

December 25, 2017

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



(CHRISTMAS)

Masses this week (in Chapel)

Tuesday, December 27

12:00 noon †Poa Tran

Wednesday, December 28

9:00 a.m. †Jason Lynch

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

January 1, 2017

Saturday December 31, 2016 Mass: 5:00 p.m.

and Sunday, January 1, 2017 Mass: 9:30 &

11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 4 (In Church)

12:00 noon Intentions of Noreen Power

Thursday, January 5 – (In Church)

12:00 noon †Joseph Nguyen & Family

Friday, January 6 – (In Church)

12:00 noon † Kevin Laberge

January 8, 2017

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday 5:00 pm †Isobel Plant, Joe Zammit,

Domenico Colitti, Steve Harri, Nancy Ann Morin

Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

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.

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. When you start using your 2017 envelopes, please put your name & address on the first couple of envelopes. Thank you.

MEDITATION

Nativity of the Lord

Christmas day is truly an amazing grace for all humankind. It's a day that has been eagerly awaited by generations of believers and entertained through the many and hopeful oracles of biblical prophets. Today, the promises of God are now fulfilled through the amazing birth of a child in the night of Bethlehem and in the chillness of a manger. First, Mary and Joseph are the only witnesses of such a marvel. But soon, the good news is proclaimed twice to humble shepherds "keeping watch over their flock by night," by "an angel of the Lord," joined later by "a multitude of the heavenly host."

This was only the beginning of the greatest good news ever proclaimed on earth. In Luke's narrative, it's not only the number of heavenly messengers that increases, but also that of the human recipients: "on earth peace among those whom (God) favours." Born in the city of David, this child is not only the Saviour and Messiah awaited by Israel: he is no less, as the Letter to Titus puts it, "the grace of God... bringing salvation to all." Let us rejoice then – both as people who believe in this Saviour and Messiah, and together with all nations on earth whom God favours.

Jean-Pierre Prévost, Chénéville, QC
Novalis Living with Christ

A Blessed Christmas to all of you. Thank you for all the work, the prayers and the sacrifices you make for God and His people in this parish.

A special thank you to all who have helped us in our Christmas preparation and our Christmas Masses. It is our faithful parishioners who make our Christmas celebration a beautiful one.

I would also like to thank you for my many Christmas cards and gifts.

Fr. Earl Talbot

PARISH CALENDARS:

Thanks to a grant from our Bishop, we can distribute our beautiful calendars for FREE!

Here is the **challenge**: now that you have your own, **witness** to your faith by finding someone in your neighbourhood who is Catholic and needs to be invited to **come home!** Evangelization = "each one reach one"

Do you have the **courage** of your convictions?

Do you want to put your faith into **action**?

Don't just **think** about it, **do it!** Thank you, Fr. Earl. We thank **Mr. Stephen MacNeil** for his many hours of work put into assembling this calendar!

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, December 26	Rev. Paul Boucher
Tuesday, December 27	Rev. Felix Nwatu
Wednesday, December 28	Holy Cross Fathers (C.S.C.)
Thursday, December 29	Tony O'Dell, O.M.I.
Friday, December 30	Rev. Jarek Pachocki, O.M.I.
Saturday, December 31	Rev. Roshan D'Souza, O.M.I.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, January 2	Rev. Mark Sullivan
Tuesday, January 3	Rev. Bernard (Mike) Francis
Wednesday January 4	Holy Cross Fathers (O.C.D.)
Thursday, January 5	Rev. Edward Mahony
Friday, January 6	Rev. Peter Ciallella
Saturday, January 7	Rev. Malcolm Katzenberger

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BROADCASTING COUNCIL (NCBC) has announced a variety of ways to access daily Mass on television and on the Internet. Salt + Light Television, Vision TV, and yes TV make the program available each day. It is also available on [Daily TV Mass](#) and on YouTube.

Parenting Tip

At Christmas it is easy for children to get so wrapped up in what they want that they forget the reason for the season: the birth of Christ. Jesus came to offer a great sacrifice – his life so our sins could be forgiven. He taught us to look toward others; to feed the hungry, care of the sick and so much more. The greatest gift we can give our children is the ability to look outward towards what others need, as opposed to looking inward to what “I” want. When we teach our children what Christmas really represents and why we celebrate, it helps them know God loves them and to spread his love to others.

CHRISTMAS – The Birth of Our Lord

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister. Contact Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: mking@hamiltondiocese.com

Mary Mother of God

Mary treasured all that God had done for her, and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God and ponder what He wants from you? You may have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ. If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister contact Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: mking@hamiltondiocese.com

Marriage Tip

Pope Francis, in *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), challenges married couples to understand that their love is a call to sacrificial love. He invites each spouse to see their married love as love that must be first and foremost self-giving. When a person in relationship understands this, it helps them to reach beyond themselves and indeed grow. When we take the time to discern our vision of married life and then reach into ourselves to make it happen, both spouses benefit. The Pope is reminding us that love may not be perfect, but it is love and when we nurture it from within, we strengthen and build a deep bond between us.

(From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

BEER AND BIBLE

This program is a relaxed and informal bible study set in a pub. People of all ages (19+) are invited to join us, and no experience with bible study is necessary. All denominations, religions and faith backgrounds are welcomed, so bring a friend! Our next “Beer and Bible” gathering will be on **Tuesday, January 17th** at 7:00 p.m. at “**The Rose and Thistle**”, 48 Dalhousie Street. We will be reading Romans 14 – 16. Please note the venue change.

ITALIAN CULTURE CLUB – Day Wellness Centre, St. Joseph’s Lifecare Centre. Join us in the celebration of all things Italy! Biscotti, Espresso, Scopa, Briscola, Italian Music, and much more When: Thursdays from 1 – 3 pm at St. Joseph’s Day Wellness Centre, 99 Wayne Gretzky Cost \$15.00. Registration/Inquiries: (519)751-7096, ext 3315.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The reason angels can fly is that they take themselves so lightly.

The office will be closed from Friday December 23 at noon and reopen on Wednesday, December 28, 2016. Also, the office is closed on Monday Jan 2nd
Wishing everyone a joyous Christmas.