

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 16, 2018



John prepared the way for the one to come by asking sinners to repent and to be baptized and live justly. We have all found ourselves in difficult situations, when we lost hope and turned away from God, but Advent is a time when we can have renewed hope. We can prepare ourselves during this time by asking for forgiveness and we can anticipate with joy the coming of something wonderful. Let us begin today anew and, through repentance and good works prepare the way for the one to come.

Upcoming Meetings & Events in the Parish Centre:

Children's Christmas Party: Sun, Dec 16th, 1 to 3pm
Knights of Columbus: Tue, January 8th, 7pm
Hospitality Sunday: January 27th, after Sunday Masses
Trivia Night Choir Fundraiser: Sat, Feb 9th at 6:30pm

2019 Church donation envelopes are ready to pick up at the main church doors. Please ensure we have your **current address** to receive an income tax receipt (check the label on your box). If you would like to sign up for a new box of envelopes or for pre-authorized automatic monthly donations, extra boxes and sign-up sheets are at the main doors or call the parish office for information.



Christmas Eve Children's Pageant Mass is Monday, December 24th at 6pm. Pageant practices are Sundays after 9am Mass - All children welcome! Call Anne with any questions, (613)966-4999. Practices for our **All Ages / Family Christmas Choir** singing at the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass rehearsals are Sundays at 6:30pm. All are welcome!!

Area Penance Celebrations

St. Gregory, Picton, Dec. 16th, 3pm
 St. Joseph's, Belleville, Dec 17th, 7pm
 St. Michael, Belleville, Dec 23th, 3:30pm



St. Joseph Children's Christmas Party is TODAY, Sunday, Dec 16th right after the noon Mass in our parish centre. **Don't miss it!!!** Our parish kids are invited to bring their parents, grandparents and other family members out to enjoy some of the activities as we prepare for the Christmas Season. You are welcome to bring a snack to share and perhaps be tempted to sip some hot chocolate and have a hot dog while trying your hand at various crafts! We'll have lots of Christmas music so familiar to us all. Oh! Perhaps jolly old St. Nick might even make a special early visit! **Merry Christmas everyone! See you there!** (p.s. In the spirit of the season, we encourage you to bring a non-perishable food item donation for Gleaners Food Bank.)



Belleville Firefighters Toy Drive: Once again, I have been asked if our parish is willing to participate in the Firefighters Toy Drive. Feel free to bring what you wish, but there is a need for coloring books and crayons, also appropriate toys for children 6 to 9 months of age. If you can help, just place your donation of toys on the steps in front of the altar. I am sure your generosity will make some local child's Christmas a whole lot happier. **This is the final weekend of our collection in order to ensure the gifts are delivered to the Toy Drive in time for distribution! Thanks.**



CWL News: Thanks to all who came out or contributed to our Christmas Social in any way and made it such a lovely event. Also a big thank you for your donations to Three Oaks. **GOOD JOB LADIES!!** It was most enjoyable being together and singing old familiar Christmas carols. Our work is done for this year. We wish you all a Christmas filled with God's Blessings and His Peace and His Joy.



Thanks to everyone who donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society during our recent "Bundle Sunday". Your donations will help many local families. St. Vincent de Paul is looking for **volunteer drivers** who have a large vehicle or truck, who would be able to pick up beds from Sleep Country in Cobourg. For more information call Don at (613)966-4282.

Thank you again for continuing to bring food items to Mass for Gleaner's Food Bank. Please keep making food donations to Gleaners each week because many families are counting on our parish to help feed them. Remember Jesus' words from Matthew's Gospel: *"I was hungry and you fed me."*

2019 Women's Lenten Retreat, Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre - Pickering, 2 nights/3 days: - Monday, March 11th to Wed, March 13th, 2019. Retreat director is Father Henk van Meijel, director of Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre. Cost \$339.00 with transportation from Belleville or \$299.00 without. Retreat is organized & escorted by Fr. Don Oberwarth, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi, Frankford. To book call (613)929-8390 or email womenslentenretreat@gmail.com

If you or a loved one are going to the hospital or into a retirement home, please inform the parish office so a visit can be arranged.



Sign Up for a Week with Mary - Grace your home with the presence of Our Lady in 2019 by taking home her statue for a week. A sign up calendar is at the main doors of the church this weekend.

Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Offertory procession volunteers needed for Christmas and New Year's Masses:

Christmas Masses - Dec 24th at 4, 6 & 8pm, Dec 25th at 10:30am.

New Year's Masses - Dec 31st at 5pm & Jan 1st at 10:30am.

Please call the parish office or let Fr. Charles or Deacon Bill know if you can assist or check the sign-up sheet in the sacristy if you would like to participate in these special celebrations.



~ Please visit www.stjosephsbelleville.org for additional bulletin notices and parish information ~

✠ **Remember in Prayer:** All who are ill, including Kathy Mulder, Marjorie Trumpour, Danny Coughlin, Al Hamilton, Marvin Yantha, Susan Lake, Christine & Ed McFee, Catharine Brennan, Jack Duggan, Pam Barrett, Cory McMurter, Jeanette McBride, Robert Munroe, Colin Sugden, Keith Thompson and Esther Mortley. Please pray for the repose of the souls of Robert Feeney, Betty Blaind, Dot Byrnes and Sister Mary Fitzpatrick.

Parish Events:

Junior Liturgy Sundays at 9am Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity for children between the ages of 3 & 7 to participate in a deeper understanding of the Gospel message. The goal of this program is to engage and enlighten children in the teachings of the Church. The children are led in prayer, liturgy of the day and crafts/activities to emphasize the Gospel message. They also learn to participate in the Mass. We look forward to helping your children celebrate God's love at Mass. We are always looking for volunteers to support our weekly program. If you would like to help, contact Anne Marie at barretts@cogeco.ca or call the parish office. **Junior Liturgy Coordinator Needed:** After approximately 15 years, 6 of those years organizing & scheduling teachers for our Sunday Junior Liturgy Program here at St. Joseph Church, Anne Marie Barrett, understandably, would like to have a break from her duties. We are looking for someone, possibly a parent, who is willing to take over these responsibilities, including scheduling & seeing that a leader is available to lead on a particular Sunday. We thank Anne Marie for her dedication to our young children in these past years. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the parish office at 613-968-9950.



Junior Choir: We need more singers! Please contact Lynette 613-967-2483 or lynettethibeau@hotmail.com or see her at Mass to arrange an audition. We practise Sunday nights at 6:30 and sing about once a month. Please consider this if your child is in grade 2 or higher and enjoys singing. They must be able to read.

Our **Prayer Network** has more than 100 people praying every day for our parish, for those who are sick and for special intentions. If you would like the Prayer Network to pray for you or your loved one, call the parish office to get the prayers started.

Just a reminder to everybody that our church has two **Quiet Rooms**, (one in the southwest corner and one behind the candle stand). Feel free to use these rooms if you need some quiet time and quiet space before or after Mass - OR - if during Mass you need a private space for you and your child. Also, there are diaper changing stations in all the washrooms.

Events in and around the Diocese:

Pilgrimage to Poland: Divine Mercy Centre and Prague, Wroclaw, Krzeszow, Krakow, Lagiewniki, Czestochowa, Salt Mine Wieliczka, Zakopane, Wadowice and more. **May 5-15, 2019** - \$3,200 CAD (taxes & gratuities included). Under the spiritual guidance of Fr. Joseph Machaj. The Pilgrimage is being organized by a Polish travel agency, IvoTrans in Poland. For more information contact Fr. Joseph at (613)962-1092; frjosephmachaj@gmail.com
Deadline for Registration is January 31, 2019.

You are invited to join a **Christian Meditation Group** in the tradition of *John Main* every Tuesday from 10 to 11am, downstairs at the **Diocesan Centre**, 390 Palace Road, Kingston. For further information contact Mary Myers at mritamyers@gmail.com

The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation (CWLF) is accepting applications for its 2019 Leadership Program for Canadian Catholic women. The program will be facilitated by the Providence School of Transformative Leadership and Spirituality at Saint Paul University in Ottawa. For more information about CWLF and the Leadership Program, and to complete an application form, visit www.cwlfcanada.ca.

Belleville Catholic Men's Fellowship (BCMF) is launching a new initiative **THAT MAN IS YOU (TMIY)** Friday mornings at 6am starting **Sept 14th**, St. Michael's Parish Centre. TMIY starts early so you can get to work afterwards; program includes breakfast, a message for men & small sharing groups. Check out the website for That Man is You: www.paradisusdei.org Contact John Kavanaugh to register: 613-968-8486 jkavanaugh2@cogeco.ca

Prayer for World Peace: Sundays from 1-8pm at St. Michael's Parish Hall, the Rosary is recited continuously in different languages dedicated to world peace. For more info, call Matthew at (613)967-1732 or Joseph at (613)771-9636.

