

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 4, 7 p.m.

Sp. Int. by a Parishioner

Tuesday, January 5, 9 a.m.

Sp.Int. for McInerney Family
req by Carmen

Wednesday, January 6, 7 p.m.

CWL Members Living & Deceased
Sp.Int Louis & Sharmela
Villavarayen

Thursday, January 7, 9.m.

Fr. Heffernan req by Carmelita Ring

Friday January 8, 7p.m.

+Martha Beal req by Bill Frankiw
Thanksgiving for Bhatti Family
+Patrick Goan req by Janet & John
Debosky
+Filomena Lombardi req by Joe
Lombardi & Family
+Simeon Peter & Florence Fernandes
req by Marcelina & John Peter
+Chan Ramkallawan req by Lee-
Innis

Saturday, January 9,

9 a.m. For God's Blessings &
& Graces needed for
Fr. Marijan req by
Parishioner
5 p.m. +Dominic Borg req by
Rita Saviour & Bonello
Family

CALLING ALL REVELATION BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANTS AND PARISHIONERS

As promised there will be a DVD presentation of Lectio Divina on the Book of Revelation by Cardinal Collins on **Wednesday January 13, 2016** in the church after the 7:00 PM mass and **continuing for the next three Wednesdays**. Lectio Divina is a prayerful reading and meditation on Scripture and to have the cardinal lead us in this kind of meditation is especially worthwhile. The DVD is only for one hour and everyone is invited. Come and let the Cardinal introduce you to this special kind of meditation and unlock the treasures of the Word of God in Scripture in this particularly challenging Book. What a wonderful way to start the New Year!

CONTINUING BIBLE STUDY

At Holy Family we have the amazing opportunity to begin the year on a high note by participating in a six week program by Bishop Robert Barron entitled:

"The Mystery of God"

"Who God Is and Why He Matters"

Today when Catholics are attacked or ridiculed for their belief in God, often we don't have the depth of understanding or the words to stand up for our Faith. Bishop Barron arms us with a wealth of answers and a deep attachment to the teachings of our Faith, grounded in a God who is Almighty, all loving and all everything! Come and be proud to be Catholic and be revitalized to spread its Good News.

Every Monday evening after the 7:00 PM mass starting on January 18 and continuing until February 29, 2016 with the exception of Family Day on February 15.



Family of Faith

The **Family of Faith** campaign in the Archdiocese of Toronto flows from the Pastoral Plan which has been developed to help build and strengthen our Catholic community. It is deeply rooted in prayer and rests on a two-fold mission - to nurture and strengthen the faith experience of committed Catholics and to announce the Gospel both to the faithful and to those outside the church. Cardinal Collins invites each Catholic in the archdiocese to reflect on our role as stewards of God's many gifts. We live every moment in a spirit of gratitude, looking for ways to use fruitfully all that has been given to us, in the service of God and neighbour.

At Holy Family Parish we share in a rich and vibrant parish community. Our participation in the **Family of Faith** campaign will support Fr. Laszlo's vision to strengthen the ongoing engagement of parishioners and to foster our spiritual development within this community. With the funds we receive from the Family of Faith campaign we will add resources for adult formation. RCIA prepares adults to enter into full communion with our faith community. Bible studies provide places to grow and strengthen our understanding of our faith which equips us to take the message of the Gospel to our communities. We will increase our capacity to provide compassionate and loving support for those who have been widowed, separated or divorced. As our faith is nurtured and grows strong we increase our capacity to share the love of Christ within our parish and beyond.

Many parishioners have already responded and chosen to participate in this unique initiative to strengthen Holy Family Parish and our wider **Family of Faith**. As the campaign approaches its final stages in our parish please welcome your fellow parishioners when they contact you by telephone and respond generously.

We ask every Catholic in the Archdiocese to offer prayers for our **Family of Faith**. *"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work of the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."* - Galatians 6:10

You can learn more about the **Family of Faith** at ourFamilyofFaith.ca

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul would like to thank all the parishioners at Holy Family Parish who supported u throughout 2015. To all who sponsored a *"family in need"* at Christmas, purchased gifts for the Christmas Angels, contributed to the coin can collection or made financial contributions, The CWL and The Knights of Columbus for their financial support. All who contribute to our poor box weekly, donate food each month, and the schools that conduct food drives throughout the year, our work in the community would not be possible without your help. Thanks again to all for your generosity and wishing you a happy & healthy 2016.

THANK YOU!

To all the parishioners and parish ministries who participated in our Christmas and New Year's celebration. Special thank you to the Holy Family choirs who serenaded the parishioners last December 12 with beautiful Christmas carols. Thank you to the volunteers who helped set up our beautiful Christmas trees and flowers in the altar. Also, thank you to the **Plastina Family** for the Christmas flowers.

JANUARY 3, 2016

“WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM”



The Solemnity of the "Epiphany of the Lord" has been celebrated on 6 January since the fifth century. Only in the Roman liturgy under Pope St. Leo the Great (440-461) did it become a specific feast: the "Adoration of the Magi".

The definition of the Magi as three, a holy number, was partly because of the kind of gifts they offered, also dates to this period. At first, their number or names were not specified. The names Gaspar, Melchior and Balthazar probably crept into the Western Tradition from an apocryphal Gospel written in Alexandria in about the sixth century.

One thing, however, is certain- it was the interest in the Magi of Matthew's narrative that formed the basis of their subsequent popular veneration. The Evangelist's account of them offers few historical details: instead, it is theological in nature.

The Wise Men symbolized strangers, foreigners or pagans, hence, completely diverse people. Yet they received salvation, just like the People of Israel. Their search, discovery, worship and belief in Jesus filled them with "great joy". The "great joy" is the peace that God has bestowed upon us through the Incarnation of the Son.

The Wise Men of the East came to encounter with Jesus: they fell down on their knees, prayed and offered their gifts. Adoring God thus means giving oneself totally to him and professing him.

Through his Incarnation, his death and his Resurrection, Jesus revealed to all humanity the total gift of himself.

The following is a fundamental part of the Epiphany message: seeking God, finding him, worshipping him.

The Magi are examples. They were the first to come from far away, determined to adore Christ, in stark contrast to Herod and, with him, the whole of Jerusalem.

I pray that the grace and spirit of this beautiful Feast Day will strengthen us and inspire us to serve the Lord with joy and gladness today and always!

Prayerfully yours in Christ,

Fr. László Nagy

Pastor