

Liturgies

Saturday, December 21,

"Why has this happened to me, that the Mother of my Lord comes to me?"

♦ **Confessions 3:00 p.m. – 4:45 pm**

Mass 5:00 p.m. – † Antonio Bolognone & Vito Tangi

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Jerzy Tomon

Sunday, December 22, 4th Sunday of Advent

"Jesus was born of Mary, who was engaged to Joseph, son of David."

♦ **Mass 9:00 a.m.** – † Donatella & Benedetto DiRamio, † Giuseppe & Anna Colaiacovo, † Vincenzo & Joe Petitti, † Finisia & Vincenzo Girardi, † Manuela DeMelo, † Anthony DiDomizio & Nicola & Luisa DiDomizio

♦ **Mass 11:00 a.m.** – Missa Pro Populo. (For the People)

Vocation Prayer – Very Rev. Wojciech Kuzma

Tuesday, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

"Mary will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus."

♦ **Eve Mass 5:00 p.m.** – † Vincenzo & Antonietta Suglio † Giovanni Imola, † Ashley & Peter Sabo, † Mel Dalton

♦ **Night Mass 10:00 p.m.** – Missa Pro Populo. (For the People)

Vocation Prayer - Rev. James McSharry

Wednesday, December 25, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

"The Word became flesh and lived among us."

♦ **Mass 9:00 a.m.** – † Peter & Josephine Mitchell, † Antonio & Carlotta Imola, † Piero Cappucci, † Giovanni Buccilli and Maria Carducci, † Antonia, Assunta, Domenico & Luigi Imola, † Vincenza Tangi, † Maria Cipriani

♦ **Mass 11:00 a.m.** - † Robert Gardiner & Barbara Dahm † Vittorio DiCesare

Thursday, December 26, St. Stephen, The First Martyr

"...the Spirit of your Father will speak through you."

♦ **No Mass**

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Martin Mikulski, S.A.C.

Friday, December 27, St. John, Apostle

"The other disciple outdistanced Peter and arrived first at the tomb..."

♦ **No Mass**

Vocation Prayer – Rev. Joseph Okoko, i.v. Dei.

Sunday Collection for Dec. 14/15, 2019

Env. \$2214.00 + Loose \$562.65 = \$2776.65



THANK YOU,
for your generosity!
Your **gift** and **attendance** truly matters.

It is the **life** and **future** for our parish!

DONATION ENVELOPES 2020

Donation envelopes are ready to be picked up in the narthex. If you do not find yours or have changes to the address, please fill out the form or call the office.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed on Dec 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31 and Jan 1. We will be open on Dec 27, Jan 2 and 3. There will be no Masses on Dec 26, 27 and Jan 2.

DAILY HOLY MASS

Due to inclement winter weather conditions, the daily Holy Mass, Tuesday to Friday may be celebrated in the Msgr. Maloney Room, please check the website or call the office before heading to the church. The church doors will be marked and only the bell tower door will be open. The Msgr. Maloney Room can accommodate up to 25 people. Since there are no kneelers there, we will remain standing for the parts of the Mass when we usually kneel.



The Nativity Scene "is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture" writes Pope Francis in his Extraordinary Letter for Christmas 2019. He continues: "As we contemplate the Christmas story, we are invited to set out on a spiritual journey, drawn by the humility of the God who became a man in order to encounter every man and woman. We come to realize that so great is his love for us that he became one of us so that we, in turn, might become one with him." Reflecting on our Nativity Scene at Saint Mary's church, I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas. The Scene is a beautiful piece of artwork and expression of the passion and love of the Ngo family and their relatives and friends who tirelessly spent a few days and nights to complete the project. I want to thank them all. There are many who have stopped and enjoyed looking at our Nativity Scene, children and adults alike. This living message of the Gospel speaks to our hearts. Don't hesitate to take a picture and pass it on with good wishes. We need to share the Good News that God is Emmanuel, that means "He is with us". Bishop Crosby in his Christmas letter writes: "At Christmas, we celebrate our belief that 'God comes to us!' God comes to us as a baby, unthreatening, dependent, and in simplicity. All we have to do is open our hearts to welcome the Lord of life and love." Merry Christmas to All!
Your Pastor, Fr. Luke

OUR CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

- ♦ DEC. 24 - 5:00 PM, 10:00 PM
*caroling at 4:15 PM, 9:30 PM
 - ♦ DEC. 25 - 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM
 - ♦ DEC. 31 - 5:00 PM
 - ♦ JAN. 1 – 9:00 AM, 11:00AM
- SATURDAY AND SUNDAY MASSES AS USUAL

MIDNIGHT MASS AT CATHEDRAL

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate Christmas Midnight Mass in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Wednesday, December 25th at 12:00 a.m. The celebration will be live streamed and telecast on S+L and CHTV. The broadcast will begin on Christmas Eve at 11:30 p.m.

BLESSING FOR NATIVITY SCENE FIGURINE OF JESUS

God our Father, you loved us so much you sent us your only Son, Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, to save us and lead us back to you. We pray that, with your blessing, these images of Jesus might be a sign of our presence and love in our homes. Good Father give your blessing to all who gather with us this Christmas, family and friends. Open our hearts, that we might receive Jesus in joy, always do what he asks of us, and see him in those who need our love. Pope Benedict XVI (2008)

FOUR WAYS TO ALLOW CHRIST TO BE BORN IN YOUR HEART THIS CHRISTMAS

As we prepare to let the Lord Jesus Christ be born in our hearts anew, I want to give you four ways that we can laud this Christmas and for the rest of our lives, for our Lord to be born continuously within our hearts, to allow him to take flesh to be incarnate in our homes and our families and in our lives.

