

## *Feast of the Holy Family*

<b>Saturday, December 26<sup>th</sup></b>	
5:00pm	<b>Teresa Price</b> by Anne & John Heaps
<b>Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup></b>	
9:00am	<b>Gorgonia Aquino</b> by Teresa & David Yee
11:00am	<b>Nattie &amp; Arthur Maloney</b> by Roy & Marie Graveley
<b>NO MASS DURING THE WEEK</b>	
<b>Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>New Year's Eve</b></span>	
5:00pm	<b>Bernie Sauve</b> by Kevin Sauve
<b>Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>New Year's Day</b></span>	
10:00am	<b>Jean-Pierre Jodoin</b> by Gerry & Mary Jodoin
<b>Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Sts. Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen</b></span>	
5:00pm	<b>Sr. Mary McAlear</b> by Sr. Barbara Hackett
<b>Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b></span>	
9:00am	<b>Maureen Baker</b> by Ray Baker
11:00am	<b>Pro Populo</b>
<b>Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Saint Elizabeth Ann</b></span>	
8:00am	<b>Sandra Sauve</b> by the parishioners
<b>Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Saint John Neumann</b></span>	
8:00am	<b>Theresa Young</b> by Reg & Marilyn Young
<b>Wednesday January 6<sup>th</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Saint Andre Bessette</b></span>	
8:00am	<b>Mrs. Wolkow</b> by Paul & Joan
<b>Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Saint Raymond of Penyafort</b></span>	
8:00am	<b>Tracey Firth</b> by Jacques Proulx
<b>Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup></b>	
5:00pm	<b>James Foley</b> by Judy Foley
<b>Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>The Baptism of the Lord</b></span>	
9:00am	<b>Gavin Thom</b> by The MacMillan family
11:00am	<b>Pro Populo</b>

SUNDAY OFFERING	
December 20th, 2015	
Env.	\$3057.00
Loose	\$352.40
Heat	<u>\$110.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3519.40</b>

### Please Note

**Please take note that the office will be closed until January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

### Baptism Meeting

The next meeting for parents who are planning on having their child baptized in the near future will take place on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 p.m. Please call the office to register.

### Ladies Auxiliary

Please note there is no January meeting. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the parish hall. New members are welcome!!

**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week "In Memory of Tracey Firth" by Sr. Barbara**

### **Parish Breakfast on January 10<sup>th</sup>**

**COME ONE ---- COME ALL -----** to the Parish breakfast on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the parish hall, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. **COST: FREE WILL OFFERING.** All proceeds go to the Catholic Secondary School Mission Trip. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus Round Table and Blessed Sacrament Ladies Auxiliary.

### **New Year's Eve Ball**

Knights of Columbus Hall (205 Amelia Street, upstairs Hall). **Thursday, December 31, 2015 from 8:00 PM to 1:00 AM.** Buffet (hot & cold) served at Midnight. Tickets: \$25.00 per person. Music by Crazy Dave. Door Prizes & Spot Dances. For tickets, please call 613-932-7600. *Sponsored by: Wilson Funeral Home*

### **Mass Schedule for New Year's**

New Year's Eve at 5 pm and New Year's Day at 10 am. The first day of the year, where the Church celebrates Mary as "**Mother of God**" (one of the oldest Marian feasts) is a Holy Day of Obligation for us Catholics. Mass therefore is obligatory. Let's come in large numbers to celebrate the Maternity of Mary and start 2016 in prayer.

# Happy and Holy New Year!

Dear parishioners,

During these joyful times, let's reflect on these moments with family and friends. At the dawn of the New Year another page is written in the great book of life. We are blessed to be spending this coming year with you and our wish is that it will be a time of shared happiness for everyone.

New Year's Day is a perfect opportunity to express our affection for you and hope your desires will be fulfilled in 2016. Here are some wishes that we have composed:

May we discover, along with our families and friends, the grace and magic of the New Year and, just as with the Magi, the Star will guide us toward light, peace, truth and love.

May this New Year grant you many moments of happiness with your loved ones.

May you continue to enjoy or rediscover your capacity for wonder.

May this year bring God's blessings and that the simplest joys will be the most significant.

