

Saint Patrick's Church

4673 Victoria Ave.

Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E 4B8
Served by Carmelites Since 1875

Tel: (905) 354-7451

Fax: (905) 354-4800

Email

stpatrick1895@hotmail.com

Parish Staff

Rev. Gerard Power, O.Carm., Pastor
(Chaplain, Niagara Regional Police)
Rev. Marc Bell, O.Carm., Associate Pastor
Rev. Tony McNamara, O.Carm., (Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre)
Rev. Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Deacon
Debbie Herman, Secretary
Anne Marie Atkinson, Accountant Secretary
Peter Feltrin, Property Manager & Custodian

Music Ministry

Carol Martin - Director of Music
Sandra DiCienzo - Organist
Tim Marrie - Pianist and Soloist
Anthony Scaringi - Pianist and Organist
Ashley Gallardi - Soloist

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Closed on Weekends & Holidays

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
or by appointment

Baptism

Once monthly at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday
Preparation for Parents
and Godparents required.

Marriage

Please contact the parish office
at least six months in advance.
Preparation weekend is required.

Schools

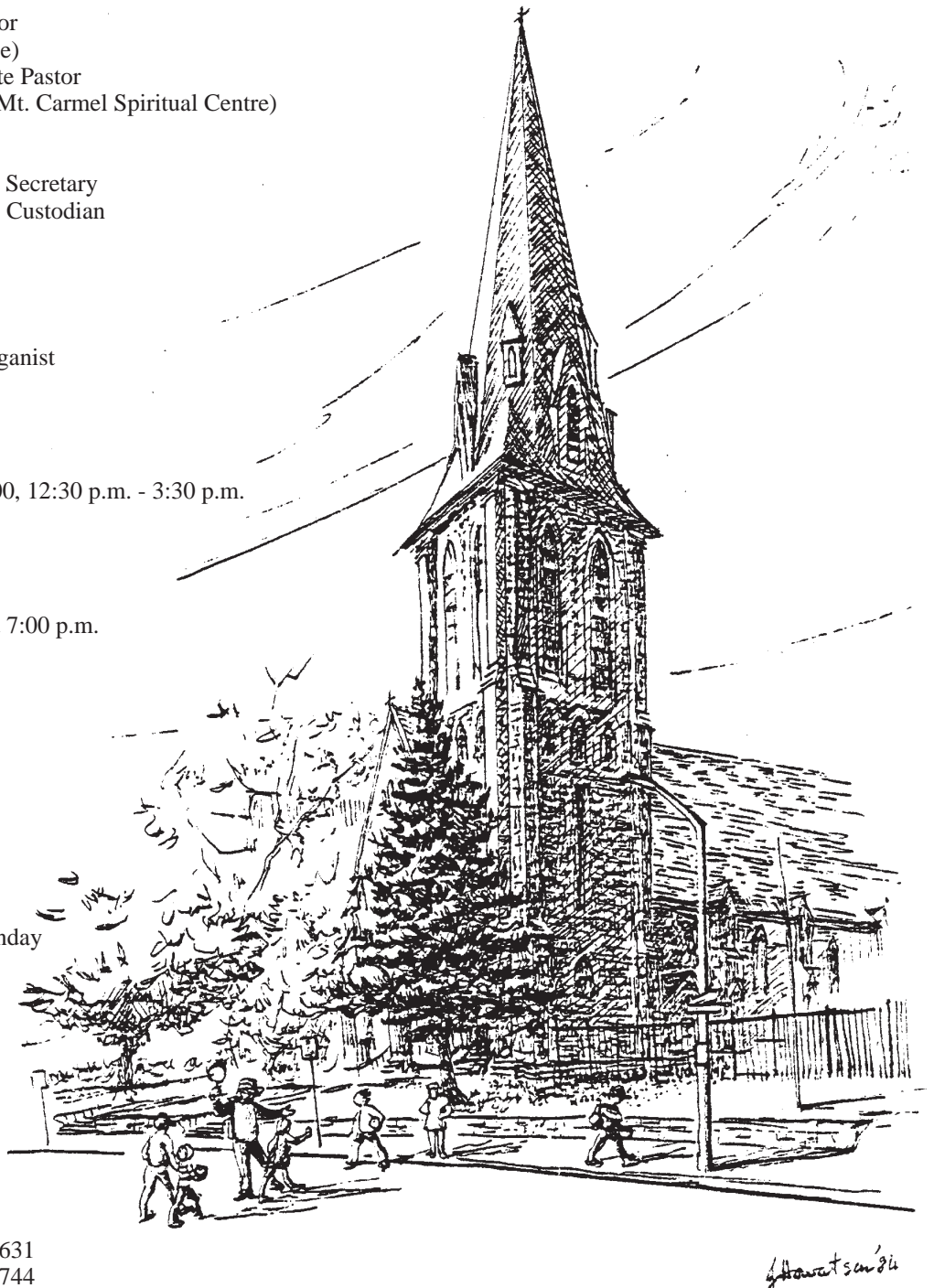
St. Patrick School (905) 354-6631
St. Mary School (905) 354-7744

