

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 11, 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.

- Monday 6:00 pm** †Living & deceased members
(In Church) of St. Basil C.W.L.
- Tuesday 6:30 pm** †Rob Terry
- Wednesday 9:00 am** Intentions of Dalbert & Aldona Dawson
- Friday 11:00 to 11:45 am** **Reconciliation** (in Church)
- Friday 12:noon** †Ostap Shurko, Laura Ligori,
(In Church) Bogdan Kopitko, Leon Achile
- Saturday 5:00 pm** †Paul Archer, John & Carmina Risi,
Olga Kovach, Cecil & Anne Fulcher, Desmond Murphy,
Patrick & Margaret Mendonca, The Doucette Family,
Intentions of: Maureen Zammit and Josie McKinnon

MEDITATION

‘Tis the season for runaway anticipation. Expending seemingly unlimited time and energy on preparing for the big day, it’s easy to lose sight of what Christmas is all about. Then, when it’s come and gone, we are left to wonder what all the bustling, buying and baking were for. What a letdown!

That empty disquieting feeling must have plagued John the Baptist as he languished in Herod’s prison awaiting his execution. The Baptist sent word by the disciples to Jesus, asking him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?”

John the Baptist had been sent to prepare the way for Jesus, the Saviour. John anticipated the coming of a messiah and he was confident that Jesus was that messiah. So, why the lingering doubts? Jesus didn’t really fit with John’s preconceived notion of a messiah who would come breathing fire and brimstone and take the unsuspecting and unrepentant world by storm.

Jesus sent a return message: “The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.” Certainly not fire and brimstone – rather a genuine Christmas story of love and salvation. It’s time that we too shifted our focus from unrealistic expectation to embrace the promise of Jesus as the true meaning of Christmas.


Frank Campbell, Enfield, NS
Novalis, Living with Christ

SACRAMENTAL Preparation:

Registration forms for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation are ready for pick up at the back of the Church.

Please bring the completed form, along with a **copy** of the child’s Baptism form to our office: (unless he/she was Baptized here).

According to our Diocesan guidelines, First Reconciliation and First Communion are celebrated with children in grade 2 or higher, and Confirmation with grade 7 or higher. **NB: * No Registration Forms will be accepted after Christmas.**

 **Sanctuary Lamp** this week: the Intentions of Living & deceased members of the Spelier & Duyidan Families, and repose of their Souls. 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, December 12	Rev. Mariusz Durbajlo
Tuesday, December 13	Rev. Michael Downey
Wednesday, December 14	Benedictines
Thursday, December 15	Rev. Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.
Friday, December 16	Rev. Allen Varlaki
Saturday, December 17	Rev. Peter Ciallella, c.s.

OFFERTORY: Thank you!

Sunday Envelopes:	\$3845.00
Loose Collections:	\$ 567.50
Average Weekly Preauthorized	<u>\$ 485.00</u>
Total Weekly Offering Dec. 4, 2016	\$4897.50

Budget expenses for the week \$4265.00

ENVELOPES FOR 2017 ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE Church. If your name or address is incorrect, please notify the office. Also, if you don’t have envelopes and wish to begin using them, please contact the office and a box will be assigned to you. These envelopes should **NOT** be used before January 1, 2017. **ALSO, when you start using your 2017 envelopes, please put your name and address on the first few envelopes.** Please consider switching to “Pre-Authorized Debit” – less paper work; less work for our counters; more security for our parish! Forms can be found on the “Welcome Desk” – back of Church.

NO PARKING

For the past two weekends people have been parking at the base of the new access ramp to the Church. Please be *aware*— that you **are blocking** this new Church entrance. Thank you.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Receipts will be issued for offerings in 2016. If you wish a receipt, please put a self-addressed envelope with, if possible, your envelope number and put into the collection basket. This will facilitate getting your receipt to you.

