

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

14400 Argyll Road, Georgetown, ON L7G 5S6
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Parish Staff

Father K. Cull, Pastor

Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary

Mr. Robert Ramage, Maintenance

Mrs. Barb Boulanger, Sacramental Assistant

Mrs. Theresa Scholz, Parish Nurse



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Date	Time	Eucharist	Parish Meetings
SUNDAY, December 29 Holy Family	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish (Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3.12-21; Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23)	
MONDAY, December 30		No Mass	
TUESDAY, December 31 <i>New Years' Eve</i>	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Numbers 6.22-27; Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.16-21)	
WEDNESDAY, January 1 <i>New Years' Day</i>	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Numbers 6.22-27; Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.16-21)	
THURSDAY, January 2 <i>St. Basil & St. Gregory, Bishops</i>		Daily Mass (1 John 2.22-28; John 1.19-28) † Remedios Garcia	
FRIDAY, January 3	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (1 John 2.29, 3.1-6; John 1.29-34) † John Kitching † Ron Beek † Renate Stepkoff	
SATURDAY, January 4	4 - 4:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - Epiphany of the Lord <i>Offered for the Intentions of the Deceased Faithful:</i> Marge Willis; John Gabriel Connor; Catherine O'Connor; Muriel Litster; Manuel Francisco & Joao Caetano & Eugenio Albano Jr. Intentions of Antonine Landry	
This week's Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of Frank Gillis.			

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORTS

Regular Collection • Dec. 15 & Pre-Auth. \$ 12,973.00
 Total number of regular envelopes – 470
 Average envelope donation – \$15.81
 New Church Building Fund \$ 2,355.00
TOTAL WEEKLY COLLECTIONS \$ 15,328.00

CHRISTMAS BREAK FAMILY FUN SKATE

Please plan to join the Holy Cross Social Committee on Monday, December 30th for skating and hot chocolate and coffee. Due to the great feedback from previous family skates we have once again rented a rink at Mold Masters from 7:00 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. and we would love to see you there! Tickets will be sold for \$5.00 a family after all Masses this weekend. For information or to purchase tickets contact Jane Santaluce at 905-877-7226 or Marie Simpson at 905-873-9480.

HOLY CROSS H.E.L.P.S.

Thanks to the generosity of parishioners Holy Cross H.E.L.P.S. was able to assist 24 Catholic School Referrals (38 children) and 26 H.E.L.P.S. clients (13 single adults and 13 families with 30 children). Thank you.

BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR

You may wish to use this blessing at some point in your celebrations of the new year:

Every good gift comes from the Father of light.
 Grant us grace and every blessing,
 keep us safe through the coming year.
 Order our days and work in peace,
 hear our prayers,
 and lead us to everlasting life and joy.
 Grant this through Christ our Lord.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Each year at this time we look at making some resolutions ... perhaps getting more exercise or spending more time with family ... these are important decisions and we ask God's help with them. It's also a good time to make some *spiritual resolutions*. We might consider spending more time in prayer each day, working on a daily act (or many acts) of kindness toward others, participating at weekday Mass. It is important to do something and follow through in the coming year.

Mother Teresa's *Anyway* Poem

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish,
ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false
friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could
destroy overnight;
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may
never be enough;

Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you
and your God;

It was never between you and them anyway.

Good words to live by!

LOOKING BACK AT 2013

Thanks to our Parish Staff and the many volunteers who make Holy Cross Parish such a welcoming and vibrant community of faith. This past calendar year has been a busy one. The following statistics tell part of the story of our pastoral life:

Registered families 3,250

Baptisms of infants 151

Adult Reception into Full Communion 3

First Communions 194

Confirmations 469

Marriages 16

Deaths 40

We have over 300 people involved in our Sunday ministries - *Choirs, Children's Liturgy, Ministers of the Word, Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, and Ministers of Hospitality.* Many others volunteer on various committees and other groups in the parish.

MESSAGE FROM FATHER CULL

A heartfelt expression of thanks

On behalf of the parish staff, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all who sent greetings, cards and gifts. I very much appreciate your generosity and kindness, and I rejoice in the blessing of serving you throughout the coming year. I cannot recall a time as a priest when I felt more at home and joyful of heart! I assure you of my prayers each morning before the Blessed Sacrament. May the Christmas season be a time of peace and joy for you and your loved ones. A special word of thanks is extended to all who helped to celebrate Christmas with such reverence and gracious dignity. Thanks to all who gave of their time and talents to decorate the church so beautifully. Thanks to the choirs, children's liturgy leaders, altar servers, readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and ministers of hospitality.

Feast of the Holy Family

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. We call to mind that the Son of God was born into a human family, and it was within this family that He was loved and nurtured. The Holy Family is a model for all families. May each family of this parish be rooted in the prayerfulness and generosity of the members of the Holy Family. The familiarity of family life can sometimes blind us from seeing and appreciating the goodness in each other. Families grow in strength when each person in the family - from grandparents to the youngest child - is treasured as a unique and irreplaceable gift.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1st, New Year's Day, is observed as a Solemnity and a Holy Day of Obligation in Canada. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Catholics have a solemn obligation to worship at Mass on this day. Hopefully, we are motivated to respond to this obligation out of love for Mary, who always leads us into the heart of her beloved Son. On this day, we give praise and thanks to God for the gift of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and the spiritual mother of all the faithful. The scriptural basis for this Solemnity is found in the Gospel of John, chapter 19. While dying on the cross, Jesus told the beloved disciple, who represents each one of us, "Behold your mother."

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