

80 University Ave. W., (at Hemlock Street), Waterloo, ON N2L 3C7

P: 519-884-9311 • F: 519-888-6042

• Parish Office email: parish@stmichaelw.ca

SCHEDULE OF LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Children's Ministry for those in Age 2 - Grade 4 is offered at both 9:00am & 11:00 a.m. Mass.



Our Worship Space and Parish Centre are barrier free off of Hemlock Street entrance

WEEKDAY MASSES

Please consult inside of bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 6:00-6:45 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday 11:50 a.m.-12:05 p.m. Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m. Sunday 6:00-6:30 p.m. (effective September 2019)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

PASTORAL TEAM

Father F. Freitas, Pastor email: pastor@stmichaelw.ca Father David Perrin - Assisting Priest Deacon Philip J. Fernandez Mrs Andrea Laughlin -Lay Pastoral Associate Mr Joseph Goodwin - Campus Minister Mrs Elizabeth King - Administrative Assistant Ms Carolyn Snyder Milke - Director of Music Mrs Merlie Ladroma - Cleaner

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Sir Edgar Bauer Elementary School 519-884-8480 St Nicholas Elementary School 519-884-9198 **Resurrection Secondary School** 519-741-1990 St David Secondary School 519-885-1340 St Jerome University 519-884-8111

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to begin the process of preparing your child and family for this Sacrament.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

St Michael Parish welcomes post-secondary students to participate in the life of the parish. The St John Paul II Student Centre (adjacent to the Church) offers programing and pastoral care for all university and college students (jp2waterloo.ca). Our 7:00pm Sunday evening Mass is especially for our student community.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Church is Open Daily for Quiet Visit and Prayer. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on Tuesday evenings following the evening Mass.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Sacrament of Marriage is normally celebrated on Saturday afternoons. Preparation is provided. Please contact Father Freitas before setting a date of marriage.

PASTORAL CARE TO SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Ministers of Communion to the Sick bring communion to those who are sick or confined at home, in nursing homes or hospital. Anointing of the Sick takes place annually in the parish, and is celebrated personally upon request. To ensure a visit by our Pastoral Team when hospitalized please indicate you are a member of St Michael Parish.

BEREAVEMENT CARE

"Heartache to Healing" is our Grief Support Group. To find out more about the program contact our parish office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Provides emergency grocery assistance to needy persons and families in our parish area. If there is an urgent need, please call 519-747-1090. A monthly collection to assist the Society in its work takes place on the First Sunday.

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS

The Blessing of Expectant Parents takes place after each Mass on the First Sunday of the month.

PARISH BEQUESTS

Keep your love for your parish alive. Remember St. Michael Parish in your will and when recommending expressions of sympathy.

WELCOME HOME TO ST. MICHAEL PARISH

Welcome, we are really glad you're here! Whether exploring, struggling or looking for a new Church Home we extend a warm welcome to our parish and pray that you feel at home. Please introduce yourself and consider becoming a member of our Family of Faith. For details on our parish life, offering envelopes, pre authorized or on line giving, as well as to find out about ways of connecting, check out our website: <u>www.stmichaelw.ca</u> or see anyone at our Welcome Desk.



December 24-28, 2019

<u>Tuesday, December 24, 2019</u> Christmas Eve:

4:30 pm - Family Mass with Pageant and Choir
7:00 pm - Family Mass with Cantor
10:00 pm - Solemn Mass of Christmas with Choir

A word to the wise....the 4:30p.m. Christmas Eve Mass is always overflowing... you may wish to consider one of the other Masses, including Christmas Day. If you are coming for 4:30p.m. it will begin early - once the church is uncomfortably full.

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

<u>Christmas Day:</u> 9:00 am - Mass of Christmas Day with Cantor 11:00 am. - Mass of Christmas Day with Cantor

There will be no Masses on December 26th and 27th

Feast of the Holy Family <u>Saturday, December 28, 2019</u> 5:00 pm + Leslie Molnar – His Mother + Eugene Zanatto – Bernice Schnarr + Jean Schell – Bernice Schnarr Sunday, December 29, 2019

-9:00am and 11:00am - (there is no 7:00pm Mass)

LORD'S DAY OFFERING

December 14/15, 2019 – \$ 5,441.85 Pre Authorized Giving–\$ 8,287.00 *Thank you for your generosity*

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Christmas Eve/Day – see special schedule December 28/29 – see special schedule (full schedule on our website - www.stmichaelw.ca)

SUNDAY HOMILIES ON LINE

Sunday homilies are available weekly on line in audio version through our parish website – just click on the link.

