



The most  
important  
gift of  
Christmas

did not arrive  
by Camel or  
Reindeer

Keep Christ in  
Christmas



Knights of Columbus



THE ADVENT WREATH  
Second Week of Advent:  
Family Liturgy

Together say: "In the name of the Father  
and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

- 1 A family member lights two purple candles.
- 2 A family member reads the Bible reference for the day.
- 3 Together recite the Second 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 the Sign of the Cross.
5. A family member extinguishes the candles.

**DAILY READINGS FOR THE  
2<sup>nd</sup> WEEK OF ADVENT**  
The theme is HOPE.

- Sunday: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11  
or Mark 1:1-8  
Monday: Isaiah 35:1-10 or  
Luke 15:17-26  
Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11 or  
Matt. 18:12-14

- Wednesday: Isaiah 40:25-31 /  
Matthew 11:28-30  
Thursday: Genesis 3:9-15,20 /  
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12  
/Luke 1:26-38  
Friday: Isaiah 48:17-19 or  
Matt. 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 or  
Matt. 17:10-13

**SACRAMENT OF  
RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
Monday, December 12, 2011  
at 7:30pm  
in the Church, 5 priests

#### **SVDP CAN BANKS**

St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting the can banks next weekend December 10/11 in time to support those in need this Christmas. Please bring in your can bank next weekend

#### **Today is Social Sunday**

You are invited to join us in the Parish Centre for refreshments and social time after the 9am or 11am Masses.



#### **CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND**

Special envelopes are available at the back of the Church for donations to offset the cost of decorating at Christmas. We appreciate your support and assistance at this time of year!



#### **Christmas Carol Singing**

Join us  
Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup>  
after 5pm Mass

Meet at the north doors of the Church.  
This is the fifth annual Christmas Carol Gathering hosted by your Social Committee of Pastoral Council. Dress warm. Hot chocolate and song sheets provided. See you there!

**Prayers for the Sick**  
Michael Power  
Judy Atkins

#### **2012 St. John Calendars**

Our calendars will be available for pickup December 10/11 and 17/18. The calendars are provided with compliments of W.C. Town Funeral Chapel.

#### **2012 Offertory Envelopes**

New Offertory envelopes will be available for pickup December 10/11 & 17/18. After that, they will be available again Jan 7/8 or from the Parish Office. Please provide your name and address on at least the first 2 donations you make.

**IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT YOU DISCARD THE OLD YEAR ENVELOPES AND BEGIN USING THE NEW ENVELOPES. PLEASE DO NOT USE OLD YEAR ENVELOPES IN THE NEW YEAR.**

#### **Join us in the Church**

During Advent, Mark McGowan will be giving three presentations in the Church to help us prepare for Christmas.

Each begins at 7:30 pm for one hour.

#### **Remaining Dates & Topics:**

Thurs Dec 8 - *Jews and Rome*

Thurs Dec 15 - *Nativity: God among Us.*

#### **Italian Dinner & Dance**

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Knights of Columbus Hall

133 Brock St N, Whitby  
Cash Bar

Cocktails 6:00 pm, Dinner 7:00 pm

Dance to the music of  
DJ Gerry Paul

Tickets \$25 per person

(Reserved table for group purchase of 6 or more.)

For tickets and info contact  
Gerry or Roberta at (905) 430-2978  
deschenes.family@sympatico.ca

#### **Looking Ahead**

**Mon Dec 5,**  
7:30pm SVDP Mtg, PC#1

**Wed. Dec 7**  
1pm Prayer Group, PC main  
6:00 – 6:50pm PHCP, Gr 1-8, PC all

**Thu Dec 8**  
7:30pm Mark McGowan – Presentation in the Church

**Fri. Dec 9**  
10am Mass at Fairview Lodge

**Sat. Dec 10**  
Children's Choir Rehearsal, PC main

**PEW SURVEY**

St. John the Evangelist is seeking your assistance through a survey which you will find in the bulletin. Our goals include

- \* Encourage more parish members to volunteer and participate in parish ministries.
- \* Uncover why more do not volunteer; "what's holding you back?"
- \* Communicate the assistance the parish needs and see if there is a fit with your interests.

We hope you understand, through this survey, that we are not asking for a huge commitment of time. It can be seasonal, project based or once a year hits. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and return by placing it in a basket in the back of the church.



**Campaign Life Coalition Christmas Cakes**

Christmas cakes will be sold in the vestibule of the church after all masses on the weekend of December 3/4. The proceeds will go to support ongoing work by Campaign Life Coalition to protect all human life and to maintain full respect for life, including the unborn, the disabled, the sick and the elderly. They sell for \$15 for the loaf-size cake (1.5 lb. or 680 g) and \$22 for the large round cake (2 lb. or 900 g). Please support the work of this pro-family organization. Contact number: Iris 905-668-3218

**SPONSORS AND GODPARENTS**

In the Catholic Church, for someone to fulfill the role of Sponsor or Godparent, they must be Baptized and Confirmed Roman Catholics, who practice their faith actively, are at least sixteen years of age, and not bound by any canonical prohibition (for instance, if they are married, they must have received the Catholic Church's blessing on their marriage). At baptism, one Roman Catholic godparent is sufficient, but if there are two, there must be one male and one female. Parents cannot be sponsors of their own children. We hope this information assists you when the time comes to choose sponsors or godparents for the sacramental celebrations in your family.

**Attention Hospital Eucharistic Ministers**

Father Manuel (the new Hospital Chaplain) has arranged a meeting for all volunteers from all parishes in Zone 11 who visit and bring Communion to the Catholic patients at Lakeridge Health Oshawa for December 17, 2011. Mr. James Dunn, Manager of Chaplaincy with the Archdiocese of Toronto will be the guest speaker. Mr. Dunn will begin with his presentation at 11am in St. Gregory's Parish Hall. Following the meeting will be a Christmas Party ending at 2pm.



**Masses For The Week**

- Sat. Dec. 3 – 5:00pm  
**+Nora Perron**  
*req. by Ed Lescisin & All Saints School Council*
- Mon. Dec. 5 – 8:20 am  
**+Dorothy LeBlanc**  
*req. by SVDP,  
St. John the Evangelist Council*
- Wed. Dec. 7 – 7:00pm  
**+Ante Barich**  
*req. by The Barich Family & Friends*
- Thur. Dec. 8 – 8:20am  
**+Mary Campbell**  
*req. by Sue & Jim Hynes*
- Fri. Dec. 9 – 8:20am  
**+Marcel LaBarre**  
*req. by Mary-Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family*
- Sat. Dec.10 – 5:00pm  
**+Mary Kaczorowski**  
*req. by Edward & Christine Lescisin & Family*

Christmas Mass Schedule	
Sat Dec. 24	Vigil of Christmas 5:00 pm 8:00 pm 11:00 pm
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 <sup>th</sup> 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

**SVDP " Help is at Hand for Christmas"**

Parishioners: If you know of a family within the Parish in need of help at Christmas time, or a Senior or a shut-in with little or no family support that would benefit from a Christmas Basket, please call and make us aware of their need of some help. Thank You. Call Rita Hadden 905-668- 1889 or email [rhadden@rogers.com](mailto:rhadden@rogers.com)

**THE GIFT OF HOSPITALITY**

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 Grade 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 pairs of either two women or two men, on Thursday, February 23, and Friday February 24, 2012 with a slim possibility of one day before and/or after these dates. We will finalize the dates 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 February 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.

Linda Pilon