



“Among you stands one whom you do not know”

Today's reading: Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3.8-14; Mark 1.1-8

Next week reading: Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8, 19-28

This Week

Saturday, December 9 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11:00 a.m. CWL
5:00 p.m. Mass
7:30 p.m. Ottawa Celtic Choir Concert

Sunday, December 10 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 a.m. Mass for Noah O'Donnell † and his parents req. by Maria Costantini and Darcy, Joey & Lauryn Amadie
11:00 a.m. Mass for Lee Germain † req. by Madison & Cloe
3:00 p.m. Bytown Voices Concert

Monday, December 11

9:00 a.m. Mass
6:00 p.m. OCSB Children's Choir
8:00 p.m. AA – Westboro Step

Tuesday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. K of C Council 485

Wednesday, December 13

9:00 a.m. Mass
10:30 a.m. Mass at Notre Dame School
12:00 p.m. Retirees Cards & Games
7:00 p.m. St. Basil's Choir

Thursday, December 14

9:00 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. Parish Reconciliation Service

Friday, December 15

9:00 a.m. Mass
7:00 p.m. A.A. By the Book

Saturday, December 16 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 a.m. OCSB Children's Choir
5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 17 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass for Helen Volk † req. by Evelyn Botham
5:30 p.m. Parish Turkey Dinner

From the desk of Fr. James

Today's Gospel (Mark 1.1-8)

“John the Baptist: God's Agent”

“Kierkegaard narrates the story of a clown who was on tour with his circus group. The preparation was grand; the circus was about to begin. Soon there broke out a fire in the camp. The clown went out to ask the spectators to take security measures. But the people just laughed. He warned the people again, but nobody took him seriously. Being a clown the people took his words for fun. But in reality the fire spread more quickly than expected with disastrous consequences.”

We never know from where the warning can come, from where the assistance can arrive. God chooses surprising AGENTS to help us prepare.

In this Second Sunday of Advent, John the Baptist is the agent sent to us. He reminds us that Advent is about preparing the way for the Lord. It is about cleaning and clearing some space, making room for Jesus and welcoming Him to our hearts and lives in an ever deeper way.

So let us not laugh God's agents away, but in humility, listen to them and examine our lives.

God Bless,
Fr. James Raphael

CHRISTMAS - NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Parish Reconciliation Service – Thursday, December 14

7:00 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday, December 23/24 – 4th Sunday of Advent

5:00 p.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. NO MASS

Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24th

4:30 p.m. Mass (Christmas Pageant)
7:30 p.m. Mass
10:00 p.m. Mass

Christmas Day – Monday, December 25th

10:00 a.m. Mass

Sat/Sunday, December 30/31 -Solemnity of the Holy Family

5:00 p.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. NO MASS

New Year's Eve – Sunday, December 31st

5:00 p.m. Mass

New Year's Day- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Jan.1st

10:00 a.m. Mass

Christmas and New Year's (Solemnity of Mary) are Holy Days of Obligation.



Parish News



RECONCILIATION SERVICE

St. Basil Advent Reconciliation Service will be held on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

2018 ST. BASIL PARISH CALENDARS

The calendars are available in the Narthex. Cost: \$3/each or 2/\$5.00. (They also make great Christmas gifts).

The new **Sunday Missals** for 2017/18 are still available for purchase for: \$5.00 each.

Please put your money for calendar(s) and Sunday Missal book in the wooden box provided on the table.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



There will be roles for children and youth of all ages. Please email Susan Fekete at: susan_ottawa@yahoo.com if your child/youth would like to participate. Please indicate their name(s) and age(s) or if you would like to help out with this endeavor.

The last practice will be on Sunday, **Dec. 17th** from 10:00-10:30 in the church hall.

"Whatsoever you do..."

"A constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment". (Laudato Si', 222)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Our annual turkey dinner will be held on **Sunday December 17th**.

Tickets are \$20 each and will be available for purchase after all masses on the weekends of December 2nd and December 9th.

Reception will be held at 5:30 pm and dinner at 6 pm. For more information please contact Mary Ross 613 797 9460 or Judy Young 613-728-9026.

ST. BASIL CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAM 🎄🎄🎄

The key dates to remember are as follows:

Dec. 14th: The day that we are preparing the Christmas parcels in the church hall for delivery.

Dec. 16th/17th: Parcels are ready after each Mass for delivery to recipients by parishioners. Delivery to be completed by Dec. 21st.

As has been the practice for several years, name tags with age/gender information will be on the Christmas tree at the church entrance. Please take a tag or two and purchase a gift for the child. Return the wrapped gift WITH the gift tag attached by the deadline date indicated.

Volunteers needed on **Dec. 14th** after the 9 a.m. Mass in church hall, to assist with getting the Food & Christmas gift package ready for delivery.

Parcel will be ready for delivery by parishioners after all Masses on Dec. 16th & 17th. Contact Michael and Michelle Gleeson at [613-729-5299](tel:613-729-5299) or mandmgleeson@rogers.com

CWL



The Catholic Women's League of St. Basil's would like to thank all the parishioners who contributed to the success of our annual bake sale last weekend. With your help it was very successful, and the funds raised will be used for charitable purposes in the parish and in the wider community.

ROHINGYA REFUGEES APPEAL

On the recommendation of the Mission and Social Justice Committee, St. Basil's has contributed \$2,000 to the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace to support its partner, Caritas Bangladesh, in providing food aid for the Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. Our donation is being matched by the Government of Canada for a total of \$4,000. Many thanks to our parishioners for their generous support of St. Basil's charitable works.

TRUSTEES NEEDED FOR 11:00 MASS

We are looking for volunteers for the role of trustee for the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. You would be required only once a month to prepare the altar for Mass and duties after Mass. Everything is clearly outlined on a checklist and training will be provided. Contact: Marg Imbleau after Mass, or 613-715-9645 or email: marg.imbleau@rogers.com

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Bulletin of December 17th deadline **Thursday December 7th noon**
 Bulletin of December 24th deadline **Friday December 8th noon**
 Bulletin of December 31st deadline **Friday December 15th noon**

POPE'S MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF PEACE 2018

The Holy See has released the Holy Father's Message for the 51st World Day of Peace, which will be celebrated on 1 January 2018. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is *"Migrants and refugees: men and women in search of peace"*. In his message, the Holy Father recalls "that it is not enough to open our hearts to the suffering of others. Much more remains to be done before our brothers and sisters can once again live peacefully in a safe home. Welcoming others requires concrete commitment, a network of assistance and goodwill, vigilant and sympathetic attention, the responsible management of new and complex situations that at times compound numerous existing problems, to say nothing of resources, which are always limited."



✓ *"Don't leave the water running while you brush your teeth!"*

IN YOUR GENEROSITY, PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION OR BEQUEST TO ST. BASIL PARISH