**BAPTISM OF THE LORD January 10, 2016**

**Our e-mail address is: saintbasil@rogers.com NEW WEBPAGE: stbasilparish.ca**

 **Mass Intentions this week**

**Please note: Weekday Masses are celebrated in the Rectory Chapel unless otherwise indicated.**

 ***January 16***  *to* ***January 17.***

**Saturday**  **5:00 pm** †Cecil & Anne Fulcher, Catherine Terry, Jeffrey Kings, deceased McAllindon Family, Domenico Ricci and deceased parents

**ELUSIVE HOLE-IN-ONE:**

As usual in January, Fr. Earl will head south this Monday in search of the elusive hole-in-one. Perhaps in this Jubilee year of mercy? Archbishop MacDonald will celebrate Mass on the weekends. Peace.

**Sanctuary Lamp** this week

Intentions of: Nikki Nardone and repose of her soul. Requests accepted by placing an envelope with the name of loved one and a donation of $10 in the collection basket.

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| **DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR** |  |
| Monday, January 11 | Rev. Hahn Van Tran, O.M.I. |
| Tuesday, January 12 | Rev. Charles Jordan |
| Wednesday, January 13 | Missionaries |
| Thursday, January 14 | Rev. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R. |
| Friday, January 15 | Rev. Pablito Labado |
| Saturday, January 16 | Rev. Robert Dunn |

**OFFERTORY** for Christmas $10,974.35; December 27 $5034.55; January 1, 2016 $2957.80; January 3, 2016 $3799.00 plus $183.00 through pre-authorized debit and our budget expenses for the week $5,580.00.

**Baptism of the Lord**

As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus a voice from heaven said, “You are my Son, The Beloved, with you I am well pleased.” If you feel God’s call to the priesthood or consecrated life, visit [www.HamiltonVocations.com](http://www.HamiltonVocations.com).

**REFUGEE SUPPORT**

Last autumn Bishop Crosby asked that a Diocesan collection be taken for the assistance of refugees. These donations would be matched dollar for dollar by the Canadian government.

The Diocese collected $353,000.00; the Bishop “topped it up” $146,000.00 so that $500,000.00 was matched by the government; total: one million dollars! Thank you for your support!

**MEDITATION**

For the past seven weeks, from the First Sunday of Advent until today’s Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the seasonal readings have brought us into the life of Jesus in ways that are very familiar to us.

 Christ first directs our eyes and our minds to the end times and his return in glory. Then we begin to meet the well known heralds of God’s love, starting with that shaggy desert-dweller, John the Baptist. We witness the dialogue between the young Virgin Mary and her aging cousin Elizabeth. And at Christmas, we meet the honourable and good man, Joseph, as well as the sleepless shepherds, the singing angels and the innkeeper.

 Weekly, the life of Jesus unrolls quickly in front of us, from birth through childhood to manhood, bringing us to the River Jordan for his baptism by John. Here, Luke the Evangelist gives us a tangible experience of the Holy Trinity, with the Spirit descending upon the newly baptized Jesus and the voice of the Father being heard.

 These wonderful images enrich and empower us as we gather in Eucharistic communion with our sisters and brothers in Jesus Christ. We are today’s heralds of the good News of God’s love, and our mission is to share the joy of life with the Lord.

Marilyn Sweet, Falmouth, NS

**SACRAMENTS!**

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** will be celebrated by Bishop Crosby on ***Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.***

Instructions for Candidates only: (parish hall):

Sunday, February 7, 2016, 10:30 – 11:30 am

Sunday, March 6, 10:30 – 11:30 am

Retreat: Saturday, April 16 from 2-4:30 pm in our parish hall.

**The Sacrament of First Eucharist**

This Session will focus on First Reconciliation :**Thursday, Jan. 28, 2016** at 7 pm. in the hall.

**Celebration of First Reconciliation**: choose either ***Wednesday, March 9th or Thursday, March 10th*** at 7 pm in the Church

***Thursday, April 7th***: this Session will focus on Eucharist.

***Celebration of First Holy Communion:***

Choose one of 6 Masses: the weekends of **April 23, 24 or April 30, May 1, 2016.**

Prayer and Practice – 9:30 am – 11 am on the Saturday morning of your chosen weekend of First Communion. We begin in the Church and end in our parish hall.

