



SKATES AND HELMETS are needed by the refugee family we are supporting so that they can enjoy a favourite Canadian winter activity. Size doesn't matter as the items can be traded in for the sizes that are needed. Please bring any skates and helmets you wish to donate to the parish office.

EUTHANASIA/ASSISTED SUICIDE – DID YOU KNOW? Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object to helping to kill their patients see a direct referral as being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. Eight other provinces in Canada have adopted protocols to protect doctors and institutions. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more and to write directly to the Ontario government.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (USHERS)

For the 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Masses on Christmas Eve, and the midnight Mass on Christmas Day, additional ministers of hospitality (ushers) will be required. If you are able to assist, please contact Bette in the parish office (519-886-0342 or lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com).

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 will be available next weekend 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.

HELP US CREATE SURVIVORS! February is Heart Month and we are looking for captains, door-to-door canvassers and online canvassers. The time commitment is minimal but the results are lifesaving. This volunteer opportunity is great for students needing community hours too. Please call or email Kathy Ziegler, Area Coordinator, at 519-571-9600 or kathy.ziegler@heartandstroke.ca. Thank you!

Advent Retreat for Primary Students

Children in Grades 1-3 are warmly invited to four Thursday evenings away from the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations to listen to scripture, to pray and to sing. Together we will consider some of the Messianic prophecies and infancy narratives, and we will contemplate "Who is this Jesus we celebrate?" The retreat follows the method of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, an approach to faith formation that seeks to answer the child's silent request: "Help me come closer to God by myself." Children who have attended previously will delve deeper into scripture and be shown new passages. We will meet in the parish office from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on December 1, 8, 15 and 22. To inquire further or to register please contact Paula (lourdescatechist@rogers.com).



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 November 27 to December 3, 2016

- Monday..... 8:30 a.m.....Special intention of Marguerite Zimmer – Wally & Evelyn Weber
 Tuesday 7:00 p.m.....Harry & Marie Van Nuland – Agnes Corke
 Wednesday 8:30 a.m.....Alice Gaitens – William, Kathleen, Mark & Louise Henderson
 Thursday 7:00 p.m.....Ahilya Joseph – Maureen Schaus
 Friday 8:30 a.m.....Special intention of Marg Bayer – Barbara Bramar
 Saturday..... 7:00 p.m.....Thomas Hughes; Ray O'Brien

Offertory collection for Sunday, November 20, 2016: \$4,727.00

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

Living Scripture



Once again this year, students from grades one to eight are invited to proclaim the Word of God through movement at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. Parent volunteers are most welcome and needed! Registration forms are available at the church entrances for those who wish to become involved. Deadline to register for the Living Scripture is **Monday, December 5 at 12 noon.**

THREE LIVING SCRIPTURE REHEARSALS

Tuesdays, December 6, 13 & 20 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Children and parent volunteers are asked to meet in the church hall on the above dates in preparation for the rehearsal that will take place in the church.

“Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words.” –attributed to St. Francis of Assisi



Coffee Weekend & 2017 Envelope Pickup – December 3/4

On the weekend of December 3/4 we will be holding our final coffee weekend of 2016. We hope everyone will come down to the parish hall after Mass and enjoy some refreshments. Those who have not yet received their free 8x10 photo from participating in our photo directory will be able to pick it up at that time.

Coincidentally on that weekend, we will be distributing our parish offering envelopes for 2017. If you are not registered for envelopes please give this consideration. Members of our Parish Finance Council will be there to assist you as well as provide information about our pre-authorized giving (PAG) program. If you have yet to consider this method of giving, we encourage you to reflect on whether pre-authorized giving is a good option for you. The parish benefits from this method of giving by receiving regular, dependable contributions, by a reduction of paperwork, and in the ability to more effectively plan parish programs and activities. You benefit from the convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish and continuing to support the parish even when you are away. At the present time, 103 families have chosen PAG!

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. If you are interested, please let us know by calling (519-886-0342) or emailing

the parish office (lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com).

Come enjoy this wonderful Christmas experience. Comfortable seats-with-a-view in the choir loft – guaranteed!

Catholic Women's League Christmas Potluck Supper



Many years ago the Star of Bethlehem led the Three Kings to the stable where Christ was born. This year, on November 30th, the Star will be once again be shining bright, this time on our parish hall as the Catholic Women's League hosts our annual potluck supper.



All ladies of the parish are invited to a "starry" evening starting at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your favourite dish or yummy dessert. There will be some fun activities, a raffle draw and some traditional happenings as well, such as a sing-a-long with Sister Barbara at the piano.

We look forward to seeing many of you at this enjoyable event!

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.



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 13 between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Labeled 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 15 at 2:00 p.m. If you are able to help, please call Bette at the parish office.

TWO TOONIES AND A LOONIE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is getting into the Christmas spirit by organizing our annual hamper program for the many families we serve. We are asking for your support for our “two toonies and a loonie” drive so that we will once again be able to offer grocery gift cards. The dignity of choosing one's own Christmas dinner is the gift we wish to share this season. A special envelope is inserted in this week's bulletin for those who would like to support this important parish program. Thank you in advance from all of us at St. Vincent de Paul for your continued and much appreciated support. We wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas. (Note: your donation qualifies for an income tax receipt.)



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 Tree

Do you have an evergreen tree on your property that you are planning to have removed? At Christmas the church will need a tree approximately 6.5 metres (21 feet) tall for our “Tree of Life”. Please call the parish office.