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Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 9am to 12noon and 1pm to 4pm

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Maurice Restivo CSB – *Pastor*

Fr. Jim Stenberg CSB – *Parochial Vicar*

Kevin Mannara CSB – *Seminarian*

Dcn. Paul Bezaire – *Deacon*

Sr. Lise Jolie, SNJM – *Business Manager*

Sr. Connie Harrington, SNJM – *Youth Programs*

Marilyn Morrison – *Bereavement Ministry*



*May the Blessings of this
Holy Season be with you Always.*



December 20, 2015 - Fourth Sunday of Advent



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Christmas is upon us! Shortly we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus into our world. For some it is a joyful time, full of festivities and families, old memories and the making of new ones. For others, it is a difficult time, one that reminds them of past hurts, of loneliness, of failings and shortcomings. For yet others, it is a time filled with so much stress and running around and indebtedness that there is nothing spiritual about it.

And yet, Jesus comes. He was not only born into this world some 2000 years ago, but he also comes into our hearts today—wherever we are, however we feel, whatever we're experiencing. Jesus comes to *you*, and to *me*. When Mary goes in haste to the hill country of Judea to see her kinswoman Elizabeth, she is already bringing Jesus to another. I think that is one of the great tasks of the Christian: *to bring Jesus to another*.

Our second reading this weekend, from the Letter to the Hebrews, has a line that has always intrigued me: "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; ..." On one level, the sacred author is speaking of *your* body. It may be young or old, healthy or infirm; it may have led you to sin, or brought you to holiness. Regardless of circumstances, God has prepared a body for each one of us; God gave each one of us our body. In coming as Jesus, God has embraced all of human history and raised our lowly bodies to an incredible dignity. *And*, God then asks us to use our bodies to bring the good news of salvation to others. The Incarnation of Jesus means that we can be God-like in our very physicality. It is such a privilege, and such a challenge. It is why we worry about the physical beings of others; why we serve the poor, help refugees, and take care of our families. *Our bodies are God-given!*

As we celebrate these sacred days, be assured of my thoughts and prayers, and those of all the staff here at Assumption. May the Christ child coming into the world fill you with blessings and grace.

J. Maurice

The 2016 Envelopes have arrived!

They are now available for pick up at the front entrance of the church.

All parishioners who currently have envelopes have been assigned a new envelope number.

- PLEASE ENSURE YOU TAKE THE ENVELOPES WITH YOUR NAME ON THEM
- PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE FIRST FEW YOU USE IN 2016
- AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2015 PLEASE RECYCLE ANY OLD ENVELOPES AND DO NOT USE IN 2016

Liturgy Corner

When we come together to do liturgy, we cease being an "I" and become a "we," the Body of Christ united through baptism, and joined together to give thanks and praise to God in Christ's name. North Americans are a particularly individualistic people, but our theology calls us to be counter-cultural, to be responsible to and for one another, to pray and sing together, not as individuals, but as a community.

Consider whom the prayers of the Mass are directed to.

If you listen to them, you will notice that it is God the Father. We all, every human, are children of the same Father. If we think of ourselves as individuals coming to worship, we lack the focus inherent in the liturgy itself. If we think of ourselves as the gathered assembly, the Body of Christ, come together to worship God in Christ's name, then it becomes understandable why the prayers are addressed to the Father... to whom Jesus also prayed.

Consciously listen to the prayers, all addressed to the Father, all first person plural, because liturgy is our communal prayer.

Throughout Advent one hymn has united all our weekend liturgies, *Canticle of the Turning*. Based on Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:46-58) this beautiful hymn was written by Rory Cooney in 1990 and set to the tune of *Star of the County Down*, an Irish classic. Note the beautiful words, found in the Ritual Song hymnal #678.

—Kevin Mannara C.S.B.

