



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.



HELPING CHILDREN THROUGH OUR BOWING ANGEL: A long-standing tradition at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is the presence of the bowing angel by the manger scene, who graciously bows her head after an offering is made. Again this year, all donations received from the bowing angel will be sent to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Children's Project in Kenya who work with children whose parents have died of HIV-AIDS. Since the bowing angel cannot digest paper, a plate will be by the angel to accept paper offerings. (Cheques should be made payable to "Our Lady of Lourdes Church".)

TREE OF LIFE: It is a tradition here at Our Lady of Lourdes to call the large tree in the sanctuary the "Tree of Life" for the decorations on it reflect two of the great Christian mysteries: *birth and death*. On the tree, there will be *55 angels* each inscribed with the name of a child baptized in the parish since last Christmas, and *16 crosses* in memory of those born to eternal life. When the Christmas season is over, these personalized ornaments will be available as mementos to family members. Parents with children baptized this year are encouraged to have a photo taken with the child by the tree and to keep this with the ornament.



WORK CREW: Volunteers are required on Sunday, January 12 immediately after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. to take down the Christmas decorations. As we will be carrying the parts of the manger scene to the basement storage area, the assistance of some younger volunteers would be very helpful. Refreshments will be served following the project.

ORNAMENTS FROM THE TREE OF LIFE: Those who had a child baptized or a loved one called to Eternal Life (and buried from Lourdes) in 2019 may pick up their angel or cross after any weekend Mass beginning January 18/19 in the work sacristy behind Our Lady of Lourdes' altar .

*As the world rejoices in the wonder of His birth, may you be blessed with a beautiful Christmas and with every happiness in the New Year 2020.
Best wishes, Patrycja Wiecek*

Christmas Office Hours

Christmas Eve, December 24.....	Open
Wednesday, December 25 & Thursday, December 26.....	Closed
Friday, December 27.....	Closed
New Year's Eve, December 31.....	Open
Wednesday, January 1.....	Closed
Thursday, January 2.....	Regular office hours




Our Lady of Lourdes Church
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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 30 to Jan 5, 2020

Monday.....	8:30 a.m.	+Nicole Reichelt-Benallick – Maria Reichelt-Smit
Tuesday	5:00 pm	+James & Wilma Doyle – Larry & Sharon Wettlaufer
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our parish
Mary, Mother of God	11:00 a.m.....	Special Intention of Scott Reid – Williams Family
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	+ Bob Fritz – Family
Friday	8:30 a.m.....	Special Intention Chris & Priya Belleth – Pohan & Jaeintha
.....	Jayasundera
Friday... West Hill	8:30 a.m.....	+Bob Fritz – Doretta Fritz
Saturday. First Saturday Mass ...	8:30 a.m.....	Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday	7:00 p.m.....	+Ed Jadeski – Jim & Mary Simon
.....	+Jack Downey – Family
Sunday.....	9:00 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our parish
.....	11:00 a.m.	Special intention

Offertory collection for Sunday, December 22, 2019: \$5,747.30

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

**SENIORS' SOCIAL
GROUP**

OUR SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP will resume Tuesday, January 7, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., in the parish hall. All are welcome!

DIOCESAN BOOKKEEPING POLICY: As we approach year end, parishioners frequently wish to make contributions to the church that will be credited to their tax receipt for the current year. Diocesan bookkeeping policy requires that parish books close on December 31. Contributions made in January cannot be applied to 2019 offerings.

THE 2020 LABYRINTH PROJECT: Our Lady of Lourdes Church will be hosting an indoor labyrinth on Saturday, January 18th from 9:30 AM to Noon. Is nurturing your spiritual life on your New Year's Resolution list? Come and give the spiritual practice of praying with a labyrinth a try! The single path to the centre of the labyrinth reflects our Christian understanding of the single path to salvation via Christ. The 2020 Labyrinth Project, a collaborative project between WHY@Breakfast and five Waterloo churches, aims to provide Christians in KW the opportunities to pray with a labyrinth on the second last Saturday of each month. An introduction to praying with the labyrinth will be provided at 9:30 AM. Those who are experienced with this spiritual practice may come anytime during the morning and pray. Instruction/Reflection booklets are available. Please note that no outdoor shoes are allowed on the labyrinth. For more information and the full schedule of this project, please see <https://whyatbreakfast.com/2020-labyrinth-project/>

PRAYER VIGIL - Thursday, January 2, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; in front of Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St. E., Kitchener, for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking - across the road, Schneider Park. Any queries, please contact Cathy at: kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com

In God We Trust

God, Source of all goodness,

before I can know you or praise you,

before I can count my blessings and thank you for all I have received,

your Spirit is within me, preparing my heart for faith.

Even though I suppose it is my wisdom which traces your action

along the path of my life,

I must proclaim it is you who have gifted me with the power to believe.

*Allow me to trust you and to follow the prompting of your Spirit,
so that you who have placed trust in me might bring it to completion.*

Amen.

Prayer for the New Year



*O God of new beginnings and wonderful surprises,
thank you for the gift of a new year.
May it be a time of grace for me,
a time to grow in faith and love,
a time to renew my commitment
to following your Son, Jesus.*

*May it be a year of blessing for me,
a time to cherish my family and friends,
a time to renew my efforts at work,
a time to embrace my faith more fully.*

*Walk with me, please,
in every day and every hour of this New Year,
that the light of Christ might shine through me,
in spite of my weaknesses and failings.
Above all, may I remember this year
that I am a pilgrim on the sacred path to you.*

Amen

Table Blessing for New Year's Day

*God, our Father,
you chose the lowly maiden of Nazareth,
to become the mother of your eternal Son.
Through the intercession of her prayers
make us, your children,
grow daily in the love of you, our Father,
and in the love of all our brothers and sisters in Christ.
Send your blessings upon our table,
upon those who prepared this food for us,
and make us always mindful
of the needs of the poor and the hungry.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of Mary.*

Amen.



