

Mass Intentions this week



Dec. 12 – Dec. 17th

- Tuesday 6:30 pm** †Joseph Nguyen
- Wednesday 12:noon** †Arthur Joseph Myers
- Thursday 12:noon** †Albert Cremasco, Intentions of the Tran Family, In thanksgiving to God
- Friday 12:noon** †Rosita Blais
- Saturday 5:00 pm** †Dr. Tim Carlton, Cecil & Anne Fulcher, Jim McGregor, John & Carmina Risi, Gerard Spelier, Deceased Family Members



Sanctuary Lamp this week

Intentions of: Paul Archer 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. Thank you.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

This week we especially pray for:

- Monday Rev. Malcolm Katzenberger .
 - Tuesday Rev. Arthur Scidmore
 - Wednesday: Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (C.M.I.)
 - Thursday Rev. Gary Schlack
 - Friday Rev. Mervin Perera
 - Saturday Rev. Thomas Manninezhath, C.M.I.
- 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.

OFFERTORY: Thank you!

Envelopes	\$4,089.00
Loose Collections:	\$ 490.25
Average Weekly Preauthorized	<u>\$ 485.00</u>
Total Weekly Offering Dec. 3, 2017	\$5,064.25
Budget expenses for the week	\$4,265.00

Spanish Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 pm - Blessed Sacrament Church - 181 King Street Burford, ON 519-449-5143 There will be a social in the parish hall following the Mass.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – St. Basil Council #13442 Meeting Tuesday, Dec. 12th. Mass at 6:30 pm in the Chapel! Meeting to follow after in the Rectory meeting room. Grand Knight: Bill Kane. Tel #519-752-1331. E-mail: william.r.kane@gmail.com

MEDITATION

Remember the scene in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* when the Grinch is picturing Christmas morning in Whoville: “That’s one thing I hate! All the noise, noise, noise, NOISE!” Sometimes the lead-up to Christmas is like that: overtired, screaming toddlers in the mall; non-stop Christmas music everywhere; or the incessant commercials on TV can all bring out the Grinch in the best of us.

So I am especially grateful for the calming voices in today’s readings that encourage us to focus on what’s really important during these weeks before Christmas. Both Isaiah and John the Baptist remind us that this season of Advent is about preparing the way for the Lord. It’s about clearing some space, making room for Jesus and welcoming him into our lives in an ever deeper way.

For some of us, that might mean committing more time for prayer each day, even in the midst of the December hustle and bustle. Perhaps for others it means giving the gift of presence to someone who is lonely or housebound in this festive season. Maybe it is even something as simple as making a conscious effort to treat the harried cashier with courtesy and respect.

In today’s celebration, prophetic voices reach out to us across the centuries. As we continue our Advent journey, may we have ears to hear their words and hearts to heed their call.

Teresa Whalen Lux, Regina, Sk
Novalis, Living with Christ

SACRAMENTS – Registration forms for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and for Confirmation for 2018 are available on the welcome desk in church.

Please inform family, friends and neighbours that they do not register through the schools. Sacraments are parish celebrations. You need to register by today!

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT!

This weekend at all three Masses we welcome our May 2018 Confirmation Candidates as we pray for and with them.

I had asked them to answer this question “what gift of the Holy Spirit do you think you need most in your life now, and why?”

There are always insightful answers!

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

Here at our parish; for one hour on the following Wednesday evening at the Rectory:

Dec. 13th – 6:30 – 7:30 pm - Saints for Advent

ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATIONS

In preparation for Christmas, three parishes will have a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- St. Mary – Tuesday, December 12th at 5 p.m.
- St. Pius x – Tuesday, December 19th at 7 p.m.
- St. Basil - Thursday, December 21st at 7 p.m.

In response to the Rohingya persecution in Myanmar, the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace-Caritas Canada is working with Caritas Bangladesh to support a food distribution program along the border with Myanmar. Development and Peace is also assisting Bangladeshis with food and other emergency relief given the enormous strain that the refugee crisis is having on their own country's very limited resources. Visit the Development and Peace - website: <https://www.devp.org/en/emergencies/bangladesh> for instructions on how to make a financial contribution to the Myanmar Crisis Relief Fund.

ALEXANDRA CHURCH, 410 Colborne Street, Brantford is hosting an "Evening Of Christmas Praise" with Dr. John Vandertuin. He is an internationally renowned, blind organist, he will delight you this season with organ, piano and vocal music on Saturday, *Dec. 16th at 7:30 pm*, free will offering.

'*Chalice*' is a Canadian Catholic child sponsorship organization. Thanks to the generous contributions of our supporters we create, support, and increase access to education, health, and family livelihood for nearly 50,000 children in 15 developing countries. Chalice invites you to share the blessings and joy of Christmas with children and families in the developing world. Our Christmas Gift Catalogue offers the opportunity to purchase a gift on behalf of a friend or loved-one. The items in the catalogue are carefully selected based on the needs of the families we serve around the world. Your friend or loved-one will receive a beautiful card stating what gift or gifts you purchased in their name. You will also receive an official tax receipt. Catalogues are at the back of the Church. More information is available at www.chalice.ca .'

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR NEEDED

First Baptist Church, Brantford is looking for a new Office Administrator. She/he will be working along with our Minister, Treasurer, Bookkeeper, Caretaker and the general members of our congregation. Hours are 9 am to 12 noon Tuesday till Friday. If anyone is interested, please call First Baptist Church at 70 West St. (519) 753-2406 and speak to Dianne.

COME RETREAT AT LOYOLA HOUSE (Guelph)

Are you looking to break away and spend some time in silence? See our website at Loyolahouse.com for more information on these upcoming retreats & programs.

- 8-Day Directed Retreats – January 22-30, February 7-15 (1/2 price for new retreatants)
- Henry Nouwen Retreat: A Life in Letters & Journals – February 2-4
- Knowing the Heart of Jesus Weekend Retreat – February 23-25
- Finding Your Way: Weekend of Discernment – February 23-25.



Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God's gift of himself.

St. Teresa of Calcutta

How to pray? This is a simple matter. I would say, Pray any way you would like, so long as you do pray.

St. John Paul II

Don't worry about anything instead PRAY about everything.

- Philipians

Pope Francis to attend World Meeting of Families in Dublin – The Diocese of Hamilton is planning a trip to the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland, which takes place Aug. 21 – 26, 2018. This international event is designed to be significant to people of all ages at all stages of life. Every keynote address and workshop will be based on Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*, or *The Joy of Love*. This is a family event with workshop streams for those 18 and older, 6 – 17 years and day care for those 5 and younger. The Diocese of Hamilton has booked a block of rooms for anyone interested in attending, **but** registration for the conference portion and travel are to be booked by each individual participant. Conference Registration can be found at <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/>. For more information or to book accommodation at our hotel, the Maldon Hotel Tallaght, go to <https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/wmof-2018> or call 905-528-7988 ext. 2250 (Teresa Hartnett). Diocesan accommodation must be booked by mid-January, so contact us soon if you are interested.

WANT TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR ANNIVERSARY BULLETIN? Spaces are available. If you can fill these empty spaces, please call Bialas Printing at 519-752-4268. Thank you!