



## THE POPE'S DECEMBER INTENTIONS FOR 2019

**The Future of the Very Young** That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.



### A Christmas Remembrance for Our Parish Shut-ins

It's cookie time again! We would like to deliver to all our shut-ins a can filled with a variety of homemade cookies. Since this is the season for baking, we are asking you to share some of your homemade cookies with them. How special it will be to them when they receive their tin of homemade Christmas cookies! Thank you for embracing the joy of this holy season by remembering those who would dearly love to be with us but, due to declining health, are unable to do so.

Because of your generosity we have also been able to lift the spirits of the 25 men who reside at the Underhill Residence at Erb and Avondale by providing each with a container of cookies. To continue to do this, however, WE NEED MORE COOKIES! When you do your Christmas baking, please consider baking an extra dozen for the parish.



Please bring only cookies – other baking is very difficult to include in the tins for the shut-ins.



Your cookies should be brought to the parish office on **Tuesday, December 10** between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Labeled containers will be returned to you.



When you drop off your cookies, be sure to pick up a Christmas ornament, a small token of appreciation for your kindness.



Volunteers will be needed to deliver these tins of cookies to the shut-ins on Thursday, **December 12** at 2:00 p.m. If you are able to help, please call Patrycja at the parish. office.



For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the **Baby Jesus** figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the 'Bambinelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> to be blessed as we too celebrate our own

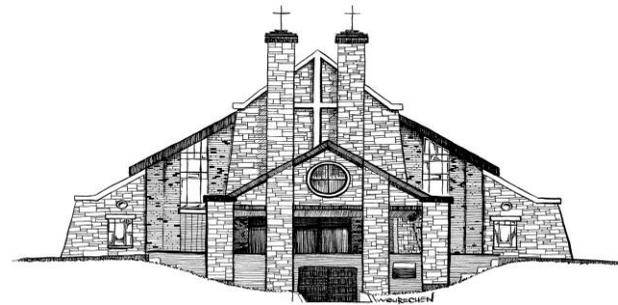
Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day - as you lay Jesus in the Manger; allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

### CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CHOIRS



**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CHOIRS!** Once again, we are offering you an opportunity to help us with Christmas music by joining one of our special Christmas Choirs. If you are interested in helping at the Christmas Eve 5:00 Family Mass and Pageant, please sign up on the music stand in the church vestibule. There will be a rehearsal on Sat., Dec. 21 in the Choir Loft from 1:00-2:00 p.m. If you are interested in helping at the Christmas Eve 7:00 or the

Christmas Day 9:00 Mass, please sign up on the list on the music stand in the vestibule. The rehearsal for these Masses will be on Sat., Dec 21 from 10:00 a.m. - Noon. Refreshments will be provided! Thank you for helping make Christmas at Our Lady of Lourdes very special!



## Our Lady of Lourdes Church

173 Lourdes Street

Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1N5

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lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com

www.ourladyoflourdeswaterloo.com



@OLOLWaterloo



@our\_parish

**PASTOR:**

**Fr. Rafal Tomon**

**DEACON:**

**Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

**Mrs. Patrycja Wiecek**

**Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

**Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**SUNDAY MASSES:**

**Saturday 7:00 p.m.**

**Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

**By appointment – please phone the parish office**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

**Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon**

**Twenty minutes before weekday Masses or by appointment**

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

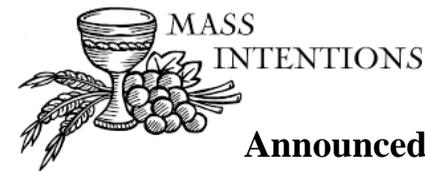
**By appointment – please phone the parish office**

**BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS:**

**Last Sunday of each month after all Masses**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:**

**Church door collections – last Sunday of each month**



### MASS INTENTIONS

### Announced Mass intentions for Dec 9 to Dec 15, 2019

Monday.....	8:30 a.m. ....	+Eva Granic – Peter & Angela Granic & Family
Tuesday.....	<b>Luther Village</b> .....	10:00 a.m. .... +Regina Fonseca – Emily Rodrigues
Tuesday .....	7:00 p.m. ....	+ Maria Granic – Regina Katavic
Wednesday .....	8:30 a.m. ....	+Vern Dorscht – Shantz Family
Thursday .....	7:00 p.m. ....	+Maria Capa – Wiecek Family
Friday .....	8:30 a.m. ....	+Pearl Misersky – Miriam Jayasundera
Saturday.....	7:00 p.m. ....	+Gerald Thiel – Catherine Thiel
Sunday .....	9:00 a.m. ....	Living & deceased members of our parish
	11:00 a.m. ....	Special intention

**Offertory collection for Sunday, December 1, 2019: \$3,453.00**

[Note: This amount does not include donations received through pre-authorized giving.]

