ARE YOU TICKED \checkmark ? You may have changed address – but your Catholic school tax support didn't! Even if you have been a Catholic school supporter in the past, the designation does not follow you when you relocate. Every time you move, it is essential that you re-declare as a Catholic school support. It is important to do this for three key reasons:

- 1. The number of officially registered Catholic ratepayers determines the number of WCDSB trustees, as well as who is and isn't entitled to vote for Catholic trustees.
- 2. An accurate tally of Catholic school supporters is vital for planning purposes (new schools, boundaries, etc.).
- 3. A declining number of Catholic ratepayers can be used by opponents of Catholic education to argue for one school system.

So, get ticked – and keep our Catholic schools #WCDBAwesome! Visit www.wcdsb.ca/our-schools/register-for-school/school-tax-support/ for more information.

WORTH A SECOND LOOK THRIFT SHOP, located at the former location of St. Vincent de Paul, is looking for donations. We are a charity that is a project of the Working Centre. Our goal is to provide low cost furniture and housewares to the community and help support many of our projects including "The Soup Kitchen" Items requested are furniture, all decorator items, small electrical appliances, clean household items, books and current magazines, health and beauty products, jewellery of all kinds, crafts and art supplies, all collectibles, music and movies, toys, gardening and hardware items. Items can be dropped off at 97 Victoria St. N. (entrance off of Duke or Weber Streets at Heit Lane). The hours are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pickups are available for larger donations by calling 519-569-7566 ext. 1 to make an appointment.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: Our Lady of Lourdes School will hold kindergarten registration for the 2018/19 school year on Tuesday, February 6, 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:30-6:45 p.m. Children born in 2014 are eligible for junior kindergarten. Children born in 2013 are eligible for kindergarten. The following will be required: a birth certificate, a Roman Catholic baptismal certificate of the child or either parent, and proof of address. If you require additional information please call the school at 519-886-4810. If you are a non-Catholic family, but wish to explore a Catholic education for your child(ren) please review the WCDSB Admissions to Catholic Elementary Schools policy at https://www.wcdsb.ca/ap_memos/PDF/APA001.pdf.

PRAYER VIGIL – Thursday, February 1, 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 at Schneider Park. For more information, please contact Cathy at kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com.

SUPER BOWL PARTY at 145 Dearborn Pl., Waterloo, on February 4. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Card groups welcome. Bring a partner and enter the cribbage tournament. Schnitzel dinner at 6 p.m. (\$12.50). Fun, food and draws at half-time of Superbowl.

WE ARE HIRING: The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is currently receiving applications for the following opportunities: occasional teachers, uncertified early childhood assistants, lunch hour supervisors. Please visit our website for job details and application criteria – www.wcdsb.ca.



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

| 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 January 29 to February 3, 2018

| Monday 8:30 a.m |
|--|
| Tuesday 7:00 p.m |
| – Sherry & Paul Smith & Family |
| Wednesday 8:30 a.m Owen Michael McLeod – Vivian Rickert |
| Thursday 7:00 p.m |
| Friday |
| The Westhill 10:00 a.m Souls in Purgatory – Mary Dorscht |
| Saturday 10:00 a.m |
| 6:00 p.mHoly Hour |
| 7:00 p.mMary Ellen Walsh – Jim & Joan O'Doherty |
| Sunday 9:00 a.m. Living & deceased members of our parish |
| 11:00 a.mSpecial intention |
| |

Offertory collection for Sunday, January 21, 2018: \$4,173.00

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



2017 MARKED THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY of the apparitions of our Blessed Mother to the children of Fatima. To continue our celebration of this event here at Lourdes, we have been having a holy hour on each First Saturday since October. The final holy hour in this series of five will be on February 3. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the rosary. This will be followed by a time for private adoration and the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The hour will conclude with benediction beginning at 6:45 p.m.

FIRST SATURDAY MASSES: Continuing until June, Holy Mass will be celebrated on the First Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. to honour Mary, Mother of God. At these Masses, we continue to pray for the intentions written down at the time of our Living Rosary.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 IS THE MEMORIAL OF ST. BLAISE. As the priest holds two blessed candles on the throat of the person being blessed, the following blessing is given: "Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." Why does the blessing of the throat take place on St. Blaise Day? St. Blaise, a physician and bishop, asked God to cure a child who was choking to death on a fish bone and the child's life was saved. Thus, St. Blaise is the patron saint of healthy throats. The blessing of throats will take place after the 10:00 a.m. Mass and 7:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, February 3.



YOU CAN FEED HUNGRY NEIGHBOURS by participating in House of Friendship's February Potato Blitz. **Friendship** Volunteers are needed to collect donations of cash and spuds



at area grocery stores on Saturday, February 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (2-hour shifts). Please sign up no later than Tuesday, February 5. For more information, or to sign up, contact Dawn at specialevents@houseoffriendship.org or 519-742-8327 ext. 119.

JOIN THE "CALL FOR CONSCIENCE" IN THE HAMILTON DIOCESE: The Government of Canada passed legislation in June 2016 legalizing euthanasia/assisted suicide. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is forcing health care workers to participate in ending the lives of their patients. The Diocese of Hamilton wants to protect the rights of all healthcare workers. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more, write a letter (samples will be available in the lobby of the church next weekend) to your Provincial Member of Parliament, and consider adding your e-mail address to the Conscience Coalitions network to receive future information. We all need to join the "Call for Conscience" taking place between February 6 and March 31.

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

Cletus Reidel January 24, 2018 Frank Clifford January 24, 2018

FIRST ANNUAL DIOCESAN BIBLE SUNDAY - JANUARY 28, 2018

An excerpt from a letter from Bishop Crosby dated December 20, 2017 . . . "At the conclusion of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy (December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016), His Holiness Pope Francis wrote an apostolic letter *Misericoria et misera*. In this letter he expressed his desire "that God's word be increasingly celebrated, known and disseminated, so that the mystery of love streaming from this font of mercy may be ever better understood". Furthermore, he stated that it would be beneficial if every Christian community, on one Sunday of the liturgical year, could renew its efforts to make the Sacred Scriptures better known and more widely diffused. It would be a Sunday given over entirely to the word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustble riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people . . . In response to the Holy Father's earnest desire, I hereby establish the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time each year as Bible Sunday in the Diocese of Hamilton."

A simple guide to praying with Scripture follows. A bookmark with the prayers for use before and after reading Scripture is enclosed in this bulletin.

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

FOUR BASIC QUESTIONS

1. What does it say?

Determine as closely as possible the literal meaning of the text.

- What do the words say?
- What is the meaning in the words?
- 2. What does it mean?

The meaning of a text is determined not simply from the words but also from the context in which the words exist.

- 3. What does it mean to me?
 - How does this apply to my life?
 - How does this apply to the life of the Church?
- 4. What am I going to do about it? The biblical text demands a response from us as a part of the interpretive interplay between the Bible and ourselves.
 - What difference does this text mean for my life?
 - What is my response to God's word?

PRAYING THE BIBLE

Begin with a prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Read through the passage once at a normal pace.

- Digest the words •
- Get a sense of the phrases •
- Allow the Word to seep more deeply into your consciousness.

Read the passage through, section by section

- How does this Word speak to me at this time, in this context?
- What emotions are evoked by the Word?
- How does this Word speak to me of God and how does it impact my life? ٠ *Conclude with a prayer of thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit.*