



### AN INVITATION TO THE NEW ALPHA FILM SERIES

Are you feeling stuck in your faith? Do you have questions? Do you think there must be more to life than this? If your response to any of these questions is yes, come see what Alpha is all about. Do you have a friend or relative with questions? Bring them along.

The New Alpha Film Series formerly known as the Alpha Course begins at Our Lady of Lourdes on Monday, September 25. It is a 10-week, practical exploration into the Christian faith and it focuses on beliefs that unite the Christian Communities. The weekly topics include the following. Who is Jesus and why did he die? How can I be sure of my faith? How does God guide us? Who is the Holy Spirit and what does the Holy Spirit do? How can I resist evil? What about the Church? How can I make the most of the rest of my life? Alpha includes a weekend retreat as an integral part of the course. The details of the retreat will be provided when you register.

The schedule for each weekly Monday evening includes a home-cooked meal in a small group setting, an informative DVD lesson which is followed by an opportunity to meet again with your supper group to discuss the information presented in the DVD. Group discussions also provide the time to build lasting friendships.

*In 2016, 3,760 people attended an Alpha Course in a church in Canada. A total of 75,000 guests attended various venues, and of them, 26,000 people's faith was restored or they began a personal relationship with Jesus. To date, 755,000 have taken Alpha in 169 countries and 112 languages.*

There is no cost to participate in the course, however a freewill offering to offset the cost of the groceries for the weekly meal is appreciated. You must register to attend Alpha by September 18. Call Rita Rittenhouse at 519-578-8239 to register. Registration is limited to 40 participants. No Alpha on Thanksgiving Monday!

**FISH FRY:** Maryhill Heritage Community Centre, 56 St. Charles St. E., Maryhill. Friday, September 15. 12 noon to 7 p.m. Eat in or take out. No reservations. Service in order of arrival. Fresh cut fries with haddock fish, coleslaw, tartar sauce and lemon. 1 piece dinner \$13, 2 piece dinner \$15. Dessert and refreshments available. Cash only. Take out order of four or more please call ahead – 519-648-2939.

**PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH:** September tends to bring order to the joyful, but sometimes chaotic summer months. Now is a great time to sit as a family and set some family goals for the coming year. Your goals might include: increasing the time you will spend together as a family; setting a specific number of meals you will eat together (at a real table!); agreeing to detailed ways in which you will increase your faith practices; deciding on the amount of exercise you will engage in as a family; agreeing to increase the patience you will have for each other. The possibilities are endless! Remember, setting goals will both help you accomplish something beneficial and send a message that your family is a priority.

**THE CARMEL OF ST. JOSEPH LUNCHEON AND CARD PARTY** will be held at St. Anthony Daniel Church Hall, 29 Midland Dr., Kitchener, on Wednesday, September 20 from 12 to 4 p.m. Doors open at 11.30 a.m. Admission is \$15.00. Lunch and door prizes. Please note only advanced tickets will be sold for this event. Contact : Angie Bateman at 519-569-7493 or abateman@gmail.com. Any unsold tickets will be available at the door. For more information, please contact Sheila at 519-743-6069 or sheilamatthews2006@yahoo.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

<b>ADMINISTRATOR:</b>	<b>Rev. Rafal Tomon</b>
<b>DEACON:</b>	<b>Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang</b>
<b>PARISH YOUTH CATECHIST:</b>	<b>Paula Rush</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:</b>	<b>Bette Honsinger</b> 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.
<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b>	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.
<b>SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:</b>	By appointment – please phone the parish office
<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION</b>	Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon Wednesday, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.
<b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:</b>	By appointment – please phone the parish office
<b>BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS:</b>	Last Sunday of each month after all Masses
<b>ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:</b>	Church door collections – last Sunday of each month

### Announced Mass intentions for the week of September 10 to 16, 2017

Monday.....	8:30 a.m. ....Doris Groce – Groce Family
Tuesday <b>Luther Village</b> .....	10:00 a.m. ....Adrien Rousseau – Family
	7:00 p.m. ....In Thanksgiving – Biber Family
Wednesday .....	8:30 a.m. ....Flora Niccoli – Niccoli Family
Thursday .....	7:00 p.m. ....Special intention of Audrey Keenan – Marilyn Henderson
Friday .....	8:30 a.m. ....Joe Stumpf – Family
	10:00 a.m. ....Our Lady of Lourdes School opening Mass
Saturday.....	7:00 p.m. ....Arthur Bruder – Helen Dorsch

## Offertory collection for Sunday, September 3, 2017: \$3,799.75

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

### Monthly Budget Review as of August 31, 2017

Cumulative financial objective – 35 Weeks @ \$7,500 .....		\$262,500.00
Weekly contributions (year to date).....	\$172,697.60	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date).....	<u>89,797.92</u>	<u>262,495.52</u>
Over (under) objective .....		(\$4.48)

**YOUTH TEAM OF OUR LADY (YTOL):** Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is starting a Youth Team of Our Lady (YTOL) Youth Group for high school age students. We will meet every third Thursday of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. Our first meeting will be on Thursday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m. All high school age students are invited to attend.

