

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

NEW WEBPAGE: stbasilparish.ca

March 15, 2015

Mass Intentions this week

Please note: **ALL LENTEN MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE CHURCH UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED**

March 17th. to March 22nd.

Tuesday 6:30 pm Intentions of Theresa Neary
Wednesday 12: noon Intentions of Dian Smith
{Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
{Thursday 12: noon † Carrie Mulrain
Friday 12: noon † Terry McNamara
† Pietro Martire
Saturday 5:00 pm † Cesar Medeiros, Elio
Petrella, Patricia Smith, Annette Schumacher



Sanctuary Lamp this week

Intentions of: Annette Schumacher and repose of her 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, March 16	Rev. Allen Varlaki
Tuesday, March 17	Rev. James Petrie
Wednesday, March 18	Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny (S.J.C.)
Thursday, March 19	Rev. Brendan McGrath
Friday, March 20	Rev. James Malone
Saturday, March 21	Rev. Steve Murrin

OFFERTORY. Last week was \$3401.65 and our budget expenses for the week \$5,580.00.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:

Looking ahead: Easter is fast approaching. Please participate in as many of our Holy Week Celebrations as possible.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 1st at 7 pm.

Your retreat day is Saturday, April 18th, from 1 – 5pm in our Parish Hall.

There will **not** be an opportunity for Reconciliation on that day so you need to think about coming on any Saturday between 4 – 4:30 pm (except April 4th), or as mentioned above. Thank you. Come Holy Spirit!

THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST

Will be celebrated during Sunday Masses on April 18, 19 and April 25, 26, 2015. **Parent Meeting March 26th** at 7 pm in the Hall.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Various parish groups will lead us in the Stations of the Cross following the 6:30 pm Mass on the following Tuesdays: March 17th, and March 24th. Mass and Stations – a good way to pray in Lent.

MEDITATION - Looking, Listening, Learning .

Today's Gospel focuses on part of a conversation between Nicodemus and Jesus. Nicodemus looks at the things he does not understand; he seeks out Jesus and voices his questions. He is willing to listen and learn, and Jesus is always ready to teach.

Nicodemus wants to understand. With knowledge and wisdom, Jesus draws on the ancient image of the serpent. The meaning is clear: that which meant death now gives life. Death could reasonable have been the final outcome of Jesus' experience, but we know differently. His death is transformed into abundant life. The love of God, born in the brightness of the Christmas star, finds its fulfilment at Easter.

The endless generosity of God's gracious love and mercy can only inspire and strengthen us. Every reading reminds us that we are not condemned: we are loved. We are invited to enjoy that love for all eternity. In the midst of our Lenten journey, we pause and celebrate.

This is Laetare Sunday, 'Rejoicing' Sunday. In the words of Scripture and in the action of the Eucharist, we are invited to see and to hear the melody of God's love. Even in the midst of many challenges and struggles, our hearts can carry the melody of an endless and joyous song. With hope and gratitude, we can keep on singing!

THANK YOU: Father Roger Formosi appreciates your prayers. If you wish to send him a note, his address is:

Mary Mother of God Parish,
2745 North Ridge Trail,
Oakville, ON L6H 7A3

FLOWERS FOR EASTER

Those who wish to make a donation toward the cost of flowers for our Church at the Easter Season, may do so by putting your donation in the collection basket, with your envelope number on it, and marking it "Flowers for Easter." **Your generosity is appreciated.**

ARE YOU AWARE?:

That you can donate investment shares directly to your Parish! The donation of shares not only is a benefit to your church but it has significant tax savings for you the donor. Please contact the office for further information! Also, as mentioned in our 2014 Financial Report, please remember your parish for Memorials and Bequests. Thank you.

