

iRev. Chad Grennan, Pastor  
 Email: frchadgrennan@gmail.com  
 Deacon Jim McLaughlin  
 (phone office for appointment)  
 Liliana Haynes  
 Office Administrator



## Sunday, December 31st, 2017 Feast of the Holy Family

“For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
 which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples,  
 a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
 and glory for your people Israel.”

— Lk 2:30-32

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sat. Dec 30	9-10am 4-4:45pm 5:00pm	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b> Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation Families of victims of Sandy Hook Shooting in December 2012 (Walters Family)
Sun. Dec 31	9:30am 11:00am	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b> Missa Pro Populo Karen Kennedy (Michael Wilson)
<b>Sun. Dec 31 Mon. Jan 1</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary the Mother Of God</b> Missa Pro Populo
	<b>10:00am</b>	Robert Vaillancourt (Millie & Joel Wunderlick)
Tues. Jan 2	7-8pm 9:30am	Holy Hour & Reconciliation Intentions of Jack & Dorothy Walters (Teresa Walters)
Wed. Jan 3	9:30am	Blessings & Health for Steve Bozik & Buster Waldock (John Douglas)
Thurs. Jan 4	9:30am	Spiritual Wellbeing of Bro. Cristin Puthenpurayil VC (Veronica & John Douglas)
Fri. Jan 5	9:30am	Special Intention for Jackie & Guy Lupien (Doug Maeve Devlin)
Sat. Jan 6	9-10am 4-4:45pm 5:00pm	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation Intention Available
Sun. Jan 7	9:30am 11:00am	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> Missa Pro Populo Mike Gorka (Biggar & Mikolasek Families)

Reconciliation from 9-9:20am before all weekday Masses.

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
 “When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned ... to their own town of Nazareth.” Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who followed the norms of their religion. Today’s Gospel describes the event we call “The Presentation.” Jesus’ parents, like every Jewish family, presented their infant son to the Lord in a formal ceremony at the temple in Jerusalem. Having done what their religious rites required (and having heard the prophetic words of Simeon and Anna), Mary and Joseph returned home. It was back in their native region of Galilee, amidst the daily routine of domestic life, that Jesus “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.”



As Christians, we too consecrate our children to the Lord when we have them baptized in the Church. Seeing our children receive this sacrament of initiation is always a moment of great joy and hope as we anticipate the life that lies ahead for them, both on earth and in eternity. But the baptism of a baby is only the beginning of this journey towards heaven. In truth, the little daily details, the simple living of family life in our own home paves the way for our children to reach their eternal home.

And so it was with the Holy Family. Jesus’ childhood, his formation and development took place not primarily amidst the public drama of the temple, but in the quiet privacy of his home. How important this home was, where his parents raised him in their faith and helped him live in such a way that “the favor of God was upon him.” May we too, in our homes and our families, remember that although our mission may be lived out in very small moments, taken together they have an eternal significance.

**Pope’s Prayer Intention Month of January:**  
**Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia**— That Christians and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**  
 Families face many challenges. All of the demands of work, school, and society can easily put a strain on even the best intentioned of families. Hurt, anger, and bitterness can grow in our families especially when conflicts are not properly resolved or relationships nurtured. Human beings require time, patience, love, and nurturing. We need to take time to celebrate the gift of family and not allow other demands to rob us of the time we need to spend together. Life is short. The Holy Family stands before us today showing us that love, commitment, and perseverance can see us through any difficulty or challenge life can bring. May we learn from their example.

Offertory December 23rd & 24th, 2017	
73 Envelopes	\$1,980.00
Loose Collection	\$ 77.50
Total Offertory	\$2,057.50
Offertory Christmas Dec 24th & 25th, 2017	
85 Envelopes	\$3,795.00
Loose Collection	\$ 750.35
Total Offertory	\$4,545.35

**Bingo resumes** on Thursday, January 11th. Callers are needed! Your commitment would be every 4-6 weeks. Please phone the office if you can assist. Thank you!

