

THE DESERT SHALL REJOICE AND BLOSSOM!

The third Sunday of Advent is identified as the “Dominica in Laetare”. The priest will wear pink and the third candle of the wreath is also pink. Why are we rejoicing? Because we are almost there! Where? At the grotto of Bethlehem. We have almost arrived at Christmas.

The prophet Isaiah continues with words of encouragement: “Say to those who are of fearful heart: “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God!”

Joy is the first gift the Lord is bringing to our life. Joy is a necessity that all human beings desire and strive for. But how many of us can really say that we have the joy of Christmas? The prophet Isaiah continues by giving us the recipe for joy: “The eyes of the blind shall be opened; the ears of the deaf unstopped; the lame shall leap like a deer; the tongue of the mute sing for joy”. So, we have to open our eyes, to see what God is doing in our life; we have to open our ears to hear the cry of the poor; to get out of our comfort zone and jump to the rescue of the needy. If we do this, than our tongue will sing “for joy”.

These are also the signs that Jesus gives to the disciples of John the Baptist: “Go tell John that the blind can see, the deaf can hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them”. These are the signs of the New Earth that the baby Jesus is establishing on earth with His birth. Do you see God in your life? Can you hear His call? Can you rise up from the tomb of your anger and selfishness? Are you ready to receive the good news? Is your desert blossoming and rejoicing? Courage, it is almost Christmas!

CHALLENGE.

Between the 20th and 25th of December you may take a picture, with your iPhone of your nativity scene, and send it with your name and phone number to Fr. Walter at: frwalter@stcatherine.ca Use your imagination and your creativity. We will give \$100.00 each to the three best nativities.

NEW YEAR'S EVE TOGETHER.

We are all invited to celebrate a MASS OF THANKSGIVING with solemn Eucharistic Benediction on December 31st at 7:00pm in Church. After the celebration we all will gather in Zanon Hall for a fraternal celebration to welcome the New Year. You are invited to bring some food that we can share all together. Fr. Walter will provide the Spumante. Please get in touch with Vicky, so that we may prepare accordingly.



Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019 St. John of the Cross

8:00am For our Parishioners
6:00pm + Duilio Bertolo

Sunday, Dec. 15 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:30am + Tien Chau & Hong Chau
10:00am MESSA CON PIU INTENZIONI
11:30am MULTIPLE INTENTIONS MASS
1:00pm + Lawrence D'Sa
4:00pm + Regina Maloney
6:00pm MISA CON INTENCIONES MULTIPLES
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Monday, Dec. 16

8:00am + Beatriz Javier
6:30pm + Sandra Valentini
7:00pm Spanish Novena (Scalabrini Hall)
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Tuesday, Dec. 17

8:00am + Juanito Abelligoas Santos
6:30pm + Concetta Rinaldi
7:00pm Spanish Novena (Scalabrini Hall)
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Wednesday, Dec. 18

8:00am + Souls in Purgatory
9:00am – 12:00 noon *Confessions*
2:00pm - 4:00pm *Confessions*
6:00pm - 8:00pm *Confessions*
6:30pm MULTIPLE INTENTIONS MASS
7:00pm Spanish Novena (Scalabrini Hall)
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Thursday, Dec. 19

8:00am + Mercedes & Cristiano Ventura
6:30pm + Luciano Gonzales
7:00pm Spanish Novena (Scalabrini Hall)
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Friday, Dec. 20

8:00am Thanksgiving for Luz Pinlac
6:30pm + Carlos & Maria Liduina &
Carlos Borjas Del Melo
7:00pm Spanish Novena (Scalabrini Hall)
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Saturday, Dec. 21 St. Peter Canisius

8:00am + Efren Basquinas
6:00pm + Ida & Luigi Collodel
7:00pm Spanish Novena (Scalabrini Hall)
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

Sunday, Dec. 22 4th Sunday of Advent

8:30am + Forgotten Souls
10:00am MESSA CON PIU INTENZIONI
11:30am MULTIPLE INTENTIONS MASS
1:00pm + Lucia Fernandes
4:00pm + Mumtaz & Fakhira Bourachi
6:00pm MISA CON INTENCIONES MULTIPLES
7:30pm Simbang Gabi (Filipino Novena)

ITALIANO

Grupo di Preghiera Italiano ogni Mercoledì all' 1:30pm nella sala Fr. Zanon.

