

4th Sunday of Advent - December 24, 2017



Fourth Week of Advent (Peace): The angel Gabriel said to Mary, "Do not fear, Mary, you shall conceive and bear a son and give him the name Jesus. Great will be his dignity and he will be called Son of the Most High"...

Luke 1

Offertory Collection

December 17 - \$996.70

Thank You

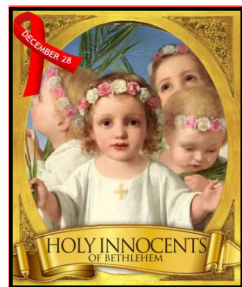
Intentions

24 Dec 11:00 am - for the Parishioners of St. Gabriel's Parish.

24 Dec 5:00 pm - for the Parishioners of St. Gabriel's Parish.

25 Dec 11:00 am - for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, requested by Janne Campbell.

December 28



Holy Innocents: The "Holy Infants" are the male children recorded slain by King Herod in Matthew's Gospel. This unique episode in Jesus' life is not found in any other document, secular or religious, yet this incident, along with the account of the flight into Egypt, presents the ancient tradition of the early Church, Jesus as the "new Israel," persecuted and forced to flee, and the "new Moses," marvelously rescued from the slaughter of the Hebrew children. This feast also points to Jesus as the Messiah and foreshadows the secular opposition Jesus will later meet, culminating in his Passion.

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: Joseph receives little attention these days, even in Advent, but Joseph stands right beside Mary at the center of the stage. Joseph stands, with eager expectation, at the threshold of transcendence. From the darkness of his own limited understanding, he is continually peering into the mystery of God. Surely he cannot fathom the virginal conception of Jesus that the angel announces, but with loving compassion he bows in reverence to God's incomprehensible ways. Surely he does not understand how this child, who seems like any other, could be "God with us", but he abandons himself, in faith, to the task of loving the child and educating him. There is something very beautiful about Joseph's contact with the transcendent mystery of God. He was a carpenter and in the midst of his daily manual labor and family life, Joseph was surrounded by the mystery of God and he penetrated it with faith. He trusted in God's daily providence. (Maloney, Seasons of Spirituality, p.53)



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).

2018 Envelopes are now available at the back of the Church.

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.

God speaks in the silence of the heart.

Listening is the beginning of prayer.

- Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Volunteer Needed

- St. Gabriel's Parish is in need of a new choir director.
- 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.



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.

Children's Nylon Winter Jackets: St. Isidore's Knights of Columbus, have available for school children ages approximately 7 to 14, the aforesaid Jackets. If you know a need, please recommend a call to St. Gabriel's contact Mr. Don Pajot (613 832-2693).

Is someone contemplating euthanasia or assisted suicide? Available Prevention Resources: Helpline: 1-855-675-8749; Compassionate Community Care (CCC) is a national service for people who are seeking advice, help & support regarding euthanasia & assisted suicide prevention, and/or end-of-life treatment concerns. Resources available. Euthanasia Prevention Coalition.

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, Bernie Costello, Christine Fraser and Mary Jardine. *The names will remain on the list until we are otherwise advised.*

Merry Christmas