**Monthly Budget Review as of November 30, 2019**

Cumulative financial objective – 47 weeks @ \$7,500 .....		\$352,500.00
Weekly contributions (year to date) .....	\$226,853.80	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date) .....	<u>128,350.89</u>	<u>355,204.69</u>
Over (under) objective.....		\$2,704.69



If you braved the winter storm last weekend, you heard that we are very happy to announce a very successful outcome for our One Heart One Soul Campaign. As of last week, we exceeded our minimum goal of \$495,000 and have \$504,164.64

in pledges made. We are aware of more pledges that will be added to our total, bringing us close to \$550,000. This is a tremendous response to the needs of our parish and the desire to support special ministries in our diocese. Let us pray for the continued success of the campaign as the next wave of parishes plan for their important efforts. God bless you all.



**ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATIONS - WATERLOO CHURCHES:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to restore our hurt or broken relationship with God, the Church, one another and with ourselves. Everyone is encouraged to make frequent use of this Sacrament of Healing. Advent, a time of preparation in the Church, is not a penitential season like Lent, but is still an appropriate time for us to celebrate this sacrament. Each of the four churches in Waterloo will offer a Penitential Service during Advent. Everyone is strongly encouraged to attend one of these.

- Monday, December 9.....7:30 p.m.....St. Louis Church
- Tuesday, December 10.....7:30 p.m.....St. Agnes Church
- Wednesday, December 11....8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.....St. Michael Church
- Thursday, December 12.....7:30 p.m.....**Our Lady of Lourdes Church**



**WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR TRANSPORTATION TEAM:** The Tree of Life “Tree Cutters” need some volunteers to help lift the tree onto the truck at 549 Victoria Street South, Kitchener, on Saturday, December 21 at 2:00 p.m. Come experience this parish tradition! *The more volunteers we have, the easier it is to handle this task, so if you can spare an hour, please contact Patrycja at 519-886-0342 or email at: [lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com](mailto:lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com).*



**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS**

Wednesday, **December 11** and Wednesday, **December 18** from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Children and parent volunteers are asked to meet in the church hall on the above dates in preparation for the rehearsal that will take place in the church.

“Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words.” –attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

**Second Sunday of Advent - December 8, 2019**

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” Could God be calling you to be a priest in order to help our world of today to truly “prepare the way of the Lord”? If God is calling you, **contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. email to [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)**

**Parenting Tip of the Month** - For Catholics, Christmas is about so much more than gifts: it is the promise, through the birth of Jesus, of goodness and light coming into our lives. Do your children know this is the focus of Christmas? Advent and Christmas are perfect times to highlight the “reason for the season”. Read stories about the Advent wreath so they understand what each candle symbolizes; read the story of the Nativity (more than once!); be sure the tree is adorned with symbols of the faith; read family Advent reflections daily during Advent; attend Mass and reflect on the readings each week, including Christmas Day. Faith sets a foundation on which to stand and Christmas is a perfect time to bring Christ into your family activities!

**Marriage Tip of the Month** - At Christmas we gather with loved ones to share gifts, eat great food and build joyful memories. Sometimes we get caught up on the glitter and glam of the season and forget to take time as a couple to decide how much money, time and energy we can expend during the season. This year why not sit down in advance and decide how much you can do as a couple/family. Weave into your plans time for the two of you to take a quiet moment with each other. During Advent and Christmas, take time to pray and share important faith moments with each other. Trying these initiatives could make this Christmas your best yet!

**Friday Night Support Group for Persons Separated or Divorced** - Would it help you to have people around you to understand what you’re going through? Would you like to hear some ideas that will encourage you and help you to develop new ways of coping with the stresses in your life? The Hamilton Diocesan Support Group meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month and they can help! No need to register just come and join us at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West, Hamilton from 7 – 9 p.m. For more information call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249. There is NO COST, but great learning, caring and support!

**CCYMN Hope Comes Home Conference** - The Canadian Youth Ministry Conference is being hosted Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 in Hamilton. Through keynote addresses, workshops and prayerful collaboration with one another, we look forward to unpacking the fruits of the Synod, and finding ways of applying the Apostolic Exhortation- *Christus Vivit* to day-to-day ministerial and Parish life. We invite anyone working alongside young people to join us, including priests, religious, youth ministers, youth ministry volunteers, teachers, chaplaincy leaders and teams, and individuals working for catholic service agencies. There are bursaries available for those wishing to attend but may not be able to due to financial constraint. For more information about the conference, to register, or apply for a bursary please visit [www.hopecomeshome.com](http://www.hopecomeshome.com). If you have any questions please contact Nicole McCowell, Interim Director of Youth Ministry, at [nmccowell@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:nmccowell@hamiltondiocese.com) or 905-528-7988 ext.2245.

*Volunteers needed! Things to sign up for during this Christmas season . . .*

*Please email our parish office at [lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com](mailto:lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com)*

- Christmas Eve Family Choirs (all ages)
- Pageant (grades 1 to 8)
- Minister of Hospitality (Usher)
- “Tree of Life” tree-cutter
- Christmas/New Year’s gift bearer
- Deliverer of cookies to our shut-ins

