

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 3rd		CHRISTMAS OFFERING December 25, 2014 Env - \$4049.00 Loose - \$1095.85 Sunday \$ 688.00 Total = \$5832.85
5:00pm	James Foley by John & Judy Foley	
Sunday, January 4th		
9:00 am	Pro Populo	
11:00am	Tito Dacara by Emer Ellis & family	
NO MASS THIS WEEK – FATHER JACQUES IS TAKING A COURSE		SUNDAY OFFERING December 28, 2014 Env - \$2679.00 Loose - \$ 287.75 Christmas \$ 437.00 Total = \$3403.75 THANK YOU!!!
Saturday, January 10th		
5:00pm	Mr. & Mrs. Mazzeo by the Esposito family	
Sunday, January 11th <i>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</i>		
9:00am	Pro Populo	
11:00am	Rheal Perreault by Rolland & Rose Caron	

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week “For the intentions of Claire Bonneville”.

We welcome this weekend Msgr Réjean Lebrun who will be celebrating mass with us.

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 2014.

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 13th starting at 7:00 p.m. Please call the office to register.

St. Francis de Sales K of C 11531 Roast Beef Dinner on Thursday, 15th January 2015 in their Parish Hall. Two sittings to accommodate all 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Adults: \$10, Children: \$5

Bingo at Ste-Thérèse-de-Lisieux Parish

Bingo will be held on Thursday, January 8th and 22nd in their parish hall. Doors and canteen open at 5:30 pm. Early Bird at 6:30 pm and Bingo starts at 7:00 pm. Amount to be won at each Bingo night: \$900 plus the 50/50 games. Everyone welcome!

Come sing with us! Join us as we praise Our Lord through music. Open to all who love God and love to sing. God gave us our voices, good and not so good... we give them back to Him with our Praise and Worship music. St. Peter's Parish, 6:30-7:30 on Thursdays January 15, Feb. 19, March 19, April 16

It Is Important to Belong

It is good for everyone to have a sense of belonging . . . some place to call home. It is good to belong to a parish . . . to have a church to call your own. Possibly you have been coming to Blessed Sacrament Church for some time and never actually joined or registered. If you would like to call Blessed Sacrament your parish, please fill in the lines below and drop it in the collection basket or simply call the parish office at 613-932-2996. If you are registered in the parish, and would like to start receiving contribution envelopes, please indicate that below or again just call the parish office.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ Telephone _____

Envelopes required: Yes No

Ladies Auxiliary

There will not be a meeting in January. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10th, at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. New members welcomed!!

Could you use a boost of pure joy, inspiration, and encouragement?

Then plan to attend this year's Lift Jesus Higher Rally on Saturday, March 7, 2015 from 9am – 5:30 pm at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. W. The theme this year "The Happiness Factor" will fill you with certainty of the abiding love and joy that God has for His people. Keynote Speaker, Al Kresta, CEO of Ave Maria Catholic Radio, and host of Kresta in the Afternoon, aired on EWTN, will be joined by the Renewal Ministries team of Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, and Peter Herbeck. In addition to compelling talks and uplifting music, there will be prayer ministry, inspiring personal testimonies, confession, a Divine Mercy celebration and a Eucharistic procession. Closing Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Cardinal Collins. A separate Youth Rally (13-18 yrs.) will be held simultaneously in the theatre next door to the Adult Rally. Tickets are \$10 for the Youth Rally and \$20 for the Adult Rally. Be sure to get yours for what will be a memorable day. And, even better, evangelize by bringing a friend. For general information, call 416-251-4255 or email LJHR@rogers.com or visit www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.org

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARISH...

On January 24th at 5:00pm, we will be celebrating and marking our 50th anniversary of the parish. Bishop Marcel will be celebrating mass, followed by a wine and cheese in the parish hall. Please mark your calendar and join us for the beginning of our 50th year as a parish community.

Are You Getting Married in 2015 or 2016?

If you are planning to get married in 2015 or 2016, please contact the rectory **as soon as possible**. We ask at least one year notice in order to give enough time to properly prepare everything. We also wish to remind couples who have decided to get married that, in our diocese, a marriage preparation course is required. For information or to register please call Marie at 613-933-1138.