AVISOS EN ESPAÑOL

La FAMILIA MISIONERA invita a todos a continuar nuestro caminar cristiano, participando en nuestras ORACIONES DE TODOS LOS MARTES a las 7:35 pm en el SALÓN SCALABRINI.

Hoy, comenzamos la NOVENA y POSADAS DE NAVIDAD, con la SANTA MISA, REZOS, CANTOS y COMPARTIR de toda nuestra comunidad hispana. Para mayor información favor ver los afiches en las carteleras o en el website (<https://stcatherine.ca>) de la parroquia.

El MARTES 24 de DICIEMBRE, 2019 (7:00 pm) participaremos en la SANTA MISA Y CELEBRACIÓN DE DE NAVIDAD.

El MARTES 31 de DICIEMBRE, 2019 (4:00 pm) participaremos en la SANTA MISA y ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA DE AÑO VIEJO.

El MIÉRCOLES 1 de DICIEMBRE, 2019 (6:00 pm) participaremos en la SANTA MISA DE AÑO NUEVO.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES will start in January. If you have not registered your child, please do so as soon as possible.

DUFFERIN PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD will have an information session at the Catholic Education Centre at 40 Matheson Blvd. W., Room 301 on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm to support the transition of children with differing abilities. . Contact your local school or visit www.dpcdsb.org.

2020 Envelopes can be picked up at the main entrance of the Church. Anyone who had a number over 1301, please check the binder with the parishioners list for your new number.

2020 SUNDAY MISSALS You may purchase your own missal for \$5.00 at the office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will have their last Loonie/Twoonie campaign of the year today after all the Masses today. Thank you.

CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP on Tuesday, December 17th at 10:00am or 8:00pm in Zanon Hall.

Schedule of weeknight Masses between Dec 15-23

MASS in ENGLISH will be @ 6:30pm not 7pm;

MISA en Espanol @ 7:00pm in Scalabrini Hall

MASS in Tagalog (Simbang Gabi) @ 7:30pm

ARCHDIOCESAN DAY OF CONFESSIONS

here in our parish will be on Wednesday, December 18th, 9:00am – 12:00pm; 2:00pm - 4:00pm; 6:00pm – 8:00pm.

PARISH ENGLISH CHARISMATIC PRAYER

MINISTRY meets every Saturday at 2:30 pm in Scalabrini Hall for prayer, thanksgiving, intercession, Praise & Worship & the Word of God. All are welcome.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Dear friends, at this time of Christmas I want to share with you the joyful gratitude of being your pastor, your shepherd. Most of the times it is you who look up to me, but this time it is I who wants to look up to you. I want to let you know that I am very happy and proud of this Christian community, where the Lord has called me to serve and live just two and a half years ago. From the beginning I had the opportunity to admire a sincere faith in many of you. I was surprised to see so many people going to mass daily. I was surprised to see so many volunteers, offering their time and talent for our children. I was really happy to see that each mass was well organized with choirs and ministers at each celebration. Many volunteers for the preparation of the sacraments, Baptism, Marriage, the Sick and RCIA. Something that jumped in my eyes immediately is the great diversity of languages and cultures that are united in a single Christian community at our parish. I met many refugees who told me that they feel welcome and respected in our midst. But, most of all, I really appreciate the great love and closeness that you have toward your priests and deacon. I really feel that you love me and the priests, and I am very happy to return such a great love as much as I can. I can sincerely say that I love you and that I want to share with you all the great love of Jesus for each one of us.

Christmas is the greatest sign of the love, tenderness, closeness of God, who becomes a loving baby, to show us how much He loves us. My only wish is that we grow in love as a family; that we may reach out to so many people who have no experience of the real love that Jesus is bringing to us; that we may become a real community of love, as the angels announced from heaven the night of Christmas: Peace and joy to all those, whom God loves.

Merry Christmas to all.