1. To fill our home with beauty. How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings. We want our homes to speak that way, when we fill our lives with devotional art, when we inspire our children by having images of the saints, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, whatever it might be, we want to fill our hearts and our homes with beauty.

2. Make frequent visits to the Blessed Sacrament. Stop by a church. It's an act of prayer – if you have an adoration Chapel or if you know there's a church open, walk into the church, kneel, say a few prayers and then leave. That whole process is going to help you unleash grace in your life and allow that presence of Christ to take hold for the Lord to be born ever new in your heart.

3. Pray the Rosary. We need to be praying the rosary on a regular basis, praying as a family. We hear in the gospel that the word became flesh and dwelt among us. So, when we pray the rosary, when we reflect on the Our Father and the Hail Mary, we activate that word in our lives. The word takes flesh in our human heart.

4. Read the Bible. Lord Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharist, he is present in his sanctuary, but he is also present in His word. As we hear the word of God proclaimed or as we read it, the word takes flesh in our hearts and we want to meditate constantly on the Word of God. I want you to consider this as you're having a Merry Christmas. As you're opening presents make sure to make room for the Holy Spirit, to make room for our Lord to be born in your hearts anew this Christmas Day. Amen. //ianvanheus.com

BIBLE SUNDAY

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *Motu proprio "Aperuit illis"*, published on 30 September, establishes that "the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (**January 25/26 2020**) is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God." This will henceforth replace our Diocesan "Bible Sunday" which has taken place on the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time in our diocese. To observe Bible Sunday this year, all the faithful will be asked to join in a prayer of thanksgiving for the Word of God at the conclusion of the General Intercessions.

POPE FRANCIS' NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION LIST

♦ Don't gossip ♦ Finish your meals ♦ Make time for others ♦ Choose the 'more humble' purchase ♦ Meet the poor 'in the flesh' ♦ Stop judging others ♦ Befriend those who disagree ♦ Make commitments, such as marriage ♦ Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord' ♦ Be happy!

SAINT VINCENT PALLOTTI

We will celebrate the day he died, that means the day he was born for heaven on the weekend of January 18/19. There will be an opportunity to ask Saint Vincent for healing. Before his death he served tirelessly, sick and unwell people of Rome in Italy. There have been many miracles credited to his intercession. Saint Vincent is the founder of the religious congregation of priests, brothers, sisters and lay members who have served in the Hamilton Diocese for over 50 years and for the last 5 years serving here at Saint Mary's. **"PUT YOURSELF IN THE HANDS OF THE MADONNA AND DO NOT LET ANYTHING WORRY YOU – SAINT VINCENT PALLOTTI"**

Liturgies

Saturday, December 28, The Holy Innocents,

"Herod killed all the little boys in and around Bethlehem."

♦ **Confessions 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 pm**

♦ **Mass 5:00 p.m. – † Crescenzo & Maria Palma**

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Franjo Sprajc

Sunday, December 29, THE HOLY FAMILY

"Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt."

♦ **Mass 9:00 a.m. – † Vincenza & Salvatore Nardone, † Benedetta Nardone Minutillo † Deceased members of the Martino Family, † Janina Deml**

♦ **Mass 11:00 a.m. – Missa Pro Populo, (For the People)**

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Mark Morley

Tuesday, December 31, 7th Octave of the Nativity

"The word became flesh."

♦ **Confessions 6:00 p.m.**

♦ **Mass 5:00 p.m. – † Souls in Purgatory**

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Jason Kuntz

Wednesday, January 1, MARY MOTHER OF GOD

"After eight days he was named Jesus."

♦ **Mass 9:00 a.m. – † For the deceased and living members of the Kopaniak Family**

♦ **Mass 11:00 a.m. – † Andrew Forbes, † Robert & Toni Mulligan, † Patricia Parlee**

Vocation Prayer - Diocesan Priests

Thursday, January 2, St. Basil & St. Gregory,

"In your midst is the one who is coming after me."

♦ **No Mass**

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Mark Sullivan

Friday, January 3, Most Holy Name of Jesus

"Here is the Lamb of God."

♦ **Mass 9:00 a.m. – Int. of Lukasz Kopaniak**

♦ **Eucharistic Adoration following Mass, concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m., confession available only when time permits**

Vocation Prayer – Very Rev. Wayne Lobsinger

Saturday, January 4,

"We have found the Messiah."

♦ **Confessions 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 pm**

♦ **Mass 5:00 p.m. – † Sebastiano & Assunta D'Ambrosio**

Vocation Prayer - Rev. Gregory Merkle

Sunday, January 5, Epiphany of the Lord,

"We have come from the East to pay homage to the king."

♦ **Mass 9:00 a.m. – † Alberto Trombetta, † Saverio & Teresa Muccilli, † Ulderico DiMeo, † Elena DiMeo, † Angelo DiBastiano, Int. of Mary Marcella**

♦ **Mass 11:00 a.m. – Missa Pro Populo, (For the People)**

Vocation Prayer – Rev. Piotr Golinski

Mass Intentions are celebrated as booked in the office and published above and may not be announced. We are sorry for any unintentional errors in spelling or pronunciation.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM 2020

We will begin the preparation process for the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptisms will be celebrated in April, May and June. Registration forms are available from our website: www.marybrantford.com and contact the office for more details. Once registered, we will meet families who are interested on February 16, at 11:00 am. Please remain in the church after the Mass for further instructions on that day. The best way to prepare for the Sacrament is to regularly attend Sunday Holy Mass.