PARISH PRAYER NETWORK

Our parish prayer network offers us the opportunity to weekly pray for those in our community who are in need. To become a member of the prayer network, or to add an intention, email us at <u>stmikesprayer@gmail.com</u>

CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTES

During the holy season of Christmas, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes for placement in the Church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. Forms are available at all entrances for those who wish to make a donation. These floral tribute sheets will be placed near the altar in a giftwrapped box, and your loved ones will be remembered at all the Christmas Masses.





Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the eternal Word who became flesh for us. When we celebrate Christmas, we also celebrate the birth of Jesus in our hearts, in our community and in our world. As we respond to the

generosity of God, who gave us His only Son, we bring joy and hope to a waiting world. During this season, we often express our affection for others by sending cards or giving gifts. May this custom be a constant reminder of God's supreme gift to us: Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world.

On behalf of the parish team, I pray that God may bless us and that we, in turn, may be a source of blessing to others.

May you have the spirit of Christmas, which is peace, the gladness of Christmas, which is hope, and the heart of Christmas, which is love. May St Michael, the Archangel, intercede for us.

Christmas is a Homecoming

Christmas is a time that brings many people home to be with their families and loved ones, and I offer a joyful welcome to each person who takes part in the Masses during the Christmas season. I extend a special welcome to students who are home for the holidays; to former parishioners returning for a friendly visit; to all out-oftown guests and relatives of parishioners; and to those who perhaps are making a return to the practice of their faith. I sincerely pray that your experience of the parish family of St. Michael Parish may lead you to feel welcome and at home. Welcome home for the holidays.

> "Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord!"

PARISH OFFICE HOURS AND YEAR END GIVING

The Parish Office will be open on Monday December 23rd - 9:00am-4:00pm. The Parish Office will be closed December 24-December 27th. It will be open December 30th & December 31st – 9:00am – 4:00pm. The Office will be closed on January 1st

Please remember that only donations made prior to December 31st, 2019, can be applied for income tax credit for this year.

May our gift-giving be a constant reminder of God's supreme gift to us: Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. Thank you for your generosity toward the financial needs of our parish; year end is an important time financially for our community thank you for your generous gift at Christmas!



PARKING AT CHRISTMAS

A gentle reminder that in addition to our Parking Lots, for our all of our Christmas Masses we have full access to additional

Parking at WLU in Lots 10 & 11 (School of Music -University Avenue) Lots 32 & 33 Lazaridis Hall and Lot 37 (Northdale) in designated spaces only. Please do not park in accessible spaces without a permit or in spaces marked "reserved". Street Parking is also permitted, please observe City of Waterloo regulations and respect our neighbours property too. Please consider using those other lots so that visitors to our parish can easily access our parking lots. Another way to "make room at the Inn."

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2020

Current envelope users are reminded that Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2020 will be available in the Parish Centre THIS WEEKEND. Those not currently using envelopes but who are interested in obtaining Sunday Offering Envelopes, may use the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk. All are invited to consider Pre Authorized Giving as a method to support our parish family - forms at Welcome Desk.



CWL NEWS

2020 Membership dues – remain at \$30. These can be placed in the Sunday Offering please clearly mark you envelope to the attention of the CWL. If you will be away after Christmas, please submit your dues in December.



Save January 31. It might be the last day of next month, but it will probably be one of the best days of the year – a great Kids Klub event will soon be announced (and we will be bringing our Da Crew - High School Members too!!)



LIGHTING OF CANDLES

In the lighting of candles we remember and truly live the words of Our Lord: "I am the *Light of the World.*" In the lighting of candles we not only pray, but our prayers become smaller symbols of the One Light of Christ. In

burning candles, our prayers rise up to Heaven day and night; prayers for the intercession of saints are also common because of their friendship with God in Heaven. The lighting of candles has been observed since the time of the early martyrs. We ask for a \$2 offering for each lit candle. Candles may be lit anytime the Church is open.

OLDER ADULT LUNCH TO BEGIN IN 2020

We are excited to announce that beginning early in 2020 we will be hosting monthly lunches for "Older Adults". What is an Older Adult? – Well whatever you think – but we are thinking 55+. It is an opportunity to come together for a lite lunch, listen to a speaker and grow in faith and fellowship all right in our own Parish Centre.

We need your input.... Who might you suggest as a speaker or topic? Let us know as we put together the calendar for 2020. Drop us a note or email. We would love your ideas!

> A CHRISTMAS PRAYER Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate, and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift, and good desires come with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry.

May Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children; and on Christmas evening, bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

BE A PARKING LOT MESSENGER OF CHEER!

We are looking for people to help make our Christmas Eve Masses as welcoming and safe as possible. We have a core team ready to help manage and direct traffic before these Masses, but we could definitely use more help! We need assistance starting at 3:30pm on Christmas Eve. What a better way could there be to start your Christmas celebration than by wishing "Merry Christmas" to so many of your friends as you help direct them into their parking spaces! If you are interested and available to help out, please leave your name at the Welcome Desk or call the parish office.