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**:

A Holy Door refers to an entrance portal located within the Papal Major Basilicas in Rome. They are ceremoniously opened during Jubilee years designated by the Pope, for pilgrims who enter through these doors may gain the plenary indulgences attached with the duration of the Jubilee Year. The only Holy Door outside of Europe is at the Basilica of Notre-Dame in Quebec City, but for this year our own Cathedral Basilica in Hamilton has one!

**RECONCILIATION**

It seems that there has been a change re: the dates and times for Reconciliation at St. Pius X for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

 The Diocese has asked us to make the Sacrament available on March 4th and 5th. As a result, INSTEAD of March 10th, priests of Brant Deanery will now be available at St. Pius X Church on:

Friday March 4th – from 3 pm – 9 pm and

Saturday March 5th from 11 am – 4:30 pm.

 So, the information I sent out in our Advent-Christmas newsletter needs to be altered in favour of the above. I apologize for the confusion. Thank you. Fr. Earl.

P.S.: Please advise any Catholics you see of this change – and any organizations could make announcements at their meetings! Thank you.

**INCOME TAX RECEIPTS**

Receipts will be issued for offerings in 2015. If you wish a receipt, please put a self-addressed envelope with, if possible, your envelope number and put into the collection basket. This will facilitate getting your receipt to you. If you are not able to locate your 2016 envelopes, please call the parish office 752-0361. ALSO, when you start using your 2016 envelopes, please put your name on the first few envelopes. Thank you.

**SHOEBOX CAMPAIGN**

Our sincere thanks to the parishioners of St. Basil for your generosity to the Shoebox Campaign. We sent 165 boxes to Dr. Simone – Canadian Food for Children.

Your Shoebox Committee.

**St BASIL MUSIC TRIVIA IS COMING!**

Mark your calendars now for ***SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm.***

Tickets $5.00 each. Limited snacks available to purchase or bring your own!

Tickets available at the back of church next week-end or call JoAnne at 519-754-4392 or email joanne.hodd@yahoo.ca..

**Advent Angel Tree update**
Thank you for your generous donations to the Advent Angel Tree this past Advent Season.  We collected over 100 lbs. of food for Brantford's Food Bank, and 147 presents for local families!  Please check out the bulletin board at the back of the Church for a special thank you card made by some of the children at Nova Vita and visit their Facebook page to see photos and another thank you message.

**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS**,

St. Basil Council # 13442

**Meeting Tuesday, January 12, 2016**

Rosary at 6:30 PM, meeting to follow

at 7:00 PM in the rectory.

Grand Knight: Bill Kane, Tel # 519-752-1331

E-mail: wkane@sympatico.ca

Join us on **FRIDAY, January 15,** for the next St. Jerome’s University 150th Anniversary Lecture, “Conflicted? The World of War.” **Dr. Samantha Nutt**, a medical doctor and found of War Child Canada, will take a compelling look at the impact of war — the truth, the lies, and the reality on the ground, based on her fifteen years of experience at the frontline of many major crises, from Iraq to Afghanistan, Somalia to the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Sierra Leone to Darfur, Sudan.

**WAYS TO BE MERCIFUL DURING THE Jubilee Year of Mercy:**

**Resist sarcasm**; it is the antithesis of mercy: “Set, O Lord, a guard over my mouth; keep watch O Lord, at the door of my lips!” Psalm 141:3.

**MULTICULTURAL MASS**

This year’s Multicultural Mass will take place on ***Sunday, January 17, 2016*** at 1:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. Hamilton, ON.

 **DAY of PRAYER**

**SISTERS OF SOCIAL SERVICE**

**11 Perthshire Court, Hamilton**

**(SUGGESTED OFFERING $ 25.00)**

 **Friday, January 29th., 9:30 am to 3:00pm**

 **Bring a bag lunch….Tea & coffee provided.**

 **To Register: please call or e-mail**

 **905-388-3966 OR**

 **sssperthshire@sympatico.ca**

**CHILDREN ARE QUICK**

**Teacher:** Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

**Simon:** No sir, I don’t have to, my Mom is a good cook.