

**Looking Ahead****Mon Dec 15**

7:30 Advent Prayer, St. Jos Rm

**Wed. Dec 17**

7:30pm Baptism Preparation, PC #1

**Thu Dec 18**

7:30pm Reconciliation Svc, 5 priests

**Fri. Dec 19**

10am Mass at Taunton Mills

**Sat. Dec 20**

2:00 – 4:15pm Children &amp; Youth

Christmas Choir Rehearsal, PC main

**CHRISTMAS CAROLLING**

St. John the Evangelist Pastoral Council is organizing an evening of Christmas Carolling

Saturday, December 20, 2008

After the 5pm Mass, outside the front of the church. Members of the parish family are invited to join in. FREE hot chocolate and cookies will be available.

**Junior/Senior Kindergarten School Registration**

The Durham Catholic District School Board will be holding registration for Junior and Senior Kindergarten in all Catholic schools in Durham Region during the week of January 12-16, 2009.

**St. John the Evangelist**

905-668-4011

- Wed. Jan. 14, 2009

**St. Luke the Evangelist**

905-665-5828

- Wed Jan. 14, 2009

**St. Marguerite d'Youville**

905-666-9301

- Mon. Jan. 12, 2009

**CRITERIA:**

1. Children registering for Junior Kindergarten must be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2009.
2. Children registering for Senior Kindergarten must be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2009.
3. To register your child, one or both parents/guardians must be Catholic and registered Separate School supporter(s).

Please note: Parents must bring proof of age in the form of a Baptismal Certificate and one of the following:

Birth Certificate, Birth Registration or Passport. Parents are requested to bring available health records on immunization, allergies etc. To determine the location of your area school, please visit the Board Website at <http://locator.dcdsb.ca>

**Advent Prayer Group****Monday Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**

7:30pm to 8:30pm

St. Joseph's Room

Come and enjoy a quiet time preparing for the celebration of Christmas - both a beginning and an end of the Church's year.

What is Advent Prayer Group? We come together to read the Sunday scripture and discuss questions based on their meaning in our life today.

*Spiritual Committee, Pastoral Council*

**SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS**  
2008 – 2009

**FIRST EUCHARIST**  
Grade 2

**Registration: Jan. 8 /09**

A copy of your child's Baptism Certificate is required to register & \$12 for program expenses

**CONFIRMATION**  
Grade 8

**Sessions: Jan. 17-24-31  
Feb. 7 & Jun. 5/09****2009 St. John The Evangelist Calendars**

The 2009 parish calendars are available at the back of the church, compliments of W.C. Town Funeral Chapel. Please take one

**2009 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

The offertory envelopes will be available on the weekends of December 13/14 and 20/21, then again 27/28. You may take any box number. Please print your name and address on the first two donations and our secretary will record it for income tax purposes. You may also use an address sticker for convenience. Through the year, it is no longer necessary to record your

name and address, however it would be very helpful if you would *record the donation amount* on the envelope. It is very important to DESTROY ALL ENVELOPES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS as the old number belongs to someone else in 2009 and you risk your tax credit going to someone else.

**PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
**THURS. DEC. 18, 2008**  
**7:30PM**  
**5 priests**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND**

*Each year you are invited to assist with the cost for decorating the Church for Christmas and throughout the Christmas Season. Special envelopes are available at the back of the Church for this purpose. You can deposit them in the regular collection over the next few weeks. Just put your envelope number or name on the front for income tax purposes. As always, we appreciate your support and assistance at this time of year!*

**THE ADVENT WREATH**

Using the Advent Wreath in our homes during this

advent season is a wonderful way to focus our family's attention on the spiritual preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth.

**MEANING**

The Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen boughs reminding us of God's continuous love and Christ's promise to bring us to salvation. The four candles signify the four weeks of advent and the four thousand years the Jewish people waited for the Messiah. The candle colours; three purple candles call to mind our preparation and signify the kingly status of Christ; the one pink candle, lit on Gaudete Sunday, the third week of Advent, is one of Joy. As we light the number of candles for each appropriate week, the light intensifies as our preparations and anticipation increase.