Diocese of St. Catharines (est. 1958)

Most Rev. Gerard Bergie, D.D., Bishop
Most Rev. John A. O'Mara, D.D., Bishop-Emeritus

Parish Established 1858
Church Dedicated 1895

New Parishioners are asked to complete a parish registration form.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saturday, November 28

5:00 Pete Mundier *req. by the Family*
 Mario & Linda Cardinal *req. by Andrew, Dalton, Cardin & Gianna*

Sunday, November 29 First Sunday of Advent

8:00 Angus Lafford *req. by Muriel, John & Erin Lafford*
 Antonella & Enrico Migliorelli *req. by Rocco & Giuseppina Cavaliere*
9:30 People of the Parish
11:30 Nguyen, Van Gioi (Peter-Maria) *req. by the Family*
 Irene Asner *req. by the Family*
7:00 Luigi Camillo *req. by his Wife: Lucia & Family*
 Ray Dubeau *req. by his Wife: Vicki*

Monday, November 30 St Andrew

8:00 Angus Lafford *req. by Muriel Lafford*
 Natale & Anna Giampa *req. by the Family*

Tuesday, December 1

8:00 Don Liberty *req. by Belle*
 Teresa Amato *req. by Yolanda Ricci*

Wednesday, December 2

8:00 Tom & Elizabeth Kobik *req. by the Family*
 James Antonio *req. by Joe & Loreta Antonio*

Thursday, December 3 St Francis Xavier

8:00 Michela DeNicholais *req. by Augusta Macri*
 Bruno Bortolussi *req. by wife: Jacqueline*

Friday, December 4 St John Damascene

8:00 Lori Webb *req. by Mom, Dad & Family*
 Lucille Roffey (Leahey) *req. by Ann Molnar & Family*

Saturday, December 5

5:00 Maria Quiquero *req. by Flaviano & Family*
 Peter Creamer *req. by Mary & Family*
 Mary Watson *req. by the Family*

Sunday, December 6 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 Dorothy Kennedy *req. by Carolyn*
 Albert-Heacock & Liberty Families *req. by Bryce & Aileen Adams*
9:30 Luigi Marcon *req. by D & D Argenta & girls*
 Frank Ruberto *req. by Teresa Ruberto*
11:30 Edo & Jeannine Vendramin *req. by the Family*
 Elisea Pietrobon *req. by Ody & Diana Argenta*
7:00 People of the Parish

Sacramental Dates for 2016

First Reconciliation

(All Grade 2 Students)

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 7:00 PM

First Communion

St. Patrick and St. Mary Schools

Sunday, April 24, 2016 at 1:30 PM

Other Grade 2 Parishioners

Sunday, April 24, 2016 at 9:30 AM

Confirmation

Saturday, April 30, 2016 at 5:00 PM

Christmas Bazaar...Sacred Heart Parish CWL, Chippawa

Sunday, December 6, 10am - 1:00pm Bring the Family

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The members of the SSVP again seek your generosity in helping to make this Christmas a little brighter for those less fortunate in our city. This year we are anticipating a significant increase in those requiring our help and we would appreciate your financial assistance.

Carmelite Spirituality Group ...You are invited to Mt Carmel Monastery on the second Sunday of each month to explore Carmelite spirituality. Mt Carmel Spiritual Centre, 2 - 5pm Presenter Fr. Michael Wastag, O.Carm.

