For more information please contact Joan Minnery @ 519-771-5687

PERSONS SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

LEARNING TO COPE (Level 1) is a ten week support program starting *Tuesday, March 1st* (7:00 pm to 9:30 pm), at the Chancery Office, 700 King St. W, Hamilton. The program is for persons experiencing difficulties as a result of a separation or divorce. For more information, please contact the Family Ministry Office at (905) 528-7988, ext. 2249. Cost: \$35. **Past participants are welcome to inquire about further Levels programs starting the same week.**

YEAR OF MERCY

Please mark your calendars for May 15th – Pentecost Sunday. We are renting a bus to go on pilgrimage to our Cathedral Basilica in Hamilton (leave at 1 pm – return by 6 pm) More details to follow.

BE MERCIFUL DURING THE Jubilee Year of Mercy: Write a letter of forgiveness to someone. If you cannot send it, sprinkle it with holy water, ask Christ Jesus to have mercy on you both and then burn or bury it.

Married Singles Lifestyle –The Married Singles Lifestyle describes couples that may have lost a sense of closeness they once had as marriage partners and are living more like roommates. Retrouvaille teaches couples how to survive times like these in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulty at all levels of marital distress. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on **March 11, 2016** please call **905-664-5212** or email: hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

LENT starts Ash Wednesday, February 10th. The Annual PASTA SUPPER in support of the D & P Share Lent Campaign is ready for you to enjoy on Friday, Feb. 26. Doors open at Michelangelo's at 1555 Upper Ottawa Street in Hamilton at 6:00, meal starts at 6:30. "Billy and the Boys" will provide lively music. Get your tickets ordered at least a week beforehand from Blessed Sacrament Parish (905-385-3570 or sacrament@rogers.com) at \$18 each or \$10 for grade school aged children. Thanks for your support!