

FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRIST

The great fifty-day celebration of Easter has concluded, as have the feasts honoring the Holy Trinity and the Body and Blood of Christ. Last week we began a long stretch of Ordinary Time that will bring us to late November. Saint Paul tells us today that those who are baptized “have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Galatians 3:27). This scripture is echoed in the Church’s baptism ritual when we sing, “You have put on Christ, in him you have been baptized.” This message is inspiring and sobering at the same time, for in today’s Gospel, we get to the heart of what it means to be clothed in Christ. The Lord tells us, “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23). For the next twenty-two weeks we are called to take up the cross and, with Saint Luke as our guide, follow in the footsteps of Christ. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

It’s almost midsummer day! One of the great hidden treasures of our liturgical calendar occurs this week. There are only three “nativity” feasts on our calendar: for the Lord, the Blessed Mother (September 8), and the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist on June 24. Friday’s date is anchored by the Annunciation (March 25), when Mary learns not only of her own child’s advent, but of Elizabeth’s child. We are exactly half a year away from Christmas Eve. There are strong traditions around this feast. Just as the winter solstice provides a rich vocabulary for Christmas, so does the abundance of light at midsummer inform this celebration. Just as at Christmas, a religious festival spills over into culture. As summer light reaches its peak, the sun-drenched zones of northern Europe see people staying up all night, kindling “St. John’s Fires” in the long summer twilight. Bonfires seem to be the unifying force in all these celebrations, kindled along the shores of the St. Lawrence in Quebec and Montreal, with harbor illuminations in France. You may be most interested in the custom in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Baptist’s own city. People there will leap into the sea between midnight and dawn to honor John. Why not find your way to a pool, a lake, or a sandy beach this week and plunge in to recall your baptism? It’s a tradition! —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

DO YOU FEEL ALONE? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? This program has helped 10’s of 1000’s of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on October 14 please call 905-664-5212, email hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

THE CARMEL OF ST. JOSEPH GUILD invites all members, families and friends to attend the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mass to be held Sunday, July 10 at 2:00 pm at the monastery (1127 Carmel-Koch Rd., St. Agatha). The Rosary will precede the mass. The celebrant will be Monsignor Murray Kroetsch. Bishop Douglas Crosby has designated the double doors at the entrance to the chapel as the Holy Door of Mercy for this day.

VOCATION SEEDS: “If anyone wants to become my follower, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.” If you feel God’s call to the priesthood or consecrated life, visit www.HamiltonVocations.com.



Our Lady of Lourdes Church
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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 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

No Confessions until further notice

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 June 19 to 25, 2016

Monday.....**NO MASS**

Tuesday**NO MASS**

Wednesday**NO MASS**

Thursday**NO MASS**

Friday **8:45 a.m.** Our Lady of Lourdes School Closing Mass

Saturday 7:00 p.m. Johann & Elisabeth Ebi; Agnes & Sydney Horton

Offertory collection for Sunday, June 12, 2016: \$6,099.00

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



ATTENTION FANTASTIC FAITH FINDERS!! The last meeting for this school year is going to be on Friday, June 24, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the church hall. Thank you to all of the volunteers and youth group members for a great first year. Hope to see you out again in September!

EWP – Ecumenical Welcoming Committee: Funding for our Refugee Family

A substantial sum of money will be needed to support the refugee family we have selected to sponsor. Our family could arrive as soon as a few weeks or a couple of months. If all goes as planned, they will be living very close to our parish. Since they are from the Congo which is largely French Catholic, they may even become members of our parish once their faith and schooling needs are determined. We are one of the congregations in the **Ecumenical Welcoming Partnership** which has committed to 6 months of financial support for our newcomer family with the Canadian government paying the other 6 months. A gift can be made by placing it in an envelope and marking it “refugee support”. A charitable donation receipt will then be issued from Our Lady of Lourdes parish.

For further information, flyers are at the entrances of our church, or contact your EWP parish representatives: Chris Tracey 519-886-0342 ext. 5 or ctracey@hotmail.com, or Maria Nelly Carvajal Grajales at 519-954-3051 or mncarvajal676@hotmail.com, or Marta Fukasawa at 519-954-0339 or mbfukasawa@gmail.com.

Parish 60th-65th Anniversary Photo Directory
FINAL photography dates – June 20, 21 & 22

*Last call
for photos!*

There is still time to join the 448 families/couples/individuals who have signed up to participate in our photo directory.

Booking online is easy at www.ipcphoto.ca. If you require assistance with booking an appointment, call Bette at the parish office (519-886-0342 ext. 3).

Please note that these photos are being taken in the parish office.



448 and counting . . .
Will you be included in this historic book?

A Prayer for Fathers

Most gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for our earthly fathers, those to whom you have entrusted the responsibility to provide loving protection of their families and guidance of their children.

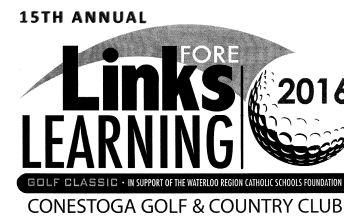
May our earthly fathers imitate the courage of Abraham, Jesse and Joseph, and all the holy fathers of the past in providing wise counsel to the children you have given to their care. Give them valiant faith in the face of confusion and conflict, hope in time of trouble and sorrow, and steadfast love for you, for their families, and for all your people throughout the world.

Assist all fathers of families, that through your grace they may steadily grow in holiness, and in knowledge and understanding of your truth. May they generously impart this knowledge to those who rely on them.

We ask your blessing on all those to whom you have entrusted fatherhood. May your Holy Spirit constantly inspire them with justice and mercy, wisdom and strength, fidelity and self-giving love. May they receive your grace abundantly in this earthly life and joy in your presence in the life to come.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.

Amen.



‘CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER’ SESSIONS: Saints and mystics say ‘*Contemplative Prayer*’ is key to building relationship with God. St. Teresa of Avila said, “Contemplative prayer in my opinion is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us.”

Join seminarian, Chris Tracey, in exploring the meaning, method, people and history of this divine practice in two more ‘one-hour’ Tuesday night sessions at 7:30pm on June 21 and July 12 followed by coffee, tea and cookies. No preparation or tools required. Just come and enjoy a relaxed evening of sight, sound, and sharing.

For further info, please contact Chris Tracey at 519-886-0342 ext. 5 or ctracey@hotmail.com.