May you enjoy good health and realize your heart's desires.

Finally, we leave you to reflect on this thought from Epictetus. An ancient philosopher:

*Don't waste time waiting for your wishes to come true. Make up our mind to accept what comes... And you will be happy!*

Father Jacques Labelle  
Deacon Pierre Aubé

## **Women's Morning of Reflection**

Please join us on **Saturday, January 2 from 9:30 until noon** at the Charles-Emile Claude Centre on Chevrier St (behind Nativity co-cathedral) in Cornwall. The morning includes mass, a light breakfast, confession, a talk and the rosary. The theme for this year is "The Year of Mercy". Our speaker will be Joan Levy-Earle who will speak on "**Mary Mother of God**". *A free will offering of \$5 is appreciated.* For more information contact Marilyn Light at 613-537-2021.

**Receipts for income tax** ...will be ready for distribution in February. There's only one receipt for your contributions to the Parish for Sunday offerings, special collections, and your donations for 2015.

## **We need your help**

Our church is a beautiful place of worship and we are asking your help in keeping it clean by removing your bulletins, kleenex, water bottles, etc. before you leave Mass.

## **2016 Collection Envelopes**

Did you pick up your 2016 collection envelopes? They're on the table at the back of the church. If there are any errors or omissions, or if you want a box, please advise us as soon as possible.

## **War Room**

Filled with heart, humor, and wit, War Room follows Tony and Elizabeth Jordan, a couple who seemingly have it all. But appearances can be deceiving. In reality, their marriage has become a war zone and their daughter is collateral damage. With guidance from Miss Clara, an older, wiser woman, Elizabeth discovers she can start fighting for her family instead of against them. As the power of prayer and Elizabeth's newly energized faith transform her life, will Tony join the fight and become the man he knows he needs to be? War Room will screen at The Port until the end of the month. Evening showings are at 7:15. Monday and Wednesday matinées are at 2 pm. Tickets are just \$7.50. Ninety percent of those who have seen have liked it.

**Come Celebrate New Year's Eve with Jesus** at St. Anthony's Church, in Apple Hill. Adoration will take place from 11 pm to midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup>, followed by Midnight Mass.

**Jesus give me the courage, the strength, and the perseverance to live this day in your love!**

**ACT OF HOPE:**

O my God, relying on your almighty power and infinite mercy and promises. I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.



**Following a Guiding Star**

Who were the Magi? Were there only three and were they kings? Were their names Balthazar, Melchior and Gaspard? Of the three, was one black? These minor details don't matter.

Matthew the Evangelist wrote that the Magi came from the East, east of Jordan, and that they had been alerted by the appearance of a strange star in the sky. These astrologers represented the pagan world's acceptance of Jesus as Lord and its openness to hearing the

Good News of salvation. When questioned, one of the Magi offered this explanation: *Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.*

It is not important to know that the star followed a mysterious or unusual trajectory, that it was or wasn't visible, or to depend on the word of sympathetic or hostile witnesses. What is significant is this star was a sign that announced the coming of the Savior King, the Good News that the angels proclaimed to the shepherds. Just as for the pagan Magi and the Jewish shepherds, the Lord is our guide to salvation.

Matthew stressed the meeting of the unusual visitors with Herod and his entourage in Jerusalem. The leaders did not go to the grotto in Bethlehem and their refusal to believe in Jesus set into motion a sequence of events that would end in the death of Mary and Joseph's son.

The Magi continued their journey, found the crèche at Bethlehem, and offered Jesus symbolic gifts. They knelt before the King of the universe and offered him gold from their hearts. They proclaimed him God and Lord by the rising incense of their prayers. The Magi acclaimed the One who would rise from the dead with their gift of myrrh that symbolized fulfilled hopes.

*Gilles Leblanc*

**WORKING ON PATIENTS**

Heavenly Father, Help us remember that the person who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy and love.

**Mini Monster Bingo**

Nativity Parish is having a Mini Monster Bingo on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 4pm and regular bingo starts at 7pm. Package of 12 cards for \$22 includes specials, Bonanza extra at .50 cents. Profits are for Nativity Parish.