

BAPTISM: During the month of November, the following children became members of God's family in the sacrament of baptism:

Hugh Musashi Bester	Logan Daniel Carruthers	Shevon Mikael Mudannayake
Samantha Thao Santa	James Edward Vafiades	Isabella Anne-Marie Elizabeth Savage
Elijah Michael Van Engelen		

TRANSPORTATION TEAM: The Tree of Life "Tree Cutters" need some volunteers to help lift the tree onto the truck at 96 Shadeland Cres., Kitchener, on Saturday, December 16 at 2 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 Bette at 519-886-0342 or lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com.*



CHURCH SETUP: On Sunday, December 17, at 1:00 p.m. 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.

Last call for Living Scripture participants!



Students from grades one to eight are invited to proclaim the Word of God through movement on Christmas Eve **beginning promptly at 5:00 p.m.** Holy Mass will begin immediately following the children's proclamation. Parent volunteers are most welcome and needed! There will be three rehearsals: Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 19 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. To register, please fill out and drop off a form available at the church entrances or email Paula at lourdescatechist@rogers.com. Deadline to register for the Living Scripture is Monday, December 4 at 12 noon.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: As we prepare for Christmas, our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society will be focusing on people in need within our parish area. If you know of any family or individual who requires assistance for Christmas, please phone the parish office.



CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTE: 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.

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 our Christmas Masses: 5:00 p.m. (Living Scripture) and 7:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, midnight Mass and 9:00 a.m. on Christmas Day. You are also welcome to volunteer as gift bearers for New Year's Eve/Day.



Our Lady of Lourdes Church
 173 Lourdes Street
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 519-886-0342 519-886-0349 (fax)
 lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com
 www.ourladyoflourdeswaterloo.com

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 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

Announced Mass intentions for the week of December 3 to 9, 2017

Monday.....	8:30 a.m.	Ted Walraven – Gregory, Kishanie & Miriam Jayasundera
Tuesday Beechwood Manor	10:00 a.m.	Fr. Ted Hughes – Beechwood Manor Community
	7:00 p.m.	Bob Ervin – Louise Ervin
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Matthew Frankso – John & Marjory McElroy
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Nicholas Hickson – Marlene Hickson & Family
Friday	8:30 a.m.	Sean McGuire – Fran & Bill Voisin
Saturday.....	7:00 p.m.	Iva Granic – Peter & Angela Granic
		Bernie Quesnelle – Leanna Rybka

Offertory collection for Sunday, November 26, 2017: \$5,490.00

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

Monthly Budget Review as of November 30, 2017

Cumulative financial objective – 48 Weeks @ \$7,500		\$360,000.00
Weekly contributions (year to date).....	\$240,857.10	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date).....	<u>123,356.89</u>	<u>364,213.99</u>
Over (under) objective		\$4,213.99



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 30 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 12 between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Labelled 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 14 at 2:00 p.m. If you are able to help, please call Bette at the parish office

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 4 7:30 p.m.....St. Louis Church
- Tuesday, December 5 7:30 p.m.....St. Agnes Church
- Wednesday, December 6 7:30 p.m.....St. Michael Church
- Thursday, December 7 7:30 p.m.....Our Lady of Lourdes Church

**We mourn those who have gone before us in death
and continue with us in the Communion of Saints.**

Dianne Flood November 25, 2017

65

Let's celebrate!

60

Next weekend we will conclude our dual anniversary celebrations: the 65th anniversary of the founding of the parish (December 14, 1952) and the 60th anniversary of the dedication of the church itself (March 25, 1956). Bishop Douglas Crosby will be the celebrant and homilist at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall after all Masses.

Coincidentally on that weekend, we will be distributing our parish offering envelopes for 2018. The Finance Council would like to thank you for your ongoing support to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. As we're heading into a new year and preparing the budget for 2018, we ask you to consider your donation to the parish. Just as your personal household expenses continue to increase, so do the expenses of the parish. The Property and Maintenance Committee is working to maintain the church building and grounds. This requires an ongoing investment. It would be appreciated if you would consider increasing your weekly/monthly contributions to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish for 2018.

On the weekend of December 9/10, members of the Parish Finance Council will be available to assist you as well as provide information about our pre-authorized giving (PAG) program. At the present time, 118 families have chosen PAG! In addition, the Diocese has produced an excellent resource, the "Catholic Estate Planning Guide". Copies of this will be available on that weekend as well.

Please note: To fill in the gaps in the envelopes which have developed over the years and hence reduce the number of boxes we must purchase, all envelope users and PAG contributors will be receiving a new number for 2018. The envelopes will be in alphabetical order so it should be easy to find yours. At the end of December, it is essential that you discard all your previous envelopes so that donations can be properly recorded.



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 16 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. The choir for the 7 p.m. Mass will rehearse from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20. All rehearsals will be in the choir loft. If you are interested, please contact Bette at lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com or 519-886-0342. Come enjoy this wonderful Christmas experience. Comfortable seats-with-a-view in the choir loft – guaranteed!

THE NOTEWORTHY SINGERS PRESENT "CHRISTMAS JOY" in support of the New Toys for Needy Kids Toy Drive and the Waterloo Knights of Columbus. December 7 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Aloysius Church, 11 Traynor Ave., Kitchener. Admission: donation, cash or cheque (to New Toys for Needy Kids), or an unwrapped child's toy. Special note: the Waterloo Knights of Columbus provides the toys that our own St. Vincent de Paul Conference gives to the families they support.

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

- Christmas Eve Family Choirs (all ages)
- Living Scripture (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

