Holy Rosary Catholic Community

287 Plains Road East - Burlington, Ontario, L7T 2C7
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Pastor:

Reverend Msgr. Edward House Email: ceh@cogeco.net

Parish Staff

Mary Edmondstone, Pastoral Minister mary.edmondstone@cogeco.net Chris Gibbons, Secretary/Bookkeeper hrosary@cogeco.net David Walker, Custodian



Feast of the Holy Family

Welcome to Holy Rosary Catholic Community. We hope you enjoyed your Lord's Day Worship. May God bless you abundantly!

MASSES THIS WEEK

(7:45 a.m. unless otherwise noted)

Join us to pray the Rosary before Mass. Rosary starts at 7:15 a.m.

Tues. Dec. 29	No Morning Mass today
Wed. Dec. 30	No Morning Mass today
Thur. Dec. 31	Intentions of Adele Gemmiti
Fri. Jan. 1	See schedule below for New Year's
1 111 Oat 1. 1	See schedule below for New Tear S
Sat. Jan. 2 @	Marjorie Freel



NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

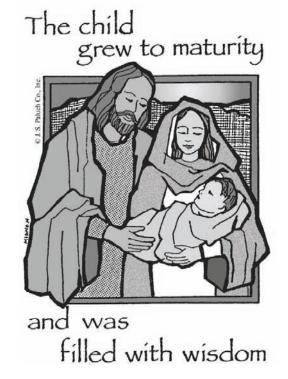
Thursday, December 31 at 5 p.m. Friday, January 1st at 10 a.m.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This New Year's Eve, at the turning of the year, you may catch a glimpse of the old year, a cartoon figure of a hunched old man with a sickle, Father Time. Where else but in this column could you learn that this is in fact a pope? December 31 was in the old calendar the feast of St. Sylvester. Legend says that Sylvester healed the Emperor Constantine of leprosy, and presided at the liturgy of baptism for the grateful emperor. In 314, he was chosen pope, and it fell to him to organize the peacetime church, free at last from persecution. He founded the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome. In northern Europe "Sylvester Night" is a time of great parties with eating, dancing, and singing—recalling perhaps the joy of the church in the fresh air of Sylvester's papacy. In Poland, there was great fear as the year 1000 approached that an immense dragon would devour the earth and set fire to the heavens. The people prayed earnestly to St. Sylvester, trusting that the saint would not permit such suffering on his feast day. They've been celebrating ever since! Many New Year's customs have pagan roots, like the British "First Footer" tradition. The idea is that the first person setting foot into your house in the new year determines the luck for the year ahead. The ideal first footer was not a bit like old Pope Sylvester, but rather a tall, dark-haired man carrying the right gift. A handsome first footer meant the year ahead would be pleasant, and if he carried bread or a shovel of coal there would be food and warmth in the future. Who will be your household's first footer?

Rev. James Field Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 27th, 2015



FAMILY LIFE

Family life is sacred, but it is not without trial. Perhaps this is the most important message we can glean from today's readings. If Jesus, Mary, and Joseph can trip up sometimes—can disconnect—then we shouldn't find it surprising when such things happen to us as well. And parents everywhere (children, too) can probably relate to—and take some solace in—the Gospel's account of Mary and Joseph after Jesus explained why he stayed behind in the temple. They heard his words, Luke tells us, "But they did not understand what he said to them" (Luke 2:50). Amen! Nevertheless, Jesus does go back home with them, and continues to thrive under their care.

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REFLECT ON THE GOSPEL

Reflect upon the next Sunday's Gospel throughout the week! The Gospel for the Epiphany of the Lord is:

Matthew 2.1–12

CHURCH DONATIONS FOR 2015

Don't forget, in order to receive a charitable tax receipt for 2015, donations must be made **before Dec. 31**. Receipts will be available late January, early February.