ST. BASIL'S C.W.L. ADVENT

MASS & POT LUCK DINNER

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12th, 2016

Mass at 6:00 PM in the Church followed by pot luck in the Hall. Bring your favourite dish – Casserole, Salad, Dessert, etc... ALSO your own dishes and cutlery.

All ladies 16 and older are WELCOME and encouraged to attend. Come out and enjoy an evening of Faith, Food & Fellowship. Also we are asking for a donation for our seniors in Retirement Homes and Long Term Care Facilities to help cover the cost of delivering them small gifts throughout the year.

C.W.L. NEWS

Membership Drive – Catholic Women's League Membership Renewal is coming to an end!! You can still renew your 2017 C.W.L. Membership. Renewal dues are \$21.00 either by cash or cheque.

If you wish to join the St. Basil Catholic Women's League, please call Pat Renaud at (519)753-3716.

Be assured your interest and support is important.

It is the united voice of **ALL** Catholic Women that matter. Thank you, Pat Renaud.

Advent Hymn Festival

All are invited to the reception of The Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition ~ Prophets Volume and Advent Hymn Festival. At the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, 714 King St. West, Hamilton at 7:00 pm today Sunday, December 11, 2016.

Responsible Stewards of Creation

Close to five million litres of water are taken from Wellington County daily for a water bottling plant. This extraction of large amounts of water adversely affects the ecological balance of nature over a large area while depriving those who rely on wells of their right to water. Close to seventy-five percent of plastic bottles end up in land fill sites, thus contributing to contamination of the soil for thousands of years.

Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, urges all parishes in the Diocese of Hamilton to refrain from using bottled water in church facilities. As stewards of Creation may we be leaders in the responsible use of our sacred mandate.

Knights of Columbus

St Basil Council #13442 **Meeting** Tuesday Dec. 13, 2016 in the Rectory at 7:00 PM after **6:30 PM Mass** in the Chapel. Grand Knight, Bill Kane.
Tel # 519-752-1331 E-mail: wkane@sympatico.ca

Novena – Infant Jesus

The sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph will pray for you during the Novena to Infant Jesus, **December 16th to December 25th, 2016**. Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support? You can participate in the Novena to Infant Jesus. Send your prayer intention slip with your name and address to Carmel of Saint Joseph, 1127 Carmel-Koch Road, R.R.#1, St. Agatha, ON NOB 2L0.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you wish to make a donation towards the cost of flowers in the Church at Christmas, please place your donation in an envelope and mark "Christmas Flowers" with your name or envelope number on it. Many thanks!

Pro-life Christmas Cakes

Made by the monks of Val Notre Dame Abbey, these delicious cakes will be sold after each Mass on **December 10/11 and 17/18**. Proceeds go to Campaign Life Coalition and their pro-life efforts.

Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide – Did You Know?

The Government of Canada passed legislation in June 2016, legalizing euthanasia/assisted suicide. Despite wording intended to protect doctors and facilities, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is forcing health care workers to arrange for the killing of their patients. No other country does this. Provinces across Canada do not do this. Yet, Ontario refuses to protect doctors who object to ending the life of their patients. Please visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more and write directly to your elected Member of Provincial Parliament.

ADVENT ANGEL TREE 2016

The Advent Angel Tree is underway at St. Basil's Church again this year. Over the past decade our parish has collected over 3200 lbs. of food, hundreds of gifts and more than \$1,500 in donations for charities like Canadian food for Children, Brantford's Christmas Baskets Program, Nova Vita and St. Vincent de Paul. This year our donations will support St. Vincent de Paul in their ministry of helping those less fortunate. 2017 is supposed to be a very cold winter and so we are focusing our efforts on food and warmth. Please consider making a donation of nonperishable food items, or new items for warmth such as hats, gloves, blankets, coats, socks, etc. A tax deductible cash donation can also be put to great use: simply put your donation in the collection basket and include your regular envelope number. Thank you again for your support through this Advent Season. Thanks, Catherine.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Read the Bible. Its user friendly plus we offer tech support here on Saturday and Sunday.