BRANT REGION OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Did you know that shampoos and beauty products are polluting the Great Lakes with tiny plastic beads, referred to as micro beads, that escape water treatment plant filters? Learn about the effects, potential dangers, how they are entering the food chain and how we can approach the government to have them eliminated from every day, common products. Hear Dr. Patricia Corcoran Thursday, March 26 at 7:00 pm. Takes place on the Laurier campus, S.C. Johnson Building. Donations accepted at the door. Contact JoAnne Hodd for more info - 754-4392 or hoddj@yahoo.com

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

If you love priests and religious men and women, please support them by joining us in praying for vocations. Vocation Saturday is an initiative of the Vocation Office of the Diocese of Hamilton to gather people from across the diocese to unite in prayer for vocations. Join us on **Saturday, April 11**, at Canadian Martyrs Church in **Hamilton**, for 9:00 a.m. Mass and Holy Hour for Vocations.

Is God calling you to the Priesthood or Religious Life? - Find out by attending this upcoming event: **Discernment Group** (a monthly morning of prayer, reflection, and lunch): **Saturday, April 11**, at Canadian Martyrs Church in **Hamilton**: starting at 9:00 a.m.: Mass, Holy Hour, Discernment Groups for men and women, and lunch. For more information visit www.HamiltonVocations.com

ANNUAL MASS WITH NEW CATHOLICS

Each year, the bishop invites those who are baptized or received into the full communion of the Catholic Church to a celebration of the Eucharist at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. This year's celebration takes place on **Sunday April 12 during the 11:00 am** mass. All are invited to participate in this special liturgy as a sign of welcome to the newest members of Christ's Body in our Diocese of Hamilton

Habitat for Humanity Home Ownership

Have you ever thought about owning your own home but likely do not qualify for a traditional mortgage? Are you tired of paying high rent and struggling to get ahead? Why not consider partnering with Habitat for Humanity to own your own home? We are interested in helping you break the cycle of poverty. For more information please call us at 519 759 – 8600 or visit us at www.habitatbrant.org

BULLETIN ADVERTISING

We now have 5 spaces available at the back of our bulletin for advertising. If you can fill these empty spaces, please call Bialas Printing at 519-752-4268. Thank you!

LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER SISTERS OF SOCIAL SERVICE

11 Perthshire Court, Hamilton
(Suggested Offering \$25.00) - **Friday, MARCH 27th. 9:30 am to 3:00pm.** Bring a bag lunch.... Tea & coffee provided. To Register: please call or e-mail 905-388-3966 OR ssspertshire@sympatico.ca

LINE DANCING LESSONS with *Joan Minnery*. Every Wednesday in the Parish Hall. 6 pm – 6:45 pm (Beginners Basic), \$2/person. 7pm – 8 pm (Intermediate), \$2/person. Country & Pop music. For more information please contact Joan Minnery @ 519-771-5687 or joanminnery@sympatico.ca. All ages welcome.

Magnificat Ministries invites you to *Behold His Glory*; an evening of corporate Eucharistic adoration through song, prayer and silence; to be held **Saturday March 21st** at *St. Joseph's parish* in Brantford. **The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 7:14 p.m.** and the evening will conclude with Benediction and chanting the Divine Praises. We hope you can join us!

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Next Sunday, March 22, is the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Solidarity Sunday when the annual **Share Lent Collection** for D and P will be held. Your generous solidarity is vital to the mission of Development and Peace, and our ability to help, respect, and promote the poor. Please be sure to bring your Share Lent envelope for your gift. Thank you for your support! devp.org

A NOTE FROM THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ...

Families are kindly reminded to remove all wreaths on stands and other winter decorations from their lots by **April 1st** to facilitate the Spring clean-up. Any wreaths and decorations remaining after April 1st will be removed and discarded.

GRAND RIVER CHORUS – St. John Passion on **Saturday, March 28th. at 7:30 pm** here at **St. Basil Church**, Join the Grand River Chorus and Orchestra, with six superb soloists for this brilliant Master Opus of the late baroque period. Cost \$25.00, Students/Children \$15.00. Tickets available at the door or The Brantford Bookworm, 331 Brant Av., Green Heron Books, 47 Grand River St. N., Paris.