QuintCY (Quinte Catholic Youth) ~ Calling all Quinte Catholic Youth to Youth Group in the Cave! (Downstairs at St. Michael's Church) Sundays, monthly, 6:30-8:30. For TEENS. Bring your friends! (First Sunday of the month).



Do you want to deepen your Spirituality and build community with others committed to serving with compassion? The Providence Associates of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul meet monthly at **Queen of the Most Holy Rosary** parish in Belleville. They invite women and men to consider attending one of their meetings to learn more about who they are. For information, email associates@providence.ca or call 613-544-4525 ext. 148.

Separated and/or Divorced? Looking for support through your healing process? You are welcome to attend the **New Life Group a Support Group** for those experiencing separation and divorce. Alternate Tuesday evenings - 390 Palace Road, Kingston. For further info e-mail family@romancatholic.kingston.on.ca or phone the Family Ministry Office 613-548-4461.

Community Events:



On **December 16th at 4:30 PM**, the Choirs of St. Thomas' Anglican Church will be presenting “**Carols by Candlelight**,” a Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols at St. Thomas' Anglican Church in Belleville. The service will be presented in the traditional style of King's College, Cambridge. The congregation is also invited to join in singing some all-time favourites. A reception will follow. Admission by donation.

Christmas Concert & Sing-Along – Sun., Dec. 23, 3 p.m. – Entrance by freewill offering. Featured Performers: David Schewchuck (violin), Elizabeth McDonald (soprano), Robert Greene (tenor), Ben Perrier (trombone), Murray Baer (organ), Julian Nelson (recorder), BSUC Handbell Choir, BSUC, Vocalese and Pentacostals of Quinte Church Choirs, **Quinte Living Centre Concert Band**. *A wonderful and affordable daytime concert for the entire family!* **Bridge Street United Church**, 60 Bridge St, Belleville. Entrance by free-will offering.

St. Theresa Catholic Secondary School: Mr. Lachine's grade 12 Religion class needs your help. First annual **DONATE-THE DRAWERS** campaign runs until **Dec. 17th**. They are collecting underwear donations that will be distributed to local charities, shelters and to shelters during their annual Street Retreat in Toronto. Looking for: new underwear; packaged, with tags, variety of sized, genders & child sizes; cotton underwear; monetary donations to buy items. Please help them support those in need in our community.

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association has launched a new online campaign to promote **Catholic Education in Ontario**. Called **Together in Faith**, the goal of the campaign is to build a vibrant online community of supporters of Catholic education, and share the stories of the exceptional students, teachers, and other members of our Catholic community who are demonstrating excellence throughout our Catholic schools. The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board is pleased to support this online campaign and celebrate the excellence of Catholic education in our communities. More info at www.togetherinfaith.ca.

The Hotel Dieu Hospital Spiritual Health Department is looking for donations of acrylic yarn (Sayelle, Astra, worsted weight). Our volunteer knitters make prayer shawls and afghans, which are then given out where it is felt they are most needed. Donations of yarn can be dropped off at the Spiritual Health office (room 391 on the 3rd floor of the Sydenham wing) Monday to Thursday between 8:30 am -12:30 pm. Contact 613-544-3400 ext. 2231.

The Archdiocese is partnering with **Newman Theological College** in Edmonton to offer online faith formation courses in a Certificate in Catholic Studies. Registration Cost per course is \$85.00. Students may register completely online at <http://www.newman.edu/CCS>. Please see their website for further details and FAQ's. For more information please contact or call Mary-Jo MacKinnon-Simms at the Diocesan centre 613-548-4461 Ext 115.



Young people in grades 4 to 7 who are interested in joining the **Quinte Children's Choir**, since 1986 the training choir of the renowned **Quinte Youth Chorale**, are invited to audition for the 2018 season at St. Thomas Anglican Church, Belleville. For more information or to schedule an audition call Rudolf Heijdens at 613-962-0920 or e-mail rudolf.heijdens@sympatico.ca

NEEDED: PASTORAL CARE VOLUNTEERS

AT KINGSTON GENERAL HOSPITAL

Friar David Collins, OFM Conv., is the Roman Catholic Chaplain at Kingston General Hospital. We know how important it is to have a priest or pastoral care volunteer to visit our sick loved ones and to take the Blessed Sacrament to them while they are in hospital.

