## 78 - 1

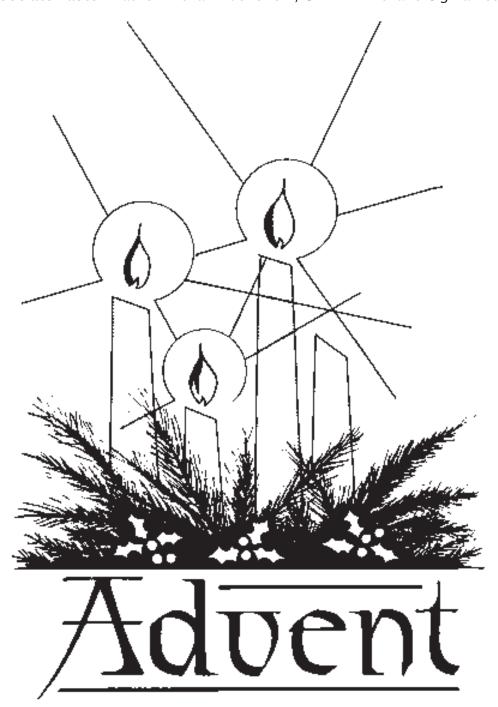
## St. Louis Roman Catholic Church

53 Allen Street East, Waterloo ON N2J 1J3 Tel: 519-743-4101 Fax: 519-743-4102 Email: stlouisparish@golden.net Web site: www.saintlouisparish.ca

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**Parish Administrator:** Father Phil Reilly, C.R. fr.phil@saintlouisparish.ca **Associate Pastor:** Father Michal Kruszewski, C.R. fr.michal.cr@gmail.com



#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### **Mass Intentions**

Tuesday, December 17

9:00 am † Alex McCauley C.R. – Leona Hamilton

Wednesday, December 18

9:00 am Deceased members of the Congregation of the

Resurrection

Thursday, December 19

9:00 am †Herbert Guenther - St. Louis Parish

Friday, December 20

9:00 am †Bob Ruetz – Fran Ruetz

Saturday, December 21

Sunday liturgy - Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm People of St. Louis

Sunday, December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 am †Clarence Monique – Monique Family

†Dave Kirby - Kirby Family

†Khampheng, Kasem, Johny Xaysy – Xaysy

Family

†Margaret Schulde - Claire, Richard Armitage

11:30 am †David Coombes & Rosanna Mateff – Glen &

Marilou Mateff

† Edward Hrycyk – Stella Hrycyk & Family

†Pat, Max & David Reitzel – Reitzel Family

3:00 pm Vietnamese Mass

#### For the Third Sunday in Advent



On this Gaudete Sunday (Gaudete means "Rejoice!'), as we draw nearer to Christmas, Isaiah announces the arrival of our God, and all of nature responds with joy and transformation. God's voice orders the people to reach out to all in need. That very effort makes God present among us.

We let our hearts quicken with this good news as we recognize this as the Sunday of rejoicing.

When it comes to things of God, it never hurts to get a second opinion. John the Baptist, who in last week's Gospel spoke with such authority about the one who is to come, sends emissaries to Jesus to inquire if he is "the one." John is imprisoned and lacks first-hand experience of his cousin's ministry. Jesus responds to John's question with the only evidence available. John knows Isaiah and so Jesus quotes from today's Isaiah text: "the blind receive their sight, the lame walk .....and the poor hear the good news. If these signs are the retinue of the Messiah, then surely the Messiah has come. Apparently satisfied, John's disciples depart.

The second half of this Gospel is more remarkable than the first. Nowhere else does Jesus speak of anyone as highly as he does of John. The love and admiration Jesus had for his cousin is profound as we hear Him say "among those born of women, no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist". We notice the remarkable uniqueness of John, and then also the even more remarkable status freely given to each of us who follows the Lord whom John so anxiously sought.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Monday, December 16 Tuesday, December 17

1:00 pm Bible Study Large Hall

Wednesday, December 18

7:30 pm (11:30) Choir rehearsal Church

Thursday, December 19

9:30 am Small Christian Community Notre Dame Hall 7:30 pm (9:30) Choir rehearsal Church

Friday, December 20

5:30 pm Youth Group Christmas Party Large Hall

Saturday, December 21

#### St. Louis Church will be open this week for a lunch hour private prayer (Dec 16 - 20, noon - 1 pm)

Mass	Readers Euc	haristic Ministers
Sat. Dec 21	1 Fran Ruetz	1 Marilyn Foster
5:00 pm	2 Marnie Wharnsby	2 Guy Tremblay
	C Jim Walsh	3
Sunday Dec 22	1 Barry Hinschberger	1 Edd Ruppe
9:30 am	2 Benita-Ann Gallina	2 Rob Hinsperger
	C Linda Wanka	3 Frank Hulme
11:30 am	1 Graeme Beaton	1 Derek Elworthy
	2 Gord Beaton	2 Patti Walsh
	C Carolyn Beaton	3 Rory Ferrier