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Dec. 24 at 12 noon until Jan. 5 at 9:00 am

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon. Dec. 28	Rev. Raymond Reitzel, C.R.
Tues. Dec. 29	Rev. Jim Valk, C.R.
Wed. Dec. 30	Ordo Canonicorum Regularium
	Sanctae Crucis
Thurs. Dec. 31	Rev. Ambroise Tshiaba Ntumba
Fri. Jan. 1	Rev. Gregory Michel
Sat. Jan. 2	Rev. Robert Love



Only four days left to donate to Candy Canes for Life for the 2015 income tax year. Help Halton Alive expand their educational programs and honour lives lost to abortion by donating to this year's campaign. at: www.candycanesforlife.ca

MERCY: A STUDY IN SCRIPTURE A Senior Adult Workshop Series 7 Wednesdays—starts Jan. 6 from 1:30–3:30 p.m. Notre Dame Convent in Waterdown

Explore the theme of Mercy in the Old Testament to understand better why Pope Francis is calling us to the virtue of Mercy in our lives today. Facilitated by Sister Mary Heather MacKinnon SSND & David Dayler. Cost \$75 includes textbook & resources. To **register by Dec. 18**, contact Monica 905-528-7988, x 2238 or go to: www.hamiltondiocese.com

GROUP BEREAVEMENT WORKSHOPS 'HEAL YOUR HEART'

Wednesdays - Jan. 20 to Feb. 24 from 7 - 9pm

Broken hearts are painful—don't get stuck in the pain of conflicting emotions.

Are you dealing with a loss in your life? (Death of spouse, child or miscarriage; divorce; job loss; loss of your home, health, a pet; infertility; romantic relationship; ailing parents?) There is help—you are invited to join us for a series of workshops at St. Michael Parish, 181 Sewell Dr., Oakville. For more info. call Ilse at 905-338-1778. To register, call Family Ministry Office 905-528-7988, ext. 2249 or go to:

www.hamiltondiocese.com Cost \$35 includes material.

BURLINGTON KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE SWINGING WITH THE BIG BANDS



BIG BAND CONCERT – Sun. Jan. 31 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre. The Burlington Knights of Columbus, in support of their

many activities, are proud to sponsor the **Toronto All-Star Big Band**. Come and enjoy a terrific afternoon of Swing with your friends. You can reserve your "GIFT OF SWING" by calling the box office at 905-681-6000 or online at: www.burlingtonpac.ca The ticket price is only \$38.50 plus additional taxes and fees.

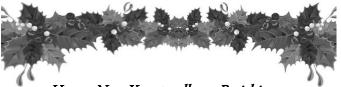
CHRISTMAS THANKS

We wish to thank you for your extra generous donations towards Holy Rosary Parish during the Christmas Season. As well, we wish to thank all our Liturgical Ministers who helped to make our Christmas celebrations inspiring and prayerful. A very special "thank you" to William Renwick, Christina Puchalski and Members of the Music Ministry; to the Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers); Readers; Eucharistic Ministers to the Assembly and to the Sick; our Altar Servers; Collection Counters; Janet James and our Christmas decorators; and Bonnie Sparks and the school children for dramatizing the Christmas story. Msgr. House wishes to thank the Staff whose duties increase during the Advent and Christmas Season. Thank you Mary Edmondstone, Chris Gibbons and David Walker.



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Friday, January 1st, 2016

We are still in the midst of the Christmas Time, and on January 1st the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. One of the most outstanding characteristics of Mary is her willingness to know and do God's will. On January 1st the Church also celebrates WORLD DAY OF PEACE where Catholics are invited to pray for peace throughout the world, especially in areas ravaged by war and terrorism. Mary is a good model for prayer and meditation. She reflected on events that happened and were happening. She meditated. In our busy lives today, we often overlook meditation as a prayer. Let us ask Our Blessed Mother's Intercession that we, in this New Year, will come to the Lord for his help and assistance. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee.



Happy New Year to all our Parishioners and visitors.

May God bless you abundantly.

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'But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." --- Matthew 6:33



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