Friar David is assisted by volunteers from different parishes that arrive before 9:00 a.m. and begin with a short prayer service and then visit the Catholic patients, offering them Holy Communion or just pray with them, if that is what the patient desires.

Friar David is in need of more volunteers to serve in this wonderful ministry.

Training is provided by Friar David, along with the training that all volunteers undergo who volunteer at the hospital.

If you are interested in volunteering one morning a week, Monday thru Friday, please contact Friar David at 613-546-6900



Did you know . . . Hospice Quinte is focused on improving the quality of life for those with a life threatening or life limiting illness? They will place trained volunteers to provide much needed respite for caregivers, offering peace of mind when they need to attend to tasks outside of home. A volunteer can provide practical assistance with meal preparation & light housekeeping; companionship; offering to read, play cards, share conversation, emotional support for patient & family. The volunteer will visit wherever the patient may be, home, hospital, LTC, or retirement residence. Services are free of charge & available throughout the course of the person's illness, not just at end of life. More info: Jan MacInnes, 613-966-6610 x 223, or janmacinnes@hospice-quinte.ca I am pleased to let you know that on October 1, we are relocating to a space more suitable for our program needs. Our new location is 2-470 Dundas Street East in Belleville, in the Bayview Mall. Our phone number remains the same at 613-966-6610 and our primary email address is also still the same; we.care@hospice-quinte.ca This new location will provide our clients with more convenient parking as well as a space for support groups and meetings.



Parish Contacts

Parish Secretary	Kathleen Henry	968-9950
Parish Council	Marilyn Guay	marilynguay50@gmail.com
Junior Liturgy	Anne Marie Barrett	barretts@cogeco.ca
CWL	Mary McNulty	962-2993
Grand Knight 16308	Roy Goodridge	goodridger@bell.net
Deputy Grand Knight 16308	Paul Lattanzio	st.kocjosephskoc@gmail.com
Squires	Peter Matwyuk	885-7648
Franciscans	Deacon Bill Garland	966-4015
Senior Choir	Debbie Shaw	962-7430
Youth Choir	Lynette Thibeau	967-2483
Ascension Singers	Elizabeth Wallace	968-9950



Invitation to Minister at Mass

Altar Servers - Weekends: Youth after their First Communion can volunteer. Contact: Deacon Bill. Weekdays - Adult volunteers. Contact Father Charles.

Funerals - Adult volunteers. Contact Father Charles.

Eucharistic Ministers - Lay Ministers assist in distributing the Eucharist to the congregation during Masses on weekends and weekdays. Monthly schedules are provided.

Offertory Gifts - Volunteers carry the gifts to the altar. Monthly schedules are followed.

Lectors - Parishioners proclaim the readings. Monthly schedules are provided.

Junior Liturgy - Younger children are welcome to join the weekly celebration with a Gospel message for them. Also, adult volunteers are needed to lead children's liturgy.

Music - Parishioners of all ages are welcome to participate in sharing their musical talents. There are various choirs open to different age groups. Practices are held weekly.

Ushers - Responsible for finding seats for parishioners and taking up the collection at weekend Masses.



Invitation to Serve

Card Parties - Once a month on the third Sunday of the month for fun and social purposes.

Catholic Women's League - monthly meetings on the third Thursday, contact the Parish office.

Knights of Columbus - Second Tuesday of the month. Contact Roy Goodridge.

Hospitality Sunday - After Masses on the last Sunday of the month.

Junior Liturgy - Sundays, 9am Mass during the school season, September to June. Co-ordinator: Anne Marie Barrett.

Rosary - Before Saturday, 5pm Mass in May and October.

Parish Visitation Program - Visits to parishioners. Contact the parish office.

Prayer Network - Every day 90 people pray for you and special intentions. Contact Maureen Hamilton.

St. Vincent de Paul - (613)962-8675.

Ascension Singers - Saturday Mass, once a month. Contact: Elizabeth Wallace.

Senior Choir - Sunday Mass at 10:30am. Practice every Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Director: Debbie Shaw.

Youth Choir - Sunday, 9am Mass once a month. Practice every Monday at 6:30pm during the school year. Director: Lynette Thibeau.

