

142 - 1

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 67 – May God be gracious to us and bless us.

MASS INTENTIONS

We join in prayer with those who have requested that Masses be offered for their loved ones, living or deceased.

<u>Tuesday, January 3 to Sunday, January 8</u> <u>Tuesday, January 3 at 8:30am (S)</u> + John Fielding <u>Wednesday, January 4 at 7pm (S)</u> + Anne Stokl <u>Thursday, January 5 at 8:30am (K)</u> <u>Friday, January 6 at 8:30am (K)</u> <u>Saturday, January 7 at 8:30am (K)</u> <u>Saturday, January 7 at 5:30pm (S)</u> + Noel Woods <u>Sunday, January 8 at 8:30am (S)</u> <u>Sunday, January 8 at 11am (K)</u> + Nicholas Patrick McNamee

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Call the office to add a name to the list. Names will remain on the list for one month. Please keep the following people in your prayers. Iolanda Cinelli, Celina Dekker, Olga Fernandes, Lidwina Gho, Marika Gilligan, Wallace Goodman, Andrew Horvath, Carol Klahm, Grant Madill, Chris Mastrobuono, Susan Robinson, Janis Scully, Joe Thompson

VISITS TO SHUT-INS

We are happy to take Communion to those in our parish who cannot worship with us because of illness or infirmity. Contact the office at 905-476-0097. If you would like to be involved in this Ministry, contact Helen Bromley at 905-535-1861 or at

hbromley2009@hotmail.com or Joe Thompson at 905-960-0502 or t.josephcathy2@gmail.com

THURSDAY MORNING SOCIAL

We will start again in the new year on Thursday, January 5th following the 8:30am Mass.

PILGRIM VIRGIN HOME VISITATION PROGRAM

Pilgrim Virgin Statue will be brought to your home and remain with your family for two weeks. Please see sign-up sheet at the back of the Church.

LATEST SALT + LIGHT MAGAZINE

Available in the foyer. Please take one home.

COLLECTION UPDATE



Weekly Offertory including Building Maintenance Fund: Target: \$6,800 Dec 17/18: \$3,029.65 - 46% Christmas Collection: Not available before publication



Edge starts up again on Friday, January 13th in the Fr. Christopher Room in Keswick. For kids in grades 6-8.



Lifeteen starts up again on January 5th with dinner at Mandarin Restaurant. This group is for young people in grades 9-12.

KNITTERS' GROUP

Beginning in January our Knitters' Group is moving to Wednesdays from 10am to noon.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION UPDATE

We will resume our previous Mass schedule this week. We will have an extra Mass this week on Monday, December 26th at 8:30am at Immaculate Conception on the Feast of Saint Stephen.

FRENCH IMMERSION ENROLMENT

St. Thomas Aquinas Elementary School is currently accepting registration or their French Immersion program for children entering grade 1 in September 2017. The deadline for registration is January 26, 2017. Visit: www.ycdsb.ca for more information.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration begins Jan 9 in all York Catholic schools. We look forward to welcoming your child into our schools, where we emphasize academic success using a curriculum that is infused with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Register your child at our local Catholic school. Visit: <u>www.ycdsb.ca/admissions</u>.

Christmas Blessings from Loretto Maryholme

www.lorettomaryholme.ca

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Another year has come and gone; another year, a fresh start. As we come to the end and beginning of the year, I pray for you and your family to have a Blessed New Year. May this New Year bring hope and love and good tidings to you and your family.

It has been five years since I came here and many good and not so good things happened during those five years. But because it is New Year let us focus on all the good things that have happened during the past five years.

We have initiated the Youth Ministry in our parish through the EDGE program for grades 6-8 and the LIFETeen program for grades 9-12. We have begun to see the fruits of these ministries and hopefully more fruits will come out of these ministries through the help of our youth minister Shannon Connors.

We have also started a Mothers' group in our parish, just this past year, we are looking forward to see more mothers to share, talk and get advise about motherhood with their joys and ups and downs. Our moms' group has been made possible through the help of Suzanne Spence.

We also initiated a birthday and wedding anniversary blessing each month, I think we will be resuming again this coming January since we have a lot more new parishioners who has not experienced this wonderful "tradition" in our parish.

We also have started the Marriage preparation course for our parish through the help of Perry and Maureen Smith. We have seen the need of it since there is nothing really close by to attend to whenever we have couples who are planning to get married in the parish. We also initiated "Marriage Matters" it's kind of like a date night for young and not so young couples in our parish, we usually go to local restaurants and we have a delicious meal and some Marriage Enrichment short session (games, trivia, etc.).

We also ran Adult Formation program through the help of Carol Eakins.

We also have the 3rd Order Franciscans headed by Rolf Meinecke.

I am also in the planning stage for a Men's group in our parish. The focus is on spiritual growth. The program will begin with adoration with guest priest speaker to talk about the faith and things that are important to us, followed by a social and dinner for further information. I am looking for some people to facilitate this program. If you are interested to help out in running this program please approach me.

We have at least two outdoor masses (Corpus Christi and Mary's month) during the year (of course it's not during the winter time hahaha). We started these outdoor masses and processions about 3 years ago. All of this has been made possible through the help of our service groups, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League, Women of the Immaculate Conception, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

We also continue to help candidates and catechumens to know and love Christ more through the RCIA, through the help of Anthony Snider.

We also have the Knitters who have made some wonderful creations headed by their fearless knitter Cathy Clements.

Hopefully this year we will also be able to begin the Alpha program in our parish. Watch out for more programs and activities!

A special thank you to our Society of St. Vincent de Paul, whose work and dedication helps so many of the needy in our community. Thank you Lou to all the years you have given to this wonderful ministry. And too our new fearless leader, John Anderson, thank you for continuing the work that has begun.

I would like to thank all of you parishioners for continually supporting our parish. By supporting our parish financially we are able to do all these programs and more. By supporting our parish through volunteerism we make our parish more vibrant and if you or other family members would like to volunteer please approach me, we are always in need of more volunteers. And by supporting our parish through your prayers you make our parish flourish and grow more spiritually and closer to the Divine. Let us make our parish a vibrant, alive and dynamic community who love and serve the Lord and one another.

Have a Blessed New Year to you and your family.

