

Monday, January 7 – Feast: St. Andre Bessette 7:30a.m. – Robert Holliday, Monte Cirotto, Margaret McWhinnie

- **Tuesday, January 8** Ferial: Weekday 7:30a.m. – Betty Weiler, Sheila Hoshooley, Intentions of Donna Hart
- Wednesday, January 9 Ferial: Weekday
- 7:30a.m. Imants Bunkis, Jacques Lacroix, Intentions of Brenda & Carol-Anne Barrett & Family
- Thursday, January 10 Ferial: Weekday
- 7:00p.m. Cosmo (Cutts) Ferraro, Intentions of Danilo & Guistina Porcellato, Intentions of Rita Southon
- Friday, January 11 Ferial: Weekday
- 7:30a.m. Intentions of Karen Holliday, Mary Reid, Corrado Visentin
- Saturday, January 12 Feast: St. Marguerite Bourgeoys 5:15p.m. – Steve Vasko, Yvon Gagne, Bill Shortt, David Ferraro

Sunday, January 13 – Feast: Baptism of the Lord 9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.

Stewardship of Treasure:

Thank you for your gift of Dec. 16th - \$11,292.75, Dec. 23rd - \$12,403.15 & Dec. 25th - \$42,740.00 in support of your parish community in gratitude for God's blessings.

+We offer our prayers and sympathy to the families of Ethel Crowe and George Kurian who were called to eternal life. May they rest in the peace of God.

PARISH NEWS

CATECHETICAL CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAMS

Programs are available for children from Kindergarten through High School not currently receiving religious instruction in a Catholic School. Those children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion must be enrolled in these programs and families work at home with them. Contact Monica in the Catechesis Office at 1-905-528-7988 ext. 2238 to register and receive your programs.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mary believed. She was a Christian before anyone else was, God's pioneer in the Kingdom. God led her in faith, but there was no one else she could follow, except her Son. It was her faith that her cousin Elizabeth praised. Not simply that she was the mother, but "blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled" (Lk. 1:45). She believed and there were many days when she could do nothing but cling to her faith in the dark, watching the mysterious teenager, this wandering evangelist, this daring hounded prophet. She could do nothing but exist in faith beneath the cross and afterwards. So Mary is Michelangelo's "Pieta" which even the pagans look on with wonder and perhaps a tingling desire for faith. Mary is the mother who holds her dead Son, looks into His face and cries tears like all mothers and fathers in history, all those stunned by tragedy who see the ashes of their dreams slip through their fingers. After Jesus had risen and left the earth Mary's faith was strong, even more peaceful and trusting as she witnessed the birth pangs of the Church struggling to be born.

PLANNED GIVING

The Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate began serving the community in 1888 and remains today a strong symbol of faith. The continued support of parishioners is a wonderful sign of your Stewardship and continues to be important. Ongoing repairs and restoration projects continue and are very costly to fund. Please consider us as you prepare or update your estate and financial plans. A modest gift by the way of bequest, insurance or tangible assets can make a substantial difference to the future of our church. The BUILDING FUND finances immediate repairs and restoration work and helps to pay down our debt while the HERITAGE FUND ensures the Basilica will be in a position of financial security for future generations. For more information please contact the Parish Office at 519-824-3951. We are grateful that the Diocese has taken responsibility for the restoration of our Rectory and offices.

MINISTRY FAIR

Next Sunday after the 9a.m. and 11a.m. Masses the various Ministry Leaders will be in the Hall to explain and invite you to join one of our many parish ministries. Many times people say they would like to become more involved in the parish and this is a great opportunity to learn about our ministries and how you can participate.

FAREWELL TO FATHER CHRIS TRACEY

Next Sunday will be Father Chris Traceyc last Sunday with us. You are invited to come to the hall after Mass for Coffee and Donuts and to say goodbye as he has been appointed the Administrator of St. Mary of the Visitation Parish in Cambridge.

OTHER NEWS

JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN AT WELLINGTON CATHOLIC

The Wellington Catholic District School Board will be accepting registrations for Kindergarten beginning January 7th. To attend JK one must be four years of age on or before December 31st, 2019 and for SK one must be five years of age on or before December 31st, 2019. Please bring . childs birth certificate; a parent or childs baptismal certificate; childs health card/ immunization record/ custody papers (if applicable); proof of tax support for families new to the system (ie most recent tax bill). Students currently in JK program in Wellington Catholic are NOT REQUIRED to register for SK. Any questions please call your school.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS SHARE COMMON SKILLS

Come and learn more! %Keys to Loving Relationships+is a ten week video-based program that all people (married, dating or single) can use to develop the skills needed to have a truly meaningful relationship with a spouse, family member or friend. Learn how to become a better %me+ in all your relationships. The program is offered in Kitchener at St. Markos Parish, 55 Driftwood Drive (519-571-9200) Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9p.m. January 22nd to March 26th. The cost is \$45. For more information or to register call the Family Ministry Office at 1-905-528-7988 ext. 2249 or register at www.hamiltondiocese.com.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Our third event will be held Tuesday, January 15th from 7-9p.m. at the Albion Hotel with Teresa Hartnett, Director of Family Ministry for the Hamilton Diocese. She will be speaking on the topic % ving In A Throw Away Culture.+Finger food will be provided. Young adults 19-40 are welcome.

MINI-BUS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Guelph & Area Right to Life is gathering change to support pro-life advertisements on the back of some city buses providing educational information about abortion, euthanasia and local crisis pregnancy support. There is a mini-bus+to fill with change in a past week bulletin. Buses can be returned to the church by the end of January. Thank you for your support.

VOCATION NEWS

[%]On entering the house they saw the child with Mary, His mother and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.+ God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christon name? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, contact Father Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 1-905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

SUNDAY SMILE!

Harrison age 9 said, "My guardian angel helps me with math but he's not so good at science."

OPERATION KEEP WARM

Donations of tents, tarps, sleeping bags and hiking backpacks are needed. They are being accepted on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9a.m. and 4p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday between 9a.m. and 8p.m. at 133 Woolwich Street, Guelph.