## Monday, January 1st, 2018 Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.

**Let us pray...** God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh through the gift of Mary’s yes. She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother. We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and Saviour. Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you. Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace. We ask all this, through the intercession of Mary to you, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



Excerpt from Pope Francis’ message for the celebration of the **2018 World Day of Peace, January 1st.**

The message entitled **Migrants and Refugees: Men and Women in search of Peace** is divided into six sections with the first offering heartfelt good wishes for peace and inviting people of good will to embrace those fleeing war, hunger and persecution. The message also poses the question, why so many migrants and refugees? Pope Francis answers this by considering the many conflicts forcing people to leave their homelands, but he notes also the desire for a better life. The Holy Father notes that some people consider the growth in migration as a threat. But, “for my part, he says, I ask you to view it with confidence, as an opportunity to build peace.”

**Peace points**  
 Contained in the 4th section of the message under the theme, “four mileposts for action”, the Pope points out what is needed in order for migrants and refugees to find the peace they seek is a strategy combining four actions: **welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating.** Looking at the situation from an international perspective, Pope Francis expresses the hope that this spirit of welcome and integration, “will guide the process that in the course of 2018 will lead the United Nations to draft and approve two Global Compacts, one for safe, orderly and regular migration and the other for refugees.”

**Common Home**  
 Finally, the Holy Father draws inspiration from Saint John Paul II with these words. “If the ‘dream’ of a peaceful world is shared by all, if the refugees’ and migrants’ contribution is properly evaluated, then humanity can become more and more a universal family and our earth a true ‘common home’.”



**A New Year’s Prayer:** Lord, You make all things new, You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause us to be born again. Thank you for this new year, for all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us a mighty flame so that in our time, many will see the wonders of God and live forever to praise your glorious name. Amen

### Parish Calendar

January 2018	
Jan 5th.....	Visitation of the sick and homebound
Jan 8th.....	School resumes
Jan 10th....	Youth Ministry resumes
Jan 11th.....	Bingo resumes (Thursdays in the hall) 7pm
Jan 17th....	School Mass 9:30am
Jan 17th....	Finance Council meeting 6:30pm

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** YM for grades 5-8, Wed. evenings. Youth Ministry will resume **January 10th, 2018.** Registration form is on our website <http://stannfenwick.wixsite.com/youthministry>. If you would like to volunteer, check out our website <http://stannfenwick.wixsite.com/youthministry> or email me [gbroadley@branchesoftheword.org](mailto:gbroadley@branchesoftheword.org)

**Church Contributions:** All Church contributions/donations for 2017 must be **received on the weekend of Dec 30th/31st** to be applied to your 2017 tax receipt. Donation envelopes received on Dec 31st for January 1st, the Feast of Mary the Mother of God will be applied to your 2018 tax return. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Office Closure for Christmas:** Regular office hours will resume on January 3rd, 2018.

**2018 Offertory Envelopes:** are now available in the church hall.

Please note that there have been updates made to the offertory numbering system. **FOR THE YEAR 2018, PLEASE USE ONLY THE ENVELOPES ASSIGNED TO YOU FOR THAT YEAR.** Some numbers are re-assigned every year and if you use old envelopes someone else may get credit for your contribution. **It is best to destroy all old envelopes.** A reminder that if you forget your envelope at home, there are visitor envelopes at the church entrance you can use - don’t forget to include your name and address on them.

- If you are making up for a missed week, **it is not necessary** to use more than one envelope. Use the envelope for the week you are attending.
- It is always helpful for us if you mark the amount of your donation on the envelope, however this is not required.
- If you are using a lot of coins for your contribution, we suggest that you tape the envelope well as loose change falls out easily.
- For any donations by cheque, please make payable to St. Ann Parish, **including all special collections. Take extra care with the date for the new year.**
- **PLEASE ADVISE THE OFFICE IF YOUR ADDRESS OR OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION HAS CHANGED.**

If you do not use envelopes but would like to, contact the office and we will prepare a box for you.

**Separated and Divorced Healing Ministry**— January 2018 topics are ‘Welcoming the New Year’ on January 8th; and ‘Who Am I Now’, on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Kathryn McMorrow is the presenter for both sessions. Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. Pre-registration is not required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email [separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com](mailto:separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com)

Bishop Bergie will preside at the liturgy for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** on Sunday, January 21, 2018, 3:00 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, 3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines.