The time is near!

Third Week of Advent: Family Liturgy

1. A family member lights two purple candles and one pink candle.
2. A family member reads the bible reference for the day.
3. Together recite the Third Week of Advent prayer:  
Dear Lord, pour your love into our hearts so that we may love more fully all those you love. Help us to be understanding of the needs of others, as you were understanding when you sent your Son Jesus Christ to redeem us. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.
4. Together recite the Our Father and Sign of the Cross.
5. Youngest family member extinguishes the candles.

The Readings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent

- Sun. Isaiah 61:1 –2A, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28
- Mon. Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17A; Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Matthew 21:23-27
- Tues. Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32
- Wed. Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
- Thurs. Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25
- Fri. Judges 13:2-7, 24-25A; Luke 1:5-25
- Sat. Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38

**The Toronto Archdiocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada promotes the Mary Dobell Pro-Life Awareness Essay and Poetry Contest** to support and encourage an awareness and positive attitude toward a broad range of pro-life issues. These address all facets and stages of life development from conception, through childhood, adolescence, adulthood and senior years, to the new life stage after death. Admissions are accepted from grades 7 – 12 and are due January 28, 2009. For more information, please contact Martha Hamilton, CWL Education Convener at (905) 430-2444.

A Dedication Mass in memory of Fr. Don MacLellan will be celebrated at Msgr. John Pereyma High School Chapel on Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Priests, friends, former colleagues and former students are welcome.

**Give Someone the Gift of Knowledge this Christmas**

St. Leo's Parish in Brooklin will be offering the following courses in the New Year: Judas in the Bible (Mon 7:30-9pm, begins Jan.5th), Heaven, Hell and Everything in Between (Wed 7:30-9pm, begins Jan. 7th), and John Paul II's 'Love and Responsibility' (Sat 12-1:30pm, begins Jan.10th). Each course runs for 6 weeks and costs \$30. Please call 905-655-3286 to register and visit [www.catholicministry.ca](http://www.catholicministry.ca) for more info.

**Wednesday, December 24**

Vigil of Christmas  
7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm

**Thursday, December 25**

(Holy Day of Obligation)  
Nativity of the Lord  
9:00am, 11:00am

**Friday, December 26**

Feast of St. Stephen  
9:00am

**Wednesday, December 31**

Vigil, Mary Mother of God  
5:00pm

**Thursday, January 1**

(Holy Day of Obligation)  
Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God  
9:00am, 11:00am

**TAUNTON MILLS COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Please pick up the new schedule in the folder at the back of the church.

The best presents are the ones that can't be wrapped.

**This Christmas give the gifts of Friendship, Understanding, Kindness, Love and Compassion.**

**Keep Christ in Christmas**

*Knights of Columbus*

**EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
**Wednesday December 17, 2008**  
**7:30pm**  
Knight of Columbus Hall  
133 Brock St N, Whitby

**Winter Warmth for Seniors**

We are looking for mitts, hats and scarves for Seniors living at Fairview Lodge. Containers will be at the back of the church at all three Masses on January 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 for your donations.  
*Thank you from the Social Action Committee*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sat. 5:00 pm Joseph Bene**  
**Dec 13 req. by The Bene Family**  
**Mon 8:20 am In Thanksgiving**  
**Dec. 15 req. by Pierre & Linda Pilon**  
**Wed 7:00 pm Mary Pillepich**  
**Dec 17 req. by Anna & Alex Pilepic**  
**Thu 8:20 am**  
**Dec 18 req. by**  
**Fri. 8:20 am Mary & Joseph Byers**  
**Dec 19 req. by Their Estate**  
**Sat. 5:00pm Rev. Anthony Iacobelli**  
**Dec 20 req.by The Rome Pilgrims**

**Toronto Serra Clubs**

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. It is possible God could call your name to witness to the Light of Christ in our day. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Liborio (416) 968-0997.