

readings for the week

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12,
17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29---3:6/Jn 1:29-34

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

YOU ARE INVITED**LASAGNA & PASTA DINNER**

*NEXT SATURDAY, JANUARY 3
AFTER MASS*

LASAGNA & PASTA
SALAD
BREAD & BUTTER
BROWNIES & ICE CREAM

COURTESY OF SACRED HEART'S HAITI MINISTRY

NO CHARGE — ALL ARE WELCOME

FREE-WILL OFFERING TO BENEFIT
SACRED HEART'S HAITI MINISTRY

attention: faith formation classes

The Wednesday Faith Formation classes will not meet on December 31 because of the New Year break. The Wednesday Faith Formation classes will resume on Wednesday, January 7 at the regularly scheduled time.

The Sunday Faith Formation classes will not meet on December 28 and January 4 because of the Christmas and New Year breaks. The Sunday Faith Formation classes will resume on Sunday, January 11 at the regularly scheduled times.

youth group

Youth Group will not meet on December 28th and January 4th because of the Christmas and New Year breaks. We will meet again on January 11th.

It's This Weekend!**The 3½ Stories of Christmas!**

Today, **Sunday, December 28 at 4:00pm** the Christmas Angel himself (performed by actor, Frank Runyeon) will tell us **The 3 ½ Stories of Christmas.**

Children and adults will be delighted as all the parts of the Christmas story are tied together for the first time: from the light of Creation to the manger in Bethlehem, from the origin of Santa Claus, to the secret of the Christmas angel himself!

Admission is a free will offering. Refreshments will be served after the performance.

missed us last weekend?

Keep up-to-date when you are away by reading this bulletin on-line at www.sacredheartchurch.net. All the bulletins from the past four years are available there. It's just what you need to help you to feel connected while you are away from your parish home.

YOU ARE INVITED**AN OPEN HOUSE**

AT FATHER STAN'S RESIDENCE
157 TALLWOOD DRIVE, VERNON

*NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
2 – 4:30PM*

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

pastoral council minutes (proposed)

November 19, 2008 PRESENT: R. Bernabucci, L. Deraleau, S. Dosouto, Fr. Stan, E. Golnik, C. Gagnon, B. Gonsalves, J. Higgins, M. Kurban, D. Maxa, S. Rice, M. Simcoe, M. Staggenborg, D. Valli
ABSENT: J. Crane, C. Duhamel, P. Michaud, M. Powell, Fr. Tony

The meeting was opened with scripture reading, reflection, sharing and prayer.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2008:** Accepted as written.
- 2. YOUTH GROUP:** Jim Higgins stated that more time was needed to work on Youth Group planning. At the present time the Sunday evening attendance is pretty steady (approximately 15 kids). The ninth and tenth graders have more consistent attendance.

The group serves at Cornerstone on the last Saturday of the month and takes care of hospitality after the morning mass on the third Sunday of the month. They have sold 31 pies for Thanksgiving. Twenty-two of them will be made by the youth group/parents and nine will be made by Rella and her daughter Elaine. Several items will be raffled during the weeks preceding Christmas.

- 3. 50th. ANNIVERSARY:** Expenses for the celebrations in the spring have been met. The presentation of Frank Runyon Productions "3 1/2 Days of Christmas" has been reserved with a deposit and the balance will be paid at the time of the production. The date for this presentation is Sunday, December 28. The time will be announced in the bulletin. A free will offering can be made at the presentation to help defray expenses.
- 4. DEACON LARRY'S PLAN:** The letter has been in the bulletin twice. Larry has had no referrals as of this date. He has made some phone calls and has received various responses. The letter will continue to be in the bulletin until the end of the year.
- 5. PASTORAL COUNCIL POSTER:** Pictures of pastoral council members will be placed on a poster in the fellowship room. This will help parishioners to identify people that can they can go to with comments/concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. MEETING MINUTES:** It was decided that the minutes of pastoral council meetings will be corrected at the next council meeting. Correcting them via e-mail was a cumbersome situation.
- 2. WHAT ARE YOU HEARING?** People seem to be settling into the new mass schedule. A new sign with the new mass times is in the works. Changeable parts will allow us to post Holy Day times.
- 3. THANKSGIVING ECUMENICAL SERVICE:** St. Maurice Church, November 25 at 7pm.
- 4. CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR:** Saint Maurice Church, November 22. Crafts will be available in the parish center and in the church basement from 9am to 3pm.
- 5. CHRISTMAS MASSES:** The schedule for **Christmas Masses at Sacred Heart** will be as follows: December 24 at 4pm and 7pm; December 25 at 12 midnight and 10 am.
Masses at Saint Maurice will be: December 24 at 4pm, 6pm and 10pm; December 25 at 10am.
- 6. YOKING:** Please remember that yoking **does not mean** that Sacred Heart and Saint Maurice are merged. There is no plan for them to be merged. They are **2 distinct parishes** with separate identities. We are 2 parishes that share a pastor.
- 7. FINANCE MEETING:** Some members of the pastoral council attended the November finance council meeting. It was a positive

meeting. Suggestions for raising money/increasing finances to help with ordinary/extraordinary expenses were brainstormed.

