

SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS

2011 – 2012

FIRST EUCHARIST “Invited to the Feast” (Grade 2)	CONFIRMATION “Anointed for Mission” (Grade 8)
Parents' Meeting Saturday, January 28 10:00 – 11:30 am (A-L) 1:00 – 2:30 pm (M-Z) in the Parish Centre (parents only)	Sessions I – IV Jan 14 & 21 Feb 4 & 11 in the Parish Centre 9:00 am – 10:30 am or 11:00 am – 12:30 pm (as scheduled)



From the Pastor's Desk



On these two weekends, we celebrate two great Solemnities of the Church and two wonderful events in our Salvation History. We celebrate The Solemnity of the Incarnation of The Lord – better known as

Christmas Day and The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. Both great days remind us of the love that God has for us. We see this great love first in the great mystery that God has come down from Heaven and become one of us in the person of Jesus – the child of Bethlehem. Now humanity had been raised to a level it had never known before, and through Jesus we are greater than Adam and Eve were before they ate of the forbidden fruit and Sin entered into the human family. It was the old Adam and old Eve that made us captive to Sin, but now we are reformed according to the nature of the New Adam, Jesus Christ and are asked to follow the example of the New Eve, our dear Blessed Mother Mary. This is of course what we celebrate on January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. For on this day we honour the one who has given us a perfect example of Christian Discipleship, and we honour the great gift that God has given us Mother of His Son - to be our Mother as well and to watch over us and intercede for us.

Of course on these two days we are remembering more than just the birth of a child 2000 years ago and his mother, for as was stated above we are remembering, no better yet, participating in Humanity's Salvation. We should also bear in mind, that what we celebrate on these two weekends and during this

entire Christmas Season is not just for two weeks, and that is it until next year. No, what we rejoice over now, we must rejoice over and spread with others for the whole year, especially as we soon start looking forward to that great day of celebration – Easter Sunday. We have some time before this happens and it does give us something to look forward to.

On behalf of Fr. Ben, Deacon Anthony and the Parish Staff, I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy, Prosperous, and Joyous New Year.

As your Pastor, I have been blessed to witness the presence of Christ in our parish through the dedication, sacrifices and hard work of so many parishioners. I am grateful for the services of so many: those who serve in ministry such as Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic, Ushers, Home Communion, Extraordinary Ministers, Liturgical Committee, Religious Education teachers and Aides, Musicians and Choir members, Knights of Columbus, and Catholic Women's League. On behalf of all, we thank wholeheartedly the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society who, at the busiest time of year, took the time to reach out to the needy families of our parish with extra support. To all who contributed their time and talent in any way, we thank you so very much.



The Office is closed on Dec. 26 & 27 and Jan. 2, 2012.

Octave of Christmas Mass Schedule

Sun. Dec. 25	Nativity of the Lord 9:00 am 11:00 am
Mon. Dec. 26	Feast of St. Stephen, first Martyr 9:00 am
Sat. Dec 31	7 th Day Octave of Christmas 5:00pm
Sun. Jan. 1	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God 9:00 am 11:00 am
Mon. Jan 2	9am

Mark your Calendar!
Registration JK/SK Durham Catholic District School Board
Our Parish Schools are holding their JK/SK registrations on:

St. John the Evangelist
 Wednesday, January 18, 2012
 (905) 668-4011

St. Luke the Evangelist
 Wednesday, January 18, 2012
 (905) 665-5828

St. Marguerite d'Youville
 Monday, January 16, 2012
 (905) 666-9301

Call the schools for further information



Masses For The Week

Sat. Dec. 24 NO INTENTIONS

Mon. Dec.26 – 9:00 am

+Giuseppina Villanti

req. by Peter Merlo & Family

Wed. Dec. 28 – 7:00pm

+Ray Hayes

req. by Bob & Leona Vallance & Family

Thur. Dec.29 – 8:20am

+Peter Carcich

req. by The Carcich Family

Fri. Dec. 30 – 8:20am

+Katerina Paul

req. by Anne Hendriks

Sat. Dec. 31 – 5:00pm

+Anthony Clynych

His Wife & Family



Mark your calendars for **TASTE OF THE PARISH** event on **Saturday January 21, 2012 at 6pm in the Parish Centre.**

We are once again looking forward to celebrating the food of our diverse parish members. We invite you to join us, In early January forms will be available at the back of the Church to complete. Let us know what you plan to bring, the nationality of the dish and if you need access to an electric outlet for a hot item. Bring the dish to the parish centre between 4:30pm and 5:30pm on Saturday January 21st. The FUN begins at 6pm with a tour of the World through your "Taste Buds". We will also have a Canadian Trivia challenge. Entry fee is the food you bring in. Coffee and Tea provided You may bring copies of your recipe to share, if you wish. Any further questions, contact Terry Pirie at (905) 668-0189 or terrypirie@sympatico.ca



The following envelope numbers are entitled to a tax receipt, but are still not identified:

73 – 377 – 415 – 535 – 675 –

1036 - 1053

Please call the Vicki! (905) 668-3676

Prayers for the Sick

**Michael Power, Judy Atkins,
Bernadette Sullivan**

A Christmas Blessing

**May God grant you the
light in Christmas,
which is faith;
The warmth of Christmas,
which is love;
The radiance of Christmas,
which is purity;
The righteousness of
Christmas,
which is justice;
The belief in Christmas,
which is truth;
The all of Christmas,
which is Christ,
- Wilda English**

**The most important
gift of
*Christmas***



**did not arrive by
Camel or Reindeer**

**Keep Christ in
Christmas**



Knights of Columbus

**THE GIFT OF HOSPITALITY
WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

Once again we are preparing to host the members of the N.E.T. Ministries Team who will be facilitating the Confirmation Retreat for our Gr. 8 students in February 2012.

NET Ministries is a Catholic evangelistic outreach program located in the Archdiocese of Ottawa. The team is comprised of 10-12 young adults of vibrant faith, who have given ten months of their lives to travel across Canada to share their faith with Catholic youth. Using a retreat format, the team members blend a fun, high-energy experience, with a straightforward and personal presentation of the Gospel message and how Jesus Christ has affected their lives. They use large group presentations, small group discussions, music, games, skits, prayer, personal testimonies, and the Sacraments. We are looking for homes where these young people can stay, in groups of either two/three women or two/three men, on Wed., Feb 22, Thurs. Feb. 23, Fri. Feb 24 and Sat. Feb 25, 2012, leaving on Sunday afternoon. We will finalize the arrangements in early February. The teams bring their own sleeping bags and pillows. As a host family you would be agreeing to provide breakfast and dinner, and possibly transportation to the Parish Centre for 8:00 a.m. on the mornings of Feb. 23 and 24, although they normally provide their own transportation.

My family would like to host two of the N.E.T. team members.

Name:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Pets: _____

Gender Preference:
Female _____
Male _____

Please submit your application to the Parish Office or place it in the Collection basket. Thank you.
Fr. Anthony Iacobelli,
Linda Pilon, Pastoral Assistant