

THE EPHIPHANY OF OUR LORD

MASS INTENTIONS

January 9th - January 14th, 2016

Mon. Jan. 9 th	8am +Diniz Melo
Tues. Jan. 10 th	8am +Mike McCartney
Wed. Jan 11 th	8am +James Graham
Thurs Jan 12 th	8am +Robert Reid 11am Hollandview Trail RH
Fri. Jan 13 th	8am Gerald Binett Family Sp. Int.
Sat. Jan 14 th	8am +Gianotti & Bountola Families

2017 ENVELOPES

Envelopes for this coming year are available today! As in previous years you take any box, the number does not matter. When you use the first couple of envelopes please put your name and address on them. That will be your number for 2017.

DEADLINE FOR 2016 PARISH DONATIONS IS TODAY! - JANUARY 8th, 2016

Each year we need to set a date on which we cut off donations for the previous year. We will ask that all people making a donation for 2016 with the anticipation of receiving a tax receipt for that year do so by Sunday January 8th, clearly marking that this is a 2016 donation.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

The next blood donor clinic at Our Lady of Grace will be held in Lynett Hall, tomorrow, Monday, January 9th, 2:30 to 7:30. Please call 1-888-2 DONATE to book an appointment. Let us share what we have to give.

OUR PARISH EUCBRE CONTINUES

All are invited back on January 9th for euchre here at Our Lady of Grace. It will begin at 1 pm in the large meeting room. There will be a \$2.00 admission which will cover prizes and incidentals. All are welcome to come out.

DEADLINES FOR FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT

We are now getting near the deadlines for enrolment for both sacraments which is Sunday, January 15. Parents can access the letter on line at the parish website and at the back of the church. Please request enrolment forms from either priest or Sandra after whatever mass you attend on the weekend.

WOULD YOU LIKE HELP?

We have two opportunities for adults to assist with the formation of young people preparing for communion. We run a short program of catechesis for children in public or private schools. If you can help contact Fr. Joshua email at jroldan@archtoronto.org.

We will also be having two family evenings for families with a first communion candidates. These will involve crafts, a short prayer service and a tour of the church. Anyone who would like to help should contact Sandra at sandra@ourladyofgrace.com

JANUARY SCHOOL VISITS

During the month of January, the children in our Catholic Elementary schools will be visited by members of our pastoral team. The parable for this month will be the Gospel according to Matthew 5:13-16 the teaching on salt and light.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Are you yearning for a closer relationship with God? Do you wish to deepen your prayer life? Is your heart weighed down with anger, resentment and hurts? The Life in the Spirit Seminars call people to a deeper relationship with God. The seminars will be offered here at Our Lady of Grace beginning January 12th. For those who wish to know more contact Deacon Pat Colangelo at 905-727-8737 or Edwin or Anita Andrade at 905-727-2367. They will be happy to discuss with you in advance any questions you have or just give you a more complete description of this eight-week process of prayer and reflection.



YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Kindergarten registration begins **tomorrow**, January 9th, in all York Catholic schools. We look forward to welcoming your child into our schools, where we emphasize academic success using a curriculum that is infused with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

You may register your child at your local Catholic school or at the Catholic Education Centre in Aurora. For more information, visit our website at www.ycdsb.ca/admissions.

THANK YOU

As we come to the end of the Christmas season it is a natural time for thank you's. On a personal level and on behalf of the staff we thank all who expressed their best wishes in the Christmas season in big and small ways. Your tokens of best wishes are truly appreciated. We will take January to walk off a good number of them.

We thank the parishioners who in so many ways have made a contribution to the celebrations of the season. To all who assisted with liturgies through music and through fulfilling ministerial roles at mass a word of thanks. To those who cleaned and decorated and helped with the putting up the outside crèche your service is deeply appreciated.

A very special thank you to all who brought in poinsettias during the Christmas season. We hope it was a consolation as you met the challenges of loss in the season.

Christian Christmas would be pointless if the poor were not remembered. To that army of people who picked things off the Jesse Tree and returned with socks and underwear and gift cards. You would be pleased to know how overwhelmed the groups we helped were. To our St. Vincent de Paul who work so efficiently behind the scenes to help so many, thank you.

As we move into 2017 let us continue to work together for the Good News of Christ and the well-being of Our Lady of Grace Parish.

THANK YOU

We had our skating party last holiday Monday.

Thank you to the Community Life Group and the office for their organization of the event. There were about 150 to 175 skaters on the ice at the busiest time, though counting chickens is easier than counting skaters.

It was really great to see the number of young families who came out and the number of little ones who were venturing on the ice for the first time.

The hot dogs and hot chocolate was well patronised. There were a number of young people who helped with the prep and serving. Your presence was appreciated.

WHAT IS A PYX?

First it is a really good word to know if you are a scrabble player.

More importantly it is the little container that is used to take communion to the sick and shut in. They can easily fit into your pocket or a burse, (a small cloth container that is worn around the neck to carry the pyx.)

Why am I drawing your attention to pyx's? For the simple reason that there must be a large number of them in homes, in glove boxes of cars or put away for safe keeping. As a sacred instrument for the sharing of the Eucharist a pyx is not something we keep in our home any more than we would have a tabernacle in our home. If you have a pyx or two that has gotten stalled at your house would you please return it to the sacristy at your convenience.

We purchased a significant number of pyx's about a year ago and they have all disappeared. Please return them fairly promptly as they are needed for those who are shut in.

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

During the Christmas season, the Aurora Council of the Knights of Columbus was able to help the York Region Children's Aid Society. The brothers of our Council arranged to prepare 50 gift packages containing shampoo, body wash, toothbrushes and toothpaste. These were presented at the Christmas Youth Party for teens living independently.

These teens find themselves alone, without family, often without any permanent accommodation. The York Region Children's Aid Society supports these teens in various ways, including the Christmas party.

The Council wishes in particular to thank Superstore Aurora for its generous donation of \$200 towards this worthy project.

We appreciate the Parish's continued support of our charitable activities.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUP

Start the New Year off by connecting with other families in the parish at the Tuesday morning playgroup. 9:30-11:00am in the parish hall.

If you are interested in helping to organize this program, contact Sandra at 727-4594 or sandra@ourladyofgrace.com