## REJOICE!

#### Reconciliation Services this week in the area

Monday, December 16th

7:00 pm St. Mary's Church, Kitchener

Tuesday, December 17th

7:00 pm St. Teresa of Avila Church, Elmira 7:30 pm St. Anthony Daniel Church, Kitchener 7:30 pm St. Joseph's Church, Kitchener

Wednesday, December 18th

7:30 pm St. Aloysius Church, Kitchener

Thursday, December 19th

7:00 pm Blessed Sacrament Church, Kitchener

Catechism Or Gospels In A Year: If you wish to become more familiar with Catechism of the Catholic Church, or with four gospels by reading a little each day in a year then sign up to the following websites and receive your daily dose:

www.Flocknote.com/catechism www.Flocknote.com/gospel <u>Social Committee</u> -Thank you to all the parishioners who came downstairs to enjoy our Christmas Social after the wonderful Christmas Concert put on by John Millar and friends. It has been described to me as a 'magical' night! A big thanks goes out to the members of the Social Committee who helped with the evening.

Request: The Social Committee needs more silverware/cutlery at the church. If anyone would like to donate some please call Cynthia at (519) 744-2005.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday February 8, 2014 for the Valentines Day Family Dance and Card Night. This will be POTLUCK SUPPER beginning after the 5:00 pm Mass. More details to follow. We will need additional volunteers for this event.

St. Louis Catholic Women's League membership drive (\$20). Please consider renewing or joining us for the first time. Our members enjoy praying, learning, and working together "For God, Canada and our parish". Please use the blue church envelope or your own. Write your name, address & telephone number and if sending a cheque write "St. Louis Catholic Women's League". Thanks!

**First Communion Preparation Classes** will start on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. (The celebration will be on May 25.) Please contact Kelly Krause at 519-743-4101 for more information.

Waterloo Knights Of Columbus Annual Toy Drive - Help us to bring Christmas to every needy child. The Waterloo KofC, K/W Firefighters and Police are holding its 17<sup>th</sup> annual 2013 "Toy Drive". Drop off **new** toys at your local fire station, police detachment,

or 145 Dearborn Pl. Waterloo. Call 519-884-2060 for info.

Carmelite Christmas Sale: Homemade Jams, Jellies, Baked Fruit Loaves, held at the Monastery, 1127 Carmel-Koch Rd, St Agatha. Sale every day from First Sunday of Advent until Christmas Eve, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm.

Longest Night Prayer Service - This time of year can be stressful and sad, especially when you have lost a loved one. Join us Friday December 20th at 7pm at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 49 Blueridge Ave. Kitchener, for an evening of prayerful reflection in solidarity with all who have gone home to Jesus, and those who grieve their loss. A reception will follow.

**EXCITING PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR:** Fr. Michal will be leading a two week pilgrimage to Poland in the second half of June 2014. Book time off and save for this trip to many of the holy places in Poland.

Matthew Kelly – "Passion and Purpose Retreat" – Are you thriving or surviving? Are you ready for a greater sense of purpose? More joy? A clearer understanding of God's plan for your life? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions then plan to attend this retreat which many participants have described as life changing. Friday April 4/14 6:30 – 10:30 pm, Holy Trinity Parish, 1420 Devonshire Ave in Woodstock. Cost \$39 (includes all materials). For more info, or to buy tickets call: 519-748-5548.

## Christmas and Holiday Mass times

Dec 21, 22 - regular schedule

#### Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Family Christmas Eve Mass 7:30 pm Vietnamese Christmas Eve Mass 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

#### Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

10:00 am Christmas Day Mass 12:00 pm Vietnamese Christmas Day Mass

Dec 26<sup>th</sup> - no Mass on Boxing Day

Dec 27, 28, 29 - regular schedule

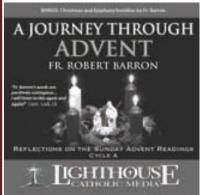
Dec 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve

5:00 pm New Year's Eve Mass

<u>Jan 1<sup>st</sup> New Year Day – Mary, the Mother</u> of God

> 10:00 am Mass 3:00 pm Vietnamese Mass

Jan 2, 3, 4, 5 - regular schedule



Featured CD: A Journey Through Advent: Liturgical Cycle A - Get the most out of Advent and Christmas by following along with Fr. Robert Barron's homilies as unpacks the profound Scripture readings for Liturgical Cycle A. The homilies presented on this CD will correspond to the Scriptures for Sunday Masses throughout Advent and Christmas 2013.

Parishioner Comments: "Transformational! Simple and clear homilies that invite us to encounter God." - Tessie - Chino Hills, CA

"Fr. Barron never disappoints! He delivers a great message." -

Mickey - Philadelphia, PA

St. Louis Parish Offertory Envelopes are ready for pickup – Once again we reorganized the donation envelope numbers. As parishioners leave, we end up with unassigned numbers causing us to order more envelope boxes than we really need. The reorganization of numbers means savings for the parish. We apologize for the inconvenience it may cause!

#### Collection: Dec 7 and 8, 2013

Sunday Envelope donation		6105.00
Loose	\$	379.00
Roof Fund	\$	1700.00
Initial Offering	\$	142.00
Christmas Offering	\$	200.00

Thank you for your generosity and continues support

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