



## THE POPE'S JANUARY INTENTIONS FOR 2019

**Evangelization:** That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

### SOLEMN BLESSING OF ENGAGEMENTS & PARISH COFFEE SOCIALS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

**BLESSING OF ENGAGEMENTS:** At the 11:00 a.m. Mass on February 10, couples who will celebrate their marriage in Our Lady of Lourdes Church in 2019 will have their engagement solemnly blessed. As these men and women prepare to speak words that will change their lives, it is our joy and responsibility to pray for them that once they have exchanged their marriage vows, they will be living signs of God's faithful love.



**COFFEE SOCIALS:** Everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments in the church hall after all Masses on Sunday, February 10. Take advantage of this opportunity to renew old acquaintances, meet new parishioners.

#### SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP

**OUR SENIORS' SOCIAL GROUP** will resume Tuesday, January 8, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., in the parish hall. All are welcome!



**"JESUS IS BETTER!" BIBLE STUDY:** Have you found yourself drifting in your faith? Would you say your faith is cold or, even worse, lukewarm? This study is meant for you! The message of the study, based on the epistle to the Hebrews, is simple: Jesus is better! He is better than any other thing you might turn to—whether that be sinful ways, the ways of the world, or old testament law-based life. He is better than the prophets, the angels, than Moses, than the Old Testament priests. Indeed, He is an eternal High Priest who has secured for us who believe, through a single sacrifice of perpetual effectiveness, an eternal redemption. His Kingdom is unshakeable. So don't shrink back or neglect your salvation—instead fix your eyes and your thoughts upon Jesus, draw near to Him, listen to His voice, and run the race He has set for you! He will never leave you nor forsake you. The study runs on **Monday evenings 7:00-8:45pm at St. Michael's Church in Waterloo from January 21 to March 25** (excluding February 18). No previous Bible study experience is required, just a desire to know the love of God and the truth of the Gospel at a deeper level. There is no cost, but pre-registration is required. If interested, contact Dan at [ddavison@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ddavison@uwaterloo.ca) or 519-883-0736.



## Our Lady of Lourdes Church

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Rafal Tomon  
**DEACON:** Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:** Mrs. Patrycja Wiecek  
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 2:00 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  
Twenty minutes before weekday Masses or by appointment  
**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 January 7 to January 13, 2019

Monday..... 8:30 a.m. .... +Ysave' Tran Thi Ty – Williams Family  
Tuesday **Luther Village**..... 10:00 a.m. ....  
7:00 p.m. .... +Karol Zybura – Veronika Zybura  
Wednesday ..... 8:30 a.m. .... +Joseph Fedy – Ertel Family  
Thursday ..... 7:00 p.m. .... +Bernice Okum – Jerry & Christa Fischer  
Friday ..... 8:30 a.m. .... +Joseph Fedy – Mr. & Mrs. Don Fedy  
Saturday..... 7:00 p.m. .... + Yvonne Mauser – Sherry & Paul Smith & Family  
Sunday..... 9:00 a.m. .... Living & deceased members of our parish  
11:00 a.m. .... Special intention

**Offertory collection for Sunday, December 30, 2018: \$3,385.45**

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

**Monthly Budget Review as of December 30, 2018**

Cumulative financial objective – 52 weeks @ \$7,500 .....		\$390,000.00
Weekly contributions (year to date) .....	\$262,194.88	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date) .....	<u>138,272.88</u>	<u>400,467.76</u>
Over (under) objective.....		10, 467.76

**ORNAMENTS FROM THE TREE OF LIFE:** Those who had a child baptized or a loved one called to Eternal Life (and buried from Lourdes) in 2018 may pick up their angel or cross after any weekend Mass beginning January 12/13 in the work sacristy behind Our Lady of Lourdes’ altar .



**WORK CREW:** Volunteers are required on Sunday, January 6 immediately after the 11:00 a.m. Mass to take down the Christmas decorations. As we will be carrying the parts of the manger scene to the basement storage area, the assistance of some younger volunteers would be very helpful. Refreshments will be served following the project.

**Christmas 2018**

Dear Parishioners,

At the vigil Mass at Christmas we say the opening prayer “O God who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for redemption . . .”. And yes, it has been about 25 years when, through the initiative of Msgr. Edward Sheridan, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish began setting up the Tree of Life with its many angels and crosses. We are the living branches of our Tree of Life, our parish, connected together though facing different directions, bringing hope by working together. Every person, every twig, visible or hidden, matters and makes a difference, makes our tree alive. Thank you to all. To the following a very special thank you:



The ministers of the Word, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers, ministers of hospitality (ushers)



The music ministry – organists, choirs, family choirs, cantors, musicians



The official 26<sup>th</sup> “Tree Cutters” who cut the tree for our “Tree of Life” and brought it into the church, without “breaking” a single twig. And the family who donated the tree from their property.



The craftsman who made the angels and crosses, and the artist who painted them



The work crew who helped prepare the church on Sunday, December 16 and those who will help take down the Christmas decorations this weekend



Those who prepared the beautiful nativity scene



Sister Barbara and all the children who participated in the Christmas Pageant, as well as all the volunteers who assisted



The support for the Notre Dame Children Outreach in Kenya. This year’s total donation for the sisters, which includes the Bowing Angel, amounted to \$14,175.39.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society and all who generously supported the Society through donations, in particular, the 2 toonies and a loonie collection which amounted to \$5,997.00. The Waterloo Knights of Columbus for their support of our St. Vincent de Paul Society by providing toys for children in need



The many bakers who provided an abundance of delicious cookies for our shut-ins and the residents of a nearby assisted-living residence for men, and those who prepared the tins for delivery



The ambassadors of goodwill who delivered the cookies, and the people who delivered the white poinsettias to the bereaved



The many who donated floral tributes in memory of loved ones (the gift box near the manger held their names and they were remembered during the liturgies throughout the Christmas season)



Our deacon and his wife, administrative assistant, collection counters, and parish custodians who met the challenge of keeping the church so very warm and clean.



The parishioners for your many gestures of kindness, including all those special treats that were brought for the parish staff



The parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and visitors to our parish for your spirit of faith and goodwill and for the joy your presence brought to our Christmas liturgies

As we gather together around our Christmas tree we are happy to joyfully welcome our Lord, Jesus Christ, who brings hope to every twig so we can be a living Tree of Life for this coming year. Grateful for being a part, a twig, of our parish,

with prayer,  
Fr. Rafal