2nd Sunday of Advent - December 6, 2015

Advent is a season of patient waiting, preparation and action. John the Baptist spent time in the desert in preparation for his mission. When called upon to proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, he was ready to carry out the will of God. Are we ready to do this as well?

Dear Parishioners: what a blessed start to Advent! (Allow me to grumble about the lack of snow, when no one is listening.) I pray that the Holy Year of Mercy will continue to unfold blessings for all of us. This month’s Living with Christ has a great article about the Year and the tradition of the pilgrims’ Holy Door (at Notre Dame in Quebec City): please do what you can to educate yourself about these classic Catholic themes (e.g., pilgrimage, indulgences, the Immaculate Conception of Mary, etc.) during this chosen time. Our little mini-Mission will hopefully provide a framework for the year ahead, as we are renewed by the Corporal & Spiritual Acts of Mercy. Our diocese is holding another very popular All-Day Confessions this Wednesday; we’ll have a group of confessors here next Sunday the 13th to celebrate First Reconciliation with our Candidates & Families: please use these opportunities to start your Year of Mercy by experiencing God’s healing love yourself. Our world needs to see Christians waiting in joyful hope for the coming of their Master; may everything we do in this blessed season reveal the deepest longing of our hearts to the whole world, and ourselves! We soon hope to get our Refugee Family assigned to us: many donations & pledges of support continue to flow in each day! Anytime we are actively reaching out in Christ-like service, we will find new energy & purpose in life: as our Parish Pastoral Council continues in crafting new objectives for parish life, I am certain that the Spirit of God will fill every deficiency we suffer and lower every mountain of resistance we raise, that God’s Kingdom-highway might be open for all God’s children! Come, Lord Jesus! Have a blessed week.

Fr. Matt
Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family suffering from illness, Joyce Waller, Roxanne Rau, Louise Merner, Reese Lenssen, Steven Wild-Denys, Darl Rau, Tanya Ashenden, Joyce Cole, Barb Regier, Debra Overholt, Veronica Bedard, Audrey Smith, Barb Consitt, and Steve Brock.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following couples Eoin Ginty & Grace Hartman and Brent Ducharme & Brittany Meidinger who were married at St. Peter’s this weekend.

Advent Parish Mission

Please join us as we begin The Year of Mercy with our Advent Parish Mission. We will begin our Parish Mission on Sunday, December 6 with Sung Evening Prayer & Mission Presentation at St. Boniface Church. On Monday and Tuesday we will continue with Evening Prayer & Advent Mission at 7 pm at St. Boniface. We will have Special Daily Mass & Luncheon on Monday and Tuesday at St. Peter’s Church at noon. We will conclude our Advent Parish Mission with All Day Confessions on Wednesday, December 9 at St. Boniface Church.

All Day Confessions

On Wednesday, December 9 we will have the opportunity to experience God’s mercy and compassion and reconciling love. In our parishes the schedule for the Day of Confessions is as follows: St. Boniface Church 8 - 11 am; 1 - 5 pm; 7:30 - 9 pm.

1st Reconciliation

Our Grade 2 children will be making their 1st Reconciliation Sunday, December 13 at 2 pm at St. Boniface Church. Please keep them in your prayers.

St. Boniface CWL

St. Boniface CWL will be collecting for Blessing Christmas Food Hampers. They are in need of canned apple juice, fancy crackers, candies, chocolates, Christmas cookies (store bought), or personal hygiene products, soap, shampoo, toothpaste. We will collect until December 11.

Please have all your Advent Memorial Donations to the Office by the End of this Week!

Once again this year we are offering a way for you to remember your loved one this Christmas! We will be accepting donations for both parishes for flowers throughout the Christmas Season to be donated in memory of your loved one. If you wish to make a cash donation in memory of someone please place your donation in an envelope marked “Christmas Flowers” along with the name of the deceased person and your name or the name you wish to use as offered by. Please have all donations into the church office by Friday, December 11, 2015. The names of the deceased loved ones will be published in our Christmas bulletin.

Offertory Envelopes for 2016

If you are not currently receiving offertory envelopes and would like a set for 2016 or would like to make your offertory donations through automatic monthly bank withdrawal please contact the church office at 519-236-4191.

Annual Live Nativity

The Live Nativity will be held at the Zurich Pavilion Park on Sunday, December 13 at 7 pm (it is a story of the birth of Christ along with live animals). Followed by Christmas carols, bonfire and hot chocolate. Everyone welcome! Volunteers are still needed please call Pastor Nadine at 519-236-4697.