Rest in Peace... We pray for the soul of Fr. Jordan Rooney, O.Carm. May he rest in peace. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Please pray for those who are ill

Lucy Atkinson, Edward Power, Sharon Regular, Fr Tony McNamara, O.Carm., Bette Anne Chevalier, Angelo Butera, Vicki Lea-Dawson, Maria Melchiorre, Jeannette Fabian, Cleo Gagno, Donna Cormier, Maria Rosiana, Msgr Vincent Ferrando, Danielle Barranca, Carmela Fruci, Lucy Rizzo, Audrey Vendramin, Jeanne Lea, Gianni Bonaldo, Stan Manning, Iole Mancini, Alice Dalton, Baby Maximus, David Kealey, Joanna Daniels, Ray Sexton, Francesco Albanese, Mary Ann O'Shea, Doreen Fletcher, Rosalyn Dagleish, Susan & Rick Rogers, Kitty Decicco, Patricia Desrosiers, Evelyn Rose Baker, Jozefa Bilski, Charlene Shannon, Mary O'Shea, Dr. Andy Fisher, Dorothy Simon, Rebecca Evans, Marie Massolin, Maria Guerin, Anna Vergalito, John Jefferson Jill Leronowich, Vince(Jim) Baldassarro, Nancy Jean Rose, Guiseppina Paonessa, Phyllis Higgins, Patrick McCarthy, Norman Horth, Todd Reid, Muriel Pivarnyik, Helen Lelievre, Tom Hilton, Maria Colalillo, Walter Wallace, Stefanie Borin, John Cox, Joyce Weaver, Marie Cleary, Rita Bruneau, Orlando Garofalo, Kerrie Szuch, Faith Amadio, Margaret Smith, Carmella Modenti, Margaret Waghorn, Theresa Poirier, Bruno Maiolo, Carlo Trasmundi, Vito Fuccillo, BabyHope, Cheryl D'Amizio, Kelly Laslo, Rose Vukmanich, Francois Chayer, Julie Nicholson, Alessia Commisso, Vicki Dubeau, Donna Bradley, Annette Brideau, George O'Kell, Mary Jo O'Kell, Wanda Winslow, Baby Sebastian, Mae MacLean, Dorothy Doyle, Lorraine Murray, Patricia O'Reilly, JoAnne Biamonte Ely, Pepper Martin Jr., Vital & Emmanuel Chayer, Trina Washington, Chester Mottola, Shirley Machulla, Gerry Laffradi, Lorraine Spence

Please help us update our list of those who are homebound, infirm, or hospitalized by calling the parish office.

Collections

November 21 & 22: \$6,287.22

Refugee Sponsorship: \$59,000.00

Many thanks for your generosity!

Baptism Schedule for 2015 & 2016

Baptisms will be celebrated in St. Patrick Church at 1:00 PM on:

Sunday, Dec 27, Jan 24, Feb 28 (infants only), no Mar Baptisms, April 17

A mandatory meeting for Parents and Godparents will be held in the Church on Tuesday, Dec 15, Jan 12, Feb 16, Monday Apr 4 at 7:00 pm.

CWL News...

- This year's CWL Christmas Party will be held at 11:30am on Sunday **December 6** at the Mandarin. Everyone is welcome. Please call Theresa Marcon for details and reservations at: **905-358-9332**.

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Mercy is at the heart of the Church's credibility and the Church has a duty to profess it and live it, Pope Francis said in a document that officially proclaims the 2015-2016 extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy. "Mercy is the foundation of the Church's life," the Pope wrote in "*Misericordiae Vultus*," ("The Face of Mercy"), the "bull of indiction" that calls for a Holy Year to begin Dec. 8. Pope Francis proclaimed the Year of Mercy because "it is the favourable time to heal wounds, a time not to be weary of meeting all those who are waiting to see and touch with their hands the signs of the closeness of God, a time to offer everyone the way of forgiveness and reconciliation." "How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God," he wrote. "May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the kingdom of God is already present in our midst." The Pope urged all Catholics to spend more time practicing what traditionally have been called the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The corporal works are: feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned, giving drink to the thirsty and burying the dead. The spiritual works are: converting sinners, instructing the ignorant, advising the doubtful, comforting the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving injuries and praying for the living and dead. Recognizing that they have been treated with mercy by God, he said, Christians are obliged to treat others with mercy. In fact, the Gospel says that Christians will be judged by the mercy they show others.



Dear Friends,



Happy New Church Year! We also begin "The Year of Mercy!" Pope Francis announced an "extraordinary Holy Year". This "Jubilee of Mercy" will commence with the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, 2015, and conclude on November 20, 2016, with the Solemnity of Christ the King.

