

Offertory collection for Sunday, September 4, 2016: 7,914.85

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

Dear Fr. Rafal and the Christians of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Thank you so much for welcoming me to your parish. It was a wonderful experience. Thank you too for your support over the years. You have made a great change full of hope to the orphans. May Our Lord continue to bless you.

Sister Rose Ngacha



**Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of our Church
with Doors Open Waterloo Region
Saturday September 17th**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Lady of Lourdes Church is special and unique! Our church is a ‘mid-century’ (1950’s) building that has since been renovated with care given to maintaining the unique architecture of the day.

In addition, our stained glass windows have special meaning for all Christian religions. And the installation of our new pipe organ marked the successful completion of the church renovation program.

On Saturday September 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., we are proud and pleased to open our doors and invite the citizens of Kitchener-Waterloo and our surrounding communities to celebrate the 60th anniversary of our church through the annual ‘Doors Open Waterloo Region’ program. Learn more about ‘Doors Open’ by visiting <http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/doorsopen>.

We are thrilled that Monsignor Ed will be with us to conduct a special tour featuring the stained glass windows at 10:30 a.m. We will also be featuring pipe organ recitals throughout the day.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The success of our 60th anniversary celebration and the open house event will depend on the volunteer participation of you, the parishioners, to assist as greeters and guest guides. If you can be available for a few hours on September 17 that would be terrific. There will be a short meeting on Thursday, September 15 at 7 p.m. in the parish office to familiarize volunteers with the expectations of the open house and provide resource material. Please consider participating. For more information and to volunteer, call Bob Kalbfleisch at 519-572-1112 or email bob.kalbfleisch@bell.net.

Because the church is open to the public on September 17th, Confessions will be cancelled that day. Confessions will be available by appointment – contact the parish office.

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

Dr. John Biggs..... August 24, 2016

Joan Howald..... September 7, 2016

**Appreciation Evening for Sister Barbara
Sunday, September 25th - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

Evening Prayer* followed by an open house will be held on the evening of Sunday, September 25 to honour and show our appreciation to Sister Barbara for the many, many contributions that she has made (and continues to make) to our parish community!

7:00 p.m.

**Evening Prayer in the church
with Msgr. Edward Sheridan as homilist**

7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Open house in the parish hall

*As daylight begins to fade, the Christian community is invited to come together to praise and thank God for the gifts of the day. The Church offers its evening sacrifice of prayer in union with Christ’s sacrifice on the cross and prays for the needs of the world. It is fitting for the community to come together to celebrate at the close of the day.

Best wishes only please.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

As many of our families return to the “school year” schedule, it has been my prayer that this past summer has provided a time of refreshment and time for you and your family. Today's Coffee Sunday is a time to acknowledge our parish family's return to regular ministry, new programs and an openness to recognize God's work among us.

This summer my routine included time with family and friends in the midst of five cycles of chemotherapy that have focussed on keeping the cancer in my body under control. I was even able to spend a week out west with Bishop Gary relaxing and fishing (mostly relaxing since the fish were great at hiding). As many of you may be aware, cancer treatment can be a challenge since it affects not only the cancer cells but also the healthy cells in the body. If my blood work will allow, this upcoming week will involve a sixth cycle of treatment. After that there will be an assessment of how successful the treatments have been in reducing the cancer that is present in the prostate, bones, lungs and lymph system. I am grateful to those in the health profession who care for those with serious illness and for God's assurance of mercy and presence during this challenging time.

I am also grateful for your ongoing prayerful support during this time and for those who have stepped up in ministry in our parish. May Our Blessed Mother continue to care for our parish and its ministries in our “new year”.

Peace and Blessings,

Fr. Ted