- 8. COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE:** December 16 at 7pm. in the worship space.
- 9. ADVENT MINI-RETREAT:** December 9, 9am to 2pm. An announcement will be published in the coming bulletins.
- 10. NEXT AGENDA:** The following items will be on the next pastoral council meeting agenda: Frank Runyon response; follow-up to Larry's plan and Day of Reflection; Ministry Fair; Jim/Youth group.
- 11. THERE WILL BE NO PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING IN DECEMBER.**

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, January 21 at 7pm in the library.

Wednesday, February 18 at 7pm in the library.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Valli

Dear Sacred Heart Family,

It is obvious to me that this is a parish where the people show love, care and concern for one another. This is consistent with being a family, the Body of Christ. There are times, for a number of reasons, where we may not see a parishioner at Mass for weeks or months at a time, the yoking of our parish with Saint Maurice and the new Mass schedule has made this more evident. We may lose touch with them. They lose touch with us. They may feel forgotten.

As parishioners we are all responsible for our brothers and sisters. If you haven't seen someone at Mass for a while, I invite you to call them or pay them a visit

- To show them our love
- To see if they are well
- To tell them they are missed
- To show them we care
- To tell them we need them
- To see if we can help

Some people already do this. But if we are going to hold this parish together and make it grow, we all need to do it. However, if you are not comfortable making a call or visit, let me know and I will make the connection.

We are less than a month from Advent, the beginning of a new church year. A good time to tell people that we care. A good time to gather our family back home for Christmas at Sacred Heart.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Larry Deraleau

the work of the church

SATURDAY 5:45pm	THE HOLY FAMILY (FS) Mass: <i>Thomas Mansfield</i> , requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family
SUNDAY 10:45am	THE HOLY FAMILY (FS) Mass: <i>Nancy Cianci</i> , requested by the Sacred Heart Pastoral Council - and - <i>Murial & Drew Iadarola</i> , requested by Pat Iadarola - and - <i>Walter & Regina Kaszycki</i> , requested by Helen Jakielo
MONDAY 9:00am	THOMAS BECKET, BISHOP & MARTYR Liturgy of the Word with Communion
TUESDAY 9:00am	ISLAMIC NEW YEAR : MUHARRAM Mass: <i>Fred Sears</i> , requested by Stella Sears-Tessier

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

WEDNESDAY 5:00pm	(FS) Mass: <i>John Settembrino</i> , requested by Pat, Sue & Grace Settembrino
THURSDAY 10:00am	(FS) Mass: <i>Norman LaPorte</i> , requested by Stella Sears-Tessier
FIRST FRIDAY 9:00am 10:00am-5:00pm 5:00pm	BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS & DOCTORS Mass: <i>For the People of the Parish</i> Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Close of Adoration
SATURDAY 5:45pm	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (FS) Mass: <i>Frank Craca</i> , requested by Pat & Grace Settembrino
SUNDAY 10:45am	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (FS) Mass: <i>Beverly Schneider</i> , requested by Joe & Elaine Brown - and - <i>Connie Glennon</i> , requested by Ceil Ray

meetings

SATURDAY 7:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous* , South Rooms
SUNDAY 11:45am 4:00pm	Fellowship before and after Mass Pancake Breakfast The 3 ½ Days of Christmas
MONDAY	Offices Closed
WEDNESDAY 8:00pm	Offices Closed Alcoholics Anonymous* , South Community Rooms
THURSDAY 8:00pm	Offices Closed Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book* , South Rooms
FRIDAY	Offices Closed
SATURDAY 6:45pm 7:30pm	Haiti Ministry Lasagna & Pasta Dinner Narcotics Anonymous* , South Rooms
SUNDAY 2:00-4:30pm	Fellowship before and after Mass Open House at 157 Tallwood Drive

WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR ST. MAURICE
WWW.STMAURICEKOFCC.ORG

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY / JANUARY 3 – 4, 2009

4:00 p.m Vigil Mass: Franklin Delany, request of Mary Simmons and Richard Hein, request of the Hein family.

8:45 a.m.: Kathleen Leiner, request of Kiessling family

NEXT SUNDAY JANUARY 10 – 11, 2009

4:00 p.m., Vigil Mass: Jerome Chemerka and Doris Grisel

8:45 a.m: John Ciscon and deceased members of KofC Council 6199

GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING – TITHING

Last week's collection was \$

Last year's collection was \$ 4,686.00

Projected amount needed \$ 4,204.00

(for projected obligation, expenses, repairs and tithing the tithe).

The Epiphany of the Lord. *"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."* The question we must ask ourselves is "What are we offering to the Lord? Are we offering the frankincense and myrrh of our time and talents? And what of the gold of our treasures?" It's something for us to think and pray about. We pray we can bring our gifts as openly and lovingly as the Three Kings of the East did. And we need to remember that God will not be outdone in generosity and love.