A Message from your Finance Committee

Our Parishes appreciate and depend on your generosity especially at Christmas time for the financial needs for the mission of the Church. Last year both St. Peter’s and St. Boniface ended up in a deficit. Currently St. Peter’s has a small surplus of $2,097 and St. Boniface is in a deficit of $8,044. We are going to need a little more help than normal to balance our budget by years end. Hopefully with your help we can meet our operating needs at both parishes for this year. Thank-you!

The Finance Committee

Finances as of November 30, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>St. Peter’s</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Surplus (deficit)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>St. Boniface</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating:</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus (deficit)</td>
<td>$50,883</td>
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</table>
Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

Events at a glance.....

- Sung Evening Prayer & Advent Mission - Sunday, December 6 at 7 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Special Daily Mass & Luncheon - Monday, December 7 at noon at St. Peter’s Church
- Refugee Meeting - Monday, December 7 at 5:30 pm in St. Boniface Church Hall
- Evening Prayer & Advent Mission - Monday, December 7 at 7:00 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Special Daily Mass & Luncheon - Tuesday, December 8 at noon at St. Peter’s Church
- Evening Prayer & Advent Mission - Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 pm at St. Boniface Church

Save the Date!!!
David Johnston’s Priestly Ordination - Sat., April 23, 2016

Show your love for your parish by remembering to include your parish in your will.

D. REGIER CONSTRUCTION
David Regier, Owner
RR#2
Zurich, ON N0M 2T0
Ph: 519-236-7120
Fax: 519-236-4960
Residential
Commercial
Agricultural

Bayview Golf Club Inc.
R.R. #2, Zurich, Ontario N0M 2T0
Phone: 519-236-4030
Fax: 519-236-4684
Email: bayviewgolf@hay.net
Website: www.bayviewgolfclub.ca

Bayfield Garage
519-565-2538
Don McIlwain, Owner
Hwy 21, Bayfield, ON N0M 1G0
Brakes - Front End - Suspension - Mufflers – Front Wheel Drive

Pat Bedard Construction
519-236-4720
General Carpentry
Renovations - Additions – Home
Decks - Siding - Roofing

SMITH-PEAT
ROOFING & SHEET METAL LTD.
ROBERT WATSON
President
152 Thames Rd.
Exeter, Ontario
Bus: 519-235-2802
Fax: 519-235-1532

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St. Boniface and St. Peter Parishes

Weekend Masses
Sat  5:00 pm  St. Peter  (mid April to mid October)
     St. Boniface  (mid October to mid April)
Sun  9:00 am  St. Boniface
       11:00 am  St. Peter

Pastoral Staff:
Pastor:  Fr. Matthew George
Secretary:  Lori LaPorte
Office Hours:  Tuesday - Thursday
             8:30 am – 4:30 pm
             Friday - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

MISSION STATEMENT
And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."  Matthew 28:18-20 (NRSV, Catholic edition)

Parish Organizations
Parish Advisory Council: A combined council meets every month to discuss and plan pastoral initiatives and practical functioning of the parish. If you have suggestions please consider contacting one of the members.
Youth Ministry: Youth from grades 5 to 8 gather regularly for fun, faith and friendship. See the website for information.
Children’s Liturgy of the Word: Every Sunday at both the 9:00 am and 11:00 am masses.
Catholic Cemeteries: We have the privilege of having cemeteries associated with St Peter and St. Boniface Churches. Information can be found on the website.
Other Organizations: Catholic Women’s Leagues, Knights of Columbus and others.

Website
Our website is regularly updated. There is a monthly calendar of events, important information and great pictures.
www.bluewater.dionet.ca

Contact Information
Mail:  22 Mary St., PO Box 81
       Zurich Ontario N0M 2T0
Phone:  519 236-4191
E-mail:  bluewater@dol.ca

Parish Pastoral Council
Cynthia Forler
Lynette Graham
Phil LaPorte
Kathryn Regier
Janet Soudant
Marg Suplat

Celebrating Our Faith
Baptism
Please contact the office as you await the birth of your child or while you are awaiting adoption.
Reconciliation
God sent His Son so that we might be saved! Experience God’s healing through the sacrament of reconciliation after the 12:00 pm Mass and Devotions on Tuesdays at St. Peter’s or before Mass on Saturday mornings from 8:00 - 8:45 am at St. Boniface or by appointment.
Marriages
The sacrament of marriage is a beautiful expression of God’s love for the world! Minimum six months notice is required during which time the engaged couple must attend a Marriage Preparation Course.
Sacrament of the Sick
If you know of a person who is in hospital, or who is homebound because of illness and is desiring the sacrament of the sick, contact the office to make arrangements.
Bluewater Nursing Home
A weekly mass is offered on Thursdays at 3:30 pm in the chapel. All are welcome