

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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 12 7:30 p.m. St. Louis Church
 Tuesday, December 13..... 7:30 p.m. St. Agnes Church
 Wednesday, December 14..... 7:30 p.m. St. Michael Church
 Thursday, December 15 7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Throughout the year

Saturdays: 11:00 a.m.-12 noon
 Wednesdays: 7:45-8:15 a.m.
 or by appointment

Additional pre-Christmas times

Tuesday, December 20
 & Thursday, December 22
 at 6:15 p.m.



CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS – THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Saturday, December 24.... Christmas Eve..... 7:00 p.m.
 9:00 p.m. (in Vietnamese)
 12:00 midnight

Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day 9:00 a.m.
 11:00 a.m.
 1:00 p.m. (in Vietnamese)

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY

Saturday, December 31, 2016 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday, January 1, 2017 9:00 a.m.
 11:00 a.m.
 3:00 p.m. (in Vietnamese)



Our Lady of Lourdes Church
 173 Lourdes Street
 Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1N5
 519-886-0342 519-886-0349 (fax)
 lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com
 www.ourladyoflourdeswaterloo.com

PASTOR:

Rev. Edward (Ted) Hughes

ADMINISTRATOR:

Rev. Rafal Tomon

DEACON:

Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang

PARISH YOUTH CATECHIST:

Paula Rush

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Bette Honsinger

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.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. Vietnamese Martyrs Community
Rev. Hanh Van Tran, O.M.I.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

By appointment – please phone the parish office

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon
Wednesday, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.

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

Announced Mass intentions for the week of December 11 to 17, 2016

Monday..... 8:30 a.m.Leah Martin – Nevelle & Naomi de' Rozario
 Tuesday **Luther Village**.....10:00 a.m.Marcel & Pauline Crépeau – Paul Dion & Michele Daviau
 7:00 p.m.In Thanksgiving – Rosy Biber
 Wednesday 8:30 a.m.Sylvie St-Hilaire – Adèle Verreault
 Thursday 7:00 p.m.Jim Diesbourg – Family
 Friday 8:30 a.m.Ettore Volpini – Frank & Charmaine Volpini & Family
 Saturday..... 7:00 p.m.Anna & John Miller; Jeanette Achi

Offertory collection for Sunday, December 4, 2016: \$5,083.00

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

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 2016 offerings.



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 are working 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.

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 **61 angels** each inscribed with the name of a child baptized in the parish since last Christmas, and **25 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.

CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTE FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE! During the Holy Season of Christmas, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes to be placed in the church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. Forms are available at the church entrances if you wish to make such a tribute. The floral tribute sheets will be placed in the sanctuary in a gift-wrapped box. Those loved ones named will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.



FIRST AIDERS: A defibrillator will be installed in the lobby of the church in January.

Have you had a first aid course or CPR training and would you be interested in coming to an orientation session for the new defibrillator? We're looking for a group of parishioners who have had first aid training and would be interested in learning how to use the defibrillator. In the event of an emergency having several parishioners who have been oriented to the machine could save a life. The orientation session will occur in January (in the evening). If interested, please contact Bette at the parish office.

RESPONSIBLE STEWARDS OF CREATION



Close to five million litres of water are taken from Wellington County daily for a water bottling plant. This extraction of large amounts of water adversely affects the ecological balance of nature over a large area while depriving those who rely on wells of their right to water. Close to seventy-five percent of plastic bottles end up in land fill sites, thus contributing to contamination of the soil for thousands of years.

Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, urges all parishes in the Diocese of Hamilton to refrain from using bottled water in church facilities. As stewards of Creation may we be leaders in the responsible use of our sacred mandate.



Christmas Volunteers Needed!

Contact Bette in the parish office (lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com or 519-886-0342) for more information or to participate in any of these upcoming parish activities.

TRANSPORTATION TEAM: The Tree of Life "Tree Cutters" need some volunteers to help lift the tree onto the truck at 12 Northmanor Cres., Kitchener (behind Resurrection High School), on Saturday, December 17 at 1:45 p.m. Come experience this parish tradition! Time commitment is no more than one hour.

CHURCH SETUP: On Sunday, December 18, immediately after the 11:00 a.m. Mass (i.e. noon), volunteers will be required to help with church preparations, including erecting the above-mentioned tree and the manger scene. Christmas cheer to follow in the parish hall.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (USHERS): Men and women of the parish are invited to serve as ministers of hospitality (ushers) on Christmas Eve (5:00 and 7:00 p.m.) and at midnight Mass as we welcome one and all to our parish for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BEARERS: Volunteers are needed to serve as gift bearers at all the Christmas Masses: 5:00 p.m. (Living Scripture) and 7:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, midnight Mass, and 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses on Christmas Day. You are also welcome to volunteer as gift bearers for the New Year's Eve/Day weekend.



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CHOIRS



Would you like to be in a special one-time choir for our Christmas Eve Masses? The choir for the 5 p.m. Mass will rehearse once on Saturday, December 17 from 1:00-2:15 p.m. The choir for the 7 p.m. Mass will rehearse from 7-8:30 p.m. on both Wednesday, December 14 and Wednesday, December 21. All rehearsals will be in the choir loft. Come enjoy this wonderful Christmas experience. Comfortable seats-with-a-view in the choir loft - guaranteed!

IT'S COOKIE TIME! A Christmas Remembrance for Our Parish Shut-ins

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Please bring your cookies (cookies only please) to the parish office on Tuesday, December 13 from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Bring your cookies in one of your own, labeled containers which 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 are needed to deliver these tins of cookies on Thursday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m. If you are able to help, please contact Bette at the parish office.