WINTER WEEK DAY SNOW POLICY

On weekdays when the BOLTON schools are closed due to snow/sleet etc. there will be no morning Masses at St. Maurice's.



Choir rehearsal Tuesday evening at 7:15 P.M.
The more voices we have, the better we sound.
Please join us in song.....



THIS WEEK

SUNDAY – JANUARY 3 – 4, 2009 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / Fr. Tony, celebrant / Ushers Group I /

Meeting of Confirmation Candidates prior to the Generations of Faith Meeting after the 8:45 Mass. Generations of Faith Meeting starts at 10:00 A.M. with light breakfast after 8:45 A.M. Mass.

MONDAY – 1/5, Mass at 9:00 a.m. for a special intention.

TUESDAY – 1/6, Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Henry Agudelo, Choir rehearsal at 7:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY -1/7, Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Walter & Helen Fagan, request of Noel & Cindy

ADORATION RESUMES TODAY 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

THURSDAY - 1/8, Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Donald

Sullivan, request of Mary Ann Murphy

K of C business meeting at the Parish Center, 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY - 1/9, Mass at 9:00 a.m. for a special intention

SATURDAY – 1/10, Confessions 3P.M. – 3:45 P.M.;

NEXT WEEK

JANUARY 10/11 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

4:00 VIGIL MASS

ALTAR SERVERS: Maria Cinea

LECTOR: Lisa Anderson

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Patti Cinea, Peggy Peruccio, Linda Wiley

8:45 A.M. MASS

ALTAR SERVERS: Brendan & Katelyn Donahue, Kirsten Cianci

LECTOR: Thomas Marrison

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Lou Cloutier, Maureen Mozzer, Betty Aitkin

BAPTISM OF Luke Robert Preuss at the 8:45 Mass.



Pancake Breakfast Sunday

A LETTER FROM OUR BISHOP

MESSAGE FOR THE EPIPHANY
OF
THE LORD

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sunday, January 11, 2009 marks for us again the beginning of National Vocation Awareness Week throughout the country. The celebration begins on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

This year I ask all of you to make a personal commitment to assisting me and our Vocation Office in the work of "Building a Culture of Vocation Awareness" throughout our families, schools, parishes and communities. You, the People of God, have been called by Him to make the Church and more particularly, Christ, present in the work-a-day world, and yet there are those in the family of God who are being called specifically to serve God's family, the Church, through the particular vocations of either diocesan priesthood or religious life.

Prayer, awareness, and the willingness to support those we can identify together as being called by God to serve in the vocations of priesthood or religious life is particularly important to the continued spiritual health and well being of the Church, both in our country and more particularly in our diocese.

Presently, we have six men studying for the priesthood in our diocese: Deacon Christopher Schuh who, God willing, may be called to ordination this spring; Mr. Christopher Feeney, Mr. Henry Aguielo, Mr. Jonathan Ficara, Mr. Brian Maxwell, and Mr. Ian Bothur. We also have men who are presently in the application process and many other who all are at varying points in their discernment process. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

Please also keep me, your unworthy servant, in your prayers that God, through His Holy Spirit, may continue to direct me as I seek to guide his holy people.

May Christ, the Eternal High Priest, through the intercession of Saints Patrick and Ann and Saint John Vianney, bless you and open the hearts of those He is calling to share in these particular vocations.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Michael R. Cote
Bishop of Norwich

Why did the Magi set off from afar to go to Bethlehem? The answer has to do with the mystery of the "star" which they saw "in the East" and which they recognized as the star of the "King of the Jews," that is to say, the sign of the birth of the Messiah (Mt. 2:2). So their journey was inspired by a powerful hope, strengthened and guided by the star, which led them toward the King of the Jews, toward the kingship of God himself. The Magi set out because of the deep desire which prompted them to leave everything and begin a journey. It was as though they had always been waiting for that star. It was as if the journey had always been a part of their destiny, and was finally about to begin. This is the mystery of God's call, the mystery of vocation. It is part of the life of every Christian.... When the Magi came to Bethlehem, "going into the house they saw the child with Mary his Mother, and they fell down and worshipped him" (Mt. 2:11) Here at last was the long-awaited moment – their encounter with Jesus. "Going into the house": this house in some sense represents the Church. In order to find the Savior, one has to enter the house, which is the Church..."They fell down and worshiped him...and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Mt. 2: 11-12). Here is the culmination of the whole journey: encounter becomes adoration; it blossoms into an act of faith and love which acknowledges in Jesus, born of Mary, the Son of God made man...The secret of holiness is friendship with Christ and faithful obedience to his will.

(excerpt from writings of Pope Benedict XIV as published in Zenit, ZE05081905)

May God bless each and every one of us
With Peace, Love and Prosperity
In this New Year of our Lord.