

VOCATION SEEDS: No prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. Do not be discouraged by jeers when considering religious life or priesthood. If you feel God's call to the priesthood or consecrated life, visit www.HamiltonVocations.com.

VALENTINE'S DANCE FUNDRAISER: Come celebrate heart month with Campus Ministry at St. Jerome's University on Friday, February 5, 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Knights of Columbus Hall, 145 Dearborn Pl, Waterloo. A light lunch will be provided and our very own Michael Kelley will be our dance DJ! Tickets will be sold at the door or to reserve your ticket please contact Martha Fauteux, Director of Campus Ministry, at mfauteux@uwaterloo.ca. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students. All proceeds will go to St. Jerome's chapel renovations. Hope you all can join us!

JOB OPPORTUNITY: St. Clement's Parish, St. Clements, is looking for a qualified candidate to take a part-time position as a secretary/bookkeeper. Please email your resume or qualifications to stclementsparish@sympatico.ca. For further information, please contact the parish office at 519-699-4425 or Father Martin Mikulski at 226-868-0613.

PRAYER VIGIL – Thursday, February 4, 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

C.W.L. VALENTINE CARD PARTY: Blessed Sacrament Parish, Tuesday, February 9. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. Supper at 6:30 p.m. We will be serving some "hearty" soup dishes, with a roll, dessert and beverage included. Nibbles, pop served during party. Please come join us for this popular annual event! Price: \$10 per person. For tickets call 519-742-5061. We are looking forward to seeing you!

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE: St. Mark's Young Catholic Adults invite you to a Valentine's Day dance on Sunday, February 14, 6:30-11:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Parish, 55 Driftwood Dr., Kitchener. Open to all ages! Activities will be set up just for kids! Tickets are \$10 for ages 14+, \$5 for seniors and children ages 6-13, or \$30 for a family. For tickets, please contact StMarksYoungCatholicAdults@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

NEW ORLEANS-INSPIRED RHYTHM AND BLUES! St. Mark's Parish Refugee Sponsorship Committee has partnered with The Blue Moon (1677 Snyder's Rd. E., Petersburg) for a night of New Orleans-inspired music featuring Chuckee & the Crawdaddies, Jesse Webber and some surprise musical guests. Friday, February 5. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each (\$25 at the door). Get your tickets from the Blue Moon (519-634-5421 or www.thebluemoon.ca) or at Encore Records (301 King St. E., Kitchener). All proceeds from this event will go toward our \$30,000 fundraising goal to sponsor a refugee family. For more information, visit www.stmarkcatholicparish.org/2016/01/18/refugee-sponsorship-fundraising.

THIS PAST DYNAMIC YEAR OF 2015 FOR KITCHENER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS was filled with many community endeavours and countless fund-raising ventures aided by public support. Kitchener Knights of Columbus donated almost \$25,000.00 to our parishes, schools, foundations and the many community social agencies. This achievement is the result of our devoted community that continues to support us in our charitable endeavours. Thank you and God bless.



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
DEACON:	Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang
SEMINARIAN:	Christopher Tracey
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 8:00, 9:30 & 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 PENANCE:	Wednesday, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon
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 January 31 to February 6, 2016

Monday	8:30 a.m.	Edwin Fernandez – Nevelle & Naomi de'Rozario
Tuesday Beechwood Manor	10:00 a.m.	Agnes & Sydney Horton – Estate
	7:00 p.m.	Carl Vernon – Rick & Vanessa Culham
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	John & Anna Miller – Frank & Wendy Miller & Family
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Tommaso Rocca – Antonietta Rocca
Friday	8:30 a.m.	Emilie Reichelt – Mari Reichelt Smit
Saturday	7:00 p.m.	Deceased of Freitas Family; Patricia Neuert

Offertory collection for Sunday, January 24, 2016: \$5,310.05

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

CWL LENTEN RETREAT: St. Michael's CWL along with the other three Waterloo CWLs will host a joint lenten retreat on Saturday, February 13 at St. Michael Church beginning at 9 a.m. with Mass. The theme of the retreat is "*The Healing Mission of Christ and the Church*". It will be led by Father Mark Miller CSSR, a Redemptorist priest, who holds a doctorate degree in moral theology and works as a clinical ethicist at St. Michael's and St. Joseph's Hospitals in Toronto. All ladies are invited to attend.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 IS THE MEMORIAL OF ST. BLAISE. This is the day when many Catholics participate in the tradition of having their throats blessed. To do this, the priest blesses two candles, generally by a prayer, and then holds each in a crossed position on the throat of the person being blessed. At the same time, 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 8:30 a.m. Mass on February 3.



