

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST-GANANOQUE ST. PHILOMENA - HOWE ISLAND

Pastor: Father Sebastian Amato

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Parish Secretary: Lise Emmerson Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm



*We saw his star
in the East
and have come
to worship Him*



Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 3, 2016



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 2

5:00 pm - Michael Lekx

Sunday, January 3

8:30 am at St. Philomena - Frank Ottenhof

10:30 am at St. John - John & Eileen Bulger

Monday, January 4

8:00 am - For your Intentions

Tuesday, January 5

8:00 am - Ruth Pritchard

Thursday, January 7

8:00 am - Norton's family

Friday, January 8

8:00 am: Dawn Tennant

1:30 pm at Carveth: Regena Gavin

Saturday, January 9

5:00 pm - Nadine Plumpton

Sunday, January 10

8:30 am at St. Philomena - Tim Prior

10:30 am at St. John - Fred Delaney

Thank You Many thanks to all who helped out to make our Christmas celebrations at St. John's and St. Philomena's very beautiful. To all who decorated the churches, lead the music and singing, the altar servers, readers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, sacristans, children's liturgy leaders, greeters, those who pray for the parish and to all who in a quiet way support the mission of our parish as we worship the Lord at our Masses all year round. As we continue through the season of Christmas, may God richly bless you and may your lives reflect the same love and compassion that he has shown us by dwelling among us in Jesus the Lord. May this new year reveal the Christ who lives in you.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember those in our parish, community, family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally or spiritually especially Bob Bird and Dolly Cornish.

PRAYER FOR ETERNAL LIFE

Please remember in your prayers those who have entered into eternal life. May the Lord grant them healing and strength.

The Churches of Gananoque will begin 2016 with a month long study of the bible. **Walk Thru the Bible** is a program to ignite our passion for the Word of God. It will take place on Wednesday evenings from January 6th to 27th beginning at 6:45 pm to 8 pm at the Cornerstone Church Hall.

An Invitation to Serve Your Parish

We are always in need of parishioners to help with the various ministry. You may not think that you have the skills or "holy" enough – no need to worry!! All you require is a compassionate heart and a love of the Lord. Below are some of the ministries.

Altar Servers: For weekends: Adult and Youth after their first Communion can volunteer. *Weekdays & Funerals:* - Adult volunteers.

Lectors - Parishioners proclaim the readings. Monthly schedules and training is provided.

Music - Parishioners of all ages are welcome to participate in sharing their musical talents (voice/instrument). There are two choirs (Sunday morning and a Funeral choir) ready to accept new members. Practices are held weekly.

Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist - Helping to distribute the Eucharist at Mass. Training will be provided.

Greeters - There is great need for volunteers to welcome people to the parish. A friendly smile, disposition & greeting is an asset!

PARISH CALENDAR:

Finance/Property: Monday, January 25, 2016

Carveth: Friday, January 8 at 1:30 pm

Catholic Women's League: to be announced

Parish Pastoral Council: Tues., Jan 12 @ 7 pm

Funeral Choir Practice: Wed. 10:30 am

Sunday Choir Practice: Mondays at 7 pm in the sacristy

Legion of Mary: 8:30 am Tuesdays; Sacristy

Knights of Columbus: 2nd & 4th Wed. 7 pm Firehall

2016 Offertory Envelopes Please verify the address as soon as possible as this is the address used to forward the tax receipt. Extra envelopes are available. Please call the office or email stjohnstphil@gmail.com. Call or write any amendments on your envelopes. As some numbers were reassigned, please write your name on the first few envelopes.



About the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Today we celebrate that the child born in the darkness of night in a lowly manger is revealed as the manifestation (the meaning of epiphany) of God.

Christ is revealed in many ways: as Lord, as King, as the one in whom God is present and acts. All of these manifestations are “lights” that shine on Christ, revealing a deeper understanding of who he is. All the readings today reveal, in a way, a different manifestation of who Christ is for all who believe.

Traditionally, three events in the life of Christ are remembered today as manifestations of God’s presence and action through Christ: the visit of the Magi, the wedding feast of Cana, and the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River. Lights have played an important role in today’s solemnity. (from the 2016 Sourcebook)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST. The 7/8 year old children are getting ready for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. First Reconciliation will take place Sunday, February 21, 2016 at 3 pm with the Sacrament of the Eucharist on April 24, 2016. Here are some ways to assist children at Mass times: Family and friends could invite them to come to Mass with them; sit toward the front where it is easier for the children to see and hear; quietly explain the parts of the Mass, and sing together. As Jesus said, “Let the children come to me.”

Please continue to pray for all the children every day.

“A good laugh and a long sleep are the two best cures for anything.”

—Irish proverb
via Jesse Engle Everett, PA
Joyful Noiseletter Nov/Dec 2015

New Year’s Resolution Ideas

A Catholic smartphone?

Surprisingly, you’ll find plenty of smartphone apps to help you become a better Catholic. Simply type “Catholic” in your phone’s app store search index, and you’ll find a long list of apps including prayers, Catholic radio stations, Confession guides, Bibles, etc. Instead of texting or checking email during idle time, make use of those apps to learn more about your faith.

Find a patron saint

If you don’t have a patron saint, it’s time to find one! Saints are our heroes in faith and are powerful intercessors for us in heaven. You might want to learn more about the saint you were named after, your Confirmation saint, the patron saint of your profession or hobby or any saint who interests you.

Attend daily Mass

St. John’s parish offers daily Mass (except Wednesdays) at 8 am. Since the group attending is usually small and there is often no singing, most daily Masses will only take about 30 minutes of your day. In return, you’ll receive extra graces and blessings for the small sacrifice. Check if there is a Church near your workplace that holds before or after work Masses.

Go to Confession every month

Yes, it’s difficult to face your sins and say them out loud, but frequent reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation gives you the grace to fight those sins and perhaps finally defeat them. If your parish’s allotted time for the sacrament conflicts with your schedule, call the parish office to make an appointment. www.beliefnet.com

Happy New Year!

St. John: Saturday, Jan. 9 2016

at 5 pm

Rosary: Joy O’Neill
Lector: Anne O’Neill
Greeters: P. Huntley and June Nalon
Gifts: June Nalon and Cheryl Gavin
Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist:
Sharon Carmichael

St. John: Sunday, Jan. 10 - 10:30

Carveth on Sunday: **Volunteer required**
Lector: Christine Woods
Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist:
Maryln Jacobsen
Gifts: Linda Beaupre and Gerry Brosso
Greeters: A. Cartwright and D. Hebert
Children’s Liturgy: Jacey Kellar

St. Philomena: Jan. 10 - 8:30 am

Lector: M. McReynolds
Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist:
D. Dowling and M. McCauley

Pre-Authorized Debit at St. John and at St. Philomena You may join at any time. Just complete a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Plan Form found at the entrance; enclose a cheque marked VOID; return all in a sealed envelope via Offertory Collection or at the office. **Next Debit** will be Friday, January 15, 2016.

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