QUOTATION FROM ST AUGUSTINE ON THE TWO CITIES

What we see, then, is that two societies have issued from two kinds of love. Worldly society has flowered from a selfish love which dared to despise even God, whereas the communion of saints is rooted in a love of God that is ready to trample on self. In a word, this latter relies on the Lord, whereas the other boasts that it can get along by itself. The city of man seeks the praise of men, whereas the height of glory for the other is to hear God in the witness of conscience [City of God XIV.28].

God Is King - He Comes to Rule

God is a King. The Savior he sends us, Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, comes not to philosophize, but to rule. Herod trembled because he knew this. The Wise Men rejoiced because they knew this. Even before Jesus can talk, he teaches us a precious truth about ourselves. In our hearts there dwell two potential responses to the coming of such a King: Herod's or the Magi's. Herod had spent his life murdering, extorting, and building a personal kingdom ruled by his whims for his personal glory. Christ enters the scene - a King with authority from on high. Herod immediately feels the threat. If Christ is not destroyed or discredited, it could spell the end of all his labors. The Magi, on the other hand, do not fear the demands that this new King will make on their personal lives. Instead, they rejoice to know that God's Savior is finally coming. Instead of hoarding and protecting their treasures, the fruits of their life's labors, they generously offer them to Christ as gestures of honor, respect, and allegiance. Whenever Christ enters our lives, which he does every day through the voice of conscience, the teachings of his Church, and the designs of Providence, we must choose in whose steps we will follow, Herod's or the Magi's. Will we tremble, afraid of what Jesus may demand of us? Or will we rejoice, glad to have such a glorious Lord to follow? We have both possibilities in our hearts - we are potential Herods, and we also are potential Magi.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear parishioners!

I offer my best wishes for a very Happy New Year to each and every one of you. I pray to the Lord that this New Year will be as beautiful and as prosperous as possible. May the blessings of the Lord be upon you and your family as we enter into a new year!

I would like to thank every one for your friendship. A special "thank you" to the kind people who have been so generous with me on the occasion of Christmas (gifts, cards with good wishes, words of encouragement, pastries, etc...) It was wonderful! Thank you! And may the Lord reward you for it. **God love you !**

FR. Jacques Labelle

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 Saviour 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.

QUOTE FROM POPE BENEDICT XVI (inaugural homily, 24 April 2005)

Are we not perhaps all afraid in some way? If we let Christ enter fully into our lives, if we open ourselves totally to him, are we not afraid that He might take something away from us? Are we not perhaps afraid to give up something significant, something unique, something that makes life so beautiful? Do we not then risk ending up diminished and deprived of our freedom? And once again the Pope said: No! If we let Christ into our lives, we lose nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing of what makes life free, beautiful and great. No! Only in this friendship are the doors of life opened wide. Only in this friendship is the great potential of human existence truly revealed. Only in this friendship do we experience beauty and liberation. And so, today, with great strength and great conviction, on the basis of long personal experience of life, I say to you, dear young people: Do not be afraid of Christ!

DON'T MISS THE POINT!



Once upon a time there lived in Bethlehem a woman named Babushka. She kept the cleanest and neatest house in town and was also the best cook. She heard rumours of three kings coming across the desert but paid no attention to them because she had so much work to do. Then she heard the sounds of drums and pipes and a cavalcade of riders. She looked out the window and there were three richly dressed kings coming towards her house. They told her that they had come to honour the little prince who had been born in Bethlehem and they needed food and lodging.

Babushka cooked a wonderful meal for them, remade all the beds, and wore herself out. The next morning the kings begged her to come with them so she too might see the little prince. Babushka said she would follow after them as soon as she finished the dishes. She cleaned the house again and then took out of a cabinet the toys of her own little prince who had died so long ago. She had no more need of them and would give them to the new little prince. She put them in a basket and sat down for a moment's rest before she followed the wise men. Hours later she woke up, grabbed the basket, and rushed into town. But the kings were gone and so was the little prince and his parents. Ever after, it is said, Babushka has followed after them. Whenever she finds a newborn babe, she looks to see if he is the little prince. Even if he (or in our days she too) is not there, Babushka leaves a toy for the child. I think she probably found the prince early on, but we still should learn from her lesson: we should never let the important interfere with the essential.