

**3rd Sunday of Advent - December 17, 2017**



**Third Week of Advent (Joy):** John's disciples said to Jesus, "Are you 'He who is to come' or do we look for another?" In reply, Jesus said: "Tell John what you hear and see: the blind recover their sight, cripples walk, lepers are cured, and the poor have good news preached to them..." *Luke 3:10*

**Offertory Collection**

**December 10 - \$674.25**

**Thank You**

**Intentions** - Today's mass is in loving memory of **Theresa Wilson**, requested by St. Gabriel's Parishioners.

Intentions are \$15.00

**December 21**



**Saint Peter Canisius:** Peter was born in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in 1521. He joined the Jesuits and worked in Germany, Austria, Bohemia and Switzerland as a leader of the Counter-Reformation. Peter educated Catholics with his popular and influential catechism. Although he worked in a time of conflict with growing Lutheranism, he remained moderate and courteous. Peter died in Fribourg in 1597. He was canonized and declared Doctor of the Church in 1925.

**December 23**

**Saint John of Kanty:** John was born in Kanti, Poland, in 1390. After his ordination, he served in the Faculty of Theology at Krakow University. A popular teacher and preacher, John was noted for his simplicity and love for the poor. He died in 1473, and was canonized in 1767.

**Christmas & New Years Day Schedule**

- Sun. Dec 24 - 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass (St. Gabriel's) \***
- Sun. Dec 24 - 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass (St. Michael's)**
- Mon. Dec 25 - 9:00 am Christmas Mass (St. Michael's)**
- Mon. Dec 25 - 11:00 am Christmas Mass (St. Gabriel's)**
- Mon. Jan 01 - 9:00 am New Year's Day Mass (St. Michael's) \*\***
- Mon. Jan 01 - 11:00 am New Year's Day Mass (St. Gabriel's) \*\***

\* Come early and enjoy carols beginning at 4:30 pm  
 \*\* Holy Day of obligation



**Today's Gospel Reflection:** John knew how to die. He knew how to speak the truth even when it cost dearly. He knew how to engage in an active public ministry to which crowds flocked, but also how to withdraw into the desert for prayer and penance. John the Baptist makes it very clear that we will live genuinely for Christ only if we are willing to die for him. Only the person who is practiced in the art of daily dying will be able to hand himself over to God in an act of final resignation, as John did. Daily dying consists in pouring out one's energies in the service of the poor, in listening attentively, in praying faithfully, in living harmoniously with others, in seeking reconciliation, in doing penance, in renouncing anything that is an obstacle to the following of Christ. John the Baptist calls us to prepare the way of the Lord by eliminating from our lives whatever impedes his coming. (Maloney, Seasons in Spirituality, p.48)



**Community Helpers Training:** 4 session programme; reach out to isolated seniors. Topics: ageism, mental/physical/spiritual health, elder abuse, loss and grief and diversity. St Isidore Parish Hall, 1135 March Rd., Feb. 1, 8, 15 & 22, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre. Info: Megan Richards (613-591-3686x324; [richards@worc.ca](mailto:richards@worc.ca)).

**The Star Christmas Movie-Party:** Stage show; free gift to all kids; Christmas treat plus the new animated movie THE STAR. Charity event to help families in need. Ottawa Family Cinema at Notre Dame Catholic HS, 710 Broadview Ave., **Sat., Dec. 23, 2:00 p.m.** Tickets in advance \$9; at the door \$12. Hosted by Ottawa Family Cinema Foundation. Info: [www.familycinema.ca](http://www.familycinema.ca).

**Soup Sisters:** Individual serving of soups are available for seniors in need. Contact Suzanne Lee or Linda Cassidy. We are looking for new volunteers to participate.

**Volunteer Needed**

- **St. Gabriel's Parish is in need of a new choir director. Please speak with Martine Messier (613) 832-4415.**
- **Collection Counters: needed every 4th Sunday after mass. Please speak with Jan Campbell or Gary Fisher.**



**West Carleton Food Access Centre:** When you grocery shop this week, please remember the West Carleton Food Access Centre. They are in need of canned salmon, canned flakes of ham or chicken, canned fruit and canned pasta noodles. They are in need of nut free lunch box items. Please check the expiry dates, as the Food Bank cannot accept expired cans.

**Christmas Hamper:** \$\$\$ accepted for contribution to a local family's Christmas dinner.

**The Angel Tree (Last Opportunity).** If you have forgotten to return your gift today, they can be dropped off at 260 Baillie tomorrow.

**Holy Land Pilgrimage/Tour:** St Isidore parish, co-led by Fr. Virgil Amirthakumar, Pastor and the Rev. Dr. Stanford Lucyk, United Church of Canada cleric and veteran tour leader, is sponsoring a study/pilgrimage tour to Israel Oct 11-22, 2018. Cost: \$3, 595 plus \$750 airline and airport taxes. Info: [amiriontravel@hotmail.com](mailto:amiriontravel@hotmail.com).

Benefits for those caring for critically ill adults or children: New government benefit for those who need to take time from work to care for a critically ill adult, and improvements to existing benefits to care for critically ill children or family members at end of life. Info: [Canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/campaigns/ei/adult-care.html.-improvements](http://Canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/campaigns/ei/adult-care.html.-improvements).

**Upcoming**

- Parish Council Nomination to be accepted in January.
- Parish Council Election in February
- Please consider joining Council



**Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for the sick among our families and friends, especially Joan Barfoot, Monique Beaupre, Maurice Bergeron, Gerry Borris, Patricia Cassidy, Christine Fraser and Mary Jardine. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

*Always stay close to this Heavenly Mother, because she is the sea to be crossed to reach the shores of Eternal Splendour.*

- Saint Pius of Pietrelcina