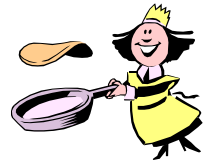
INCOME TAX RECEIPTS for those who made donations in 2015 will be mailed this week. You will receive two copies of your receipt, one to attach to your income tax return and one to keep for your records. In addition you will receive a summary of your contributions.

FIRST PENANCE MEETING FOR PARENTS OF GRADE TWO STUDENTS: The second of our meetings in preparation for the reception of the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be held Wednesday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. This meeting, which will focus on your child's reception of the sacrament of First Reconciliation, is for parents and children.

WALK FOR HEALTH: For optimum health the recommendation is for adults to take 10,000 steps each day. Many of us don't take enough steps and in fact don't even come close to this goal. Try adding steps to your routine very day. Walk for short errands, park at the farthest corner of the parking lot and walk to your destination, go up and down the stairs in your home frequently, stand up to do chores such as folding laundry. If you don't use it, you lose it! Move more. Sit less.

CELEBRATE CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN CAMBRIDGE: Friday, February 5, Portuguese Oriental Club, 1054 Shellard Rd., Cambridge. Dinner at 6:30 p.m., dance and silent auction at 8:00 p.m. Dinner and dance tickets are \$100/couple or \$50/single (charitable receipt will be issued for portion of ticket price). All proceeds to support program within the Waterloo Region Catholic Schools. For more information or tickets, contact Mark Heinemann at 226-929-1078 or Waterloo Region Catholic Schools Foundation at 519-578-3660 ext. 2373.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER: The youth, leaders and parents of the Scouting and St. Vincent de Paul Youth invite you to join us for a parish tradition. The 36th Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will take place on Tuesday, February 9 in the parish hall. As always, the supper will feature the popular *All You Can Eat* pancakes and ham. Dessert and beverages are included.



Once again the ham is generously supplied by Piller's Fine Foods. We wish to thank Piller's for their support over the years. Serving time is from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available only at the door on a first-come first-served basis. The ticket prices for this year's event are family - \$22, adults - \$8, seniors - \$6, children under 12 - \$6. (A family is considered to be parents and their children, 12 years of age and younger, with a maximum of five people) We look forward to serving returning patrons and to welcoming new friends. For further information, please contact Bob Kalbfleisch at 519-572-1112 or bob.kalbfleisch@bell.net or George Mayer at 519-741-6744 or george.mayer.jr@gmail.com.

PILGRIMAGE SUNDAY AT THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF CHRIST THE KING: You are welcome to make a *Year of Mercy* pilgrimage to the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton, on Sunday, February 21. You may enter through the Door of Mercy (located near the elevator entrance). At 2:00 p.m. we will begin with Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be offered at 3:00 p.m. followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Pilgrims are most welcome to stay for our regular 4:00 p.m. Mass that day. All are welcome to come and share in the Father's mercy and peace.



HOSPITALITY IS DEFINED as the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors or strangers; the activity of providing food, drinks etc. for people who are your guests. We as a parish community wish to offer hospitality to *our* "guests" at various events throughout the year. There are opportunities for volunteers to assist during the day, in the evening and sometimes on weekends. Keeping to the "many hands make light work" philosophy, individuals might be called upon to assist just a few times during the year (or more if additional involvement is desired). If you are interested in sharing your time and talent with the parish in this way, or would like more information, please contact Bette at the parish office: 519-886-0342 or lourdeswaterloo.com. Thank you for considering joining our hospitality team!

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Rave reviews greeted Jesus' first hometown homily proclaiming a year of God's mercy, but the mood turned violent when he went on to declare that God's mercy embraces outsiders; it rejects distinctions between citizen and foreigner, acceptable and unworthy, even sinner and saint. Far from being anyone's personal possession, God's kingdom is open to everyone, God's love unconditional, God's mercy boundless. By this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Pope Francis repeats Jesus' challenge in today's Gospel to broaden our horizons until our vision matches Jesus' vision of every sinner as a potential saint, and each suffering stranger as our neighbor. Jesus, says Pope Francis, continually went beyond the law, keeping company with public sinners and even sharing meals with them to demonstrate that God's mercy is "the beating heart of the Gospel" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12). To be truly Jesus' disciples, such unconditional love and boundless mercy must also be at the center of all we say and do.

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