**WHO WE ARE:** Youth Teams of Our Lady in Canada is a Catholic youth movement where young people can get together to pray and deepen their faith. It's a group of people whom you can relate to, and who are often going through the same things you are in their lives. There's always a group or a retreat that you can go to for spiritual support, whether you're in high school, or going to university. Together we can move through this time of our lives with Christ and his mother Mary, developing a more meaningful spiritual life and discovering our vocation.

**WHAT WE DO:** There are two main things that we organize and lead in Youth Teams of Our Lady: team meetings and retreats. We also make an effort to give something of ourselves to any community we're a part of, so as to spread the love of Christ to the people around us. The retreats vary in terms of the age groups they're organized for, as do the meetings. Our retreats are made to enrich your faith, and give you a break from everyday life so that you can focus more on your spiritual life. The team meetings are like an extension of the retreats – they continue to give spiritual strength in smaller doses during the year. Every team has a leader, a spiritual counsel and a married couple to assist, give input, and share their experiences about the things we discuss in the meetings.

**OUR MISSION:** Our mission is to help the youth who are called to holiness to discover and put into practice all the dimensions of the Christian spirituality, in fidelity to the teachings of the Catholic Church, having Mary's "yes" as a model. YTOL help their members to progress in the love of God and in the love of their neighbor: they have recourse to brotherly mutual help so that the members can adopt concrete conditions of their personal, family, professional and social lives according to the will of God; they encourage the members to become conscious of their evangelizing mission in the Church and in the world, by means of the witness and of such other activities as they may decide to engage in.

**FAMILIES MATTER – TO EACH OTHER, TO THE CHURCH AND TO THE COMMUNITY.** Let's talk . . . What supports do families need from the Church? What are the pressures they face in their day to day lives? What are the challenges, joys, highs and lows in families today? Where do they seek support when it is needed? Where do they see the role of the Church in their lives and in helping them cope with everyday life issues and events? Join us for the Symposium for Families being held on Saturday, September 23 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton. Bishop Crosby will say Mass at 9:30 a.m.; registration is at 9 a.m. and the day ends at 4 p.m. Lunch is included, child-minding is available and there is no fee. For more information, to register, or to fill in the online survey go to the diocesan website at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com), or call 905-528-7988 and ask for Teresa (ext. 2250).

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

Bob Steffler ..... August 28, 2017

Regina Grzelecka..... August 29, 2017

Donovan Norris-Lue..... September 3, 2017



**CATECHETICAL CORRESPONDENCE COURSES:** Programs are available for children from kindergarten through high school for students not currently receiving religious instruction. Preparation for First Communion and Confirmation for children not in Catholic schools is also available. Families work through the programs at home. They are supported by our parish catechists who review the students' assignments. Contact Monica in the Catechesis Office at 905-528-7988, ext. 2238 or check out their website at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com) and click on the Catechesis Office for more information and registration forms. *If your child will be preparing to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation, please also contact the parish office immediately so that important information regarding the reception of the sacraments at Our Lady of Lourdes can be sent to you. Thank you.*

**ATTENTION GRADE 2 STUDENTS AT NON-PARISH SCHOOLS!** If you attend a school other than Holy Rosary or Our Lady of Lourdes and would like parish-based preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, you are invited to form a **small faith community**. Parents, involvement in this program is optional. Participating children will gather weekly on **Wednesdays from 4:00-5:15 p. m.** from **October to May**. The format is more of an *encounter with Christ* than a regimented curriculum. We will reflect together on scripture or a moment in the liturgy before engaging in self-selected work to ponder privately our relationship with God. At the end of each session we will gather to pray and sing. For more information or to register, please contact Paula at [lourdescatechist@rogers.com](mailto:lourdescatechist@rogers.com).

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS FOR CATHOLIC TEENS:** Liturgy Training Publications has produced reflections on Sunday Mass readings for teenagers called "God's Word, Your World!" The reflections are designed to be shared via a blog post. Each week, a reflection will be posted online for teenagers to think about. There is a space for comments and questions. To join this teens-only blog, type <https://lourdescatechist.wixsite.com/catechistcorner/3rd-gallery> into your browser and click on the "Go to Reflections" button. This is a quiet way to deepen your faith.

**VOCATION SEEDS:** "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." The community that gathers needs leadership; consider the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life. Contact Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988, email [mking@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:mking@hamiltondiocese.com) or visit [www.hamiltonvocations.com](http://www.hamiltonvocations.com).

**CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST NEEDED:** St. Boniface Church Maryhill is looking for a choir director/organist to play for the Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. Masses as well as for weddings and funerals. For more information, please contact Father Ron Voisin at 519-648-2069.



**THE START OF THE SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP** is being postponed by one week until September 19 as the hall is needed on the 12<sup>th</sup> for a funeral reception.