Quotable Pope Francis



"If we were to forget, even just for a moment, that mercy is 'that which God likes most,' every one of our labors would be useless because we would become slaves of our institutions and our structures, however renewed they might be"

ROSARY CHAPEL CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



December 24th and 25th - Closed
December 28th to 30th - 8am to 8pm
December 31st - Mass at 8am, then closed



There is no **12:10pm or 5pm** Mass the weeks of December 21st and 28th
12:10 and 5pm Mass resumes the week of January 4th 2016
Hour of Power is cancelled over Christmas and will resume on Thursday, January 7th, 2016.



*Christmas Mass Times
At
Assumption Parish*

*Christmas Eve
5pm(Children's Mass)
7:30pm and 10:00pm
(carols 1/2 hour before each mass)*

*Christmas Day
10:00am*

*New Year's Eve Mass
5:00pm*

*New Year's Day Mass
10:00am*

Bereavement Support Group

Our Lord assured us that those who mourn are blessed and they shall be comforted. This Christ centered faith sharing bereavement group will begin on a bi-weekly basis on Tuesday evening, January 8, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Rosary Hall. In the time we spend together, we will walk with you on your journey, offering support, comfort and sharing in this new chapter of your life. This is an opportunity to talk about your loss, to express your grief, ask questions, and to walk alongside you through life's most difficult experiences. Marilyn Morrison, Bereavement Ministry will Facilitate these sessions. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Marilyn at (519) 253-2761.

Church Humour

Out of the mouths of babes A pastor was speaking to a group of second-graders about the resurrection of Jesus when one student asked, "What did Jesus say right after He came out of the grave?" The pastor explained that the Gospels do not tell us what He said.

The hand of one little girl shot up. "I know what He said: He said, 'Tah-dah!'"



Altar Servers

There will be a Christmas practice on Tuesday December 22 at 12:15pm
Lunch will be provided
Practice will be finished by 2:00pm
Any questions or concerns please see Sr. Connie

Sunday Collection

Regular	\$
Miscellaneous	\$\$
Total	\$

Collection amount was not available see next weeks bulletin



Mass Intentions

Monday, December 21st

8:00am †Fr. Daniel Chui C.S.B. 1st Anniversary by Kevin, Sally & Kevin Jr. McQuaid
†Salvatore & Maria Iacono by the Family
†For the Deceased members of the Zambito & Russo Families by the Family

Tuesday, December 22nd

8:00am †Ed Gwyther by Mary Shiner
For the living and deceased relatives of Berny Lesperance by Berny Lesperance
For the intentions of the Staff and their Families by E & E Franco

Wednesday, December 23rd

8:00am †For all Souls in Purgatory by Kai-Tung Ha
†Cheryl Anne Stobbs by Dave Stobbs
†Jeanne Cormier by Denis & Family
For the intentions Berny Lesperance by Cecilia Lesperance

Thursday, December 24th-Christmas Eve

CHAPEL WILL BE CLOSED-NO MASS TODAY

Friday, December 25th-Christmas Day

CHAPEL WILL BE CLOSED-NO MASS TODAY

Saturday, December 26th

5:00pm For the Intentions of the Assumption Parishioners

Sunday, December 27th

9:00am For the intentions of the Assumption Parishioners
11:00am For the intentions of the Assumption Parishioners
7:30pm For the intentions of the Assumption Parishioners

Week at a Glance

Monday, December 21st

Tuesday, December 22nd

7:00pm Choir Practice (McEwan Campus-Hall)

Wednesday, December 23rd

Thursday, December 24th-Christmas Eve

5:00pm Mass (Children's) (McEwan Campus-Church)
7:30pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)
10:00pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

Friday, December 25th-Christmas Day

10:00am Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

Saturday, December 26th

8:30am SVDP-Meeting/Home Visits (McEwan Campus-Hall)
3:45pm Confessions (McEwan Campus-Church)
5:00pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)

Sunday, December 27th

9:00am Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)
11:00am Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)
7:30pm Mass (McEwan Campus-Church)



Looking for a Keyboard Player

For Sunday Mornings.
If you are interested please contact Sr. Lise Jolie at 519-253-2493

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in January 2016 and supports the bulletin service.

Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service.
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