The 1st candle is lit on our Advent Wreath! Jesus says in today's Gospel, ***Be alert at all times praying that you may have the strength... to stand before the Son of Man!*** This is a season of waiting, watching and preparing. Advent is about preparation and transformation. Pope St. John Paul II said, "*Advent helps us to understand fully the value and meaning of the mystery of Christmas. It is not just about commemorating the historical event which occurred 2000 years ago. Instead, it is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an 'advent,' a vigilant awaiting of the final coming of Christ. To predispose our mind to welcome the Lord who, as we say in the Creed, one day will come to judge the living and the dead, we must learn to recognize him as present in the events of daily life. Therefore, Advent is an intense training that directs us decisively toward him who already came, who will come, and who comes continuously.*"

Advent takes place during the darkest days of the year when there is the least sunlight. It reminds us that the light of Christ will triumph over all darkness in our lives and in the world. And God knows there's much darkness out there: war, terrorism, hatred, secularism, racism, materialism, senior and child abuse, bullying, broken relationships, indifference to human suffering, and the list goes on. The work for us Christians is to bring all these things to an end. Of course, we have to **begin with ourselves** by surrendering to any darkness within! St. Paul says in the 2nd reading, *May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all... be blameless before God.*

Each of us can begin **fresh, anew**, with a clean slate. **That's Advent!** **Then** on Christmas morning, we can greet the Christ-Child with joyful hearts. **And** when the Lord comes in his glory and power... he'll find us joyful and ready! May this be a season of hope and grace... and also a time of **transformation** for each of us. Blessings!

Fr. Gerard



"I've found that as long as you're good October through December you do just as well."

Is God calling You?

If you feel called to serve as **Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Altar Server, or Funeral Server**, please call the parish office. We will have provide training sessions.

Carmelite Missions Appeal

On the weekend of December 12-13, we will have a visiting Carmelite with us to preach on the Carmelite Missions.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Children's Mass with Pageant in Church
4:00 PM Mass in Parish Gymnasium
6:00 PM Mass with Adult Choir and Caroling
12:00 AM Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

8:00 AM; 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM (No Evening Mass)

Children's Christmas Pageant!

If you would like your child to play a role in this year's Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 PM Children's Mass, please call the Parish Office as soon as possible. Role assignment and first rehearsal will be announced in the next bulletin.

Refugee Sponsorship

We have surpassed our \$30,000 goal of sponsoring one refugee family, so now we can actually sponsor two families. Our campaign has reached \$59,000! Thank you so much for your generosity! 18 members of our Sponsorship Committee meeting on Tuesday and we made application through our Diocese to sponsor a young Christian Family from Syria. The mom, dad and young daughter have been in a Refugee Camp in Lebanon since 2014, and their story is very sad. If all goes well, we may be able to have them among us before the end of the year. So we now have a young family and we have their names! Please pray for **Ayman, Souzi and Stephanie!** Our role will be to take care of this family's needs for a period of one year. This includes an apartment, utilities, bus transportation, language classes, food, clothing, etc. We have also asked our Diocese to provide us with more information on a Family of 4, who are currently in a Lebanese Camp. This young family consists of mom and dad, with 2 children. God bless you for your generosity, in responding to this Gospel call! St. Pat's has always gone above and beyond! We are the first parish in our Diocese who have reached their goal, and made application!

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you or a family member/friend is interested in becoming a Catholic through a **Profession of Faith**, or desiring Baptism, or other Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist or Confirmation), please give your name to our Parish Office as soon as possible. Our first RCIA meeting will be held during the Advent Season with Fr. Gerard, Fr. Marc and Maureen Young, our catechist. The sessions will resume after Christmas.

During Lent we will meet once a week. This is also a wonderful opportunity for anyone who wants to "refresh or renew" their faith and theology! More information will be forthcoming. **If you are interested please contact the Parish Office at 905-354-7451.**



Please continue to bring food items to Mass for Project Share! Every item helps!

"Lord, when did we see you hungry?"

Patterson Funeral Home Christmas of Hope Candlelight

Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, December 13th at 7:00pm at Our Lady of the Scapular Church. All are welcome to attend. For more information please call Patterson at 905-358-3513, or visit www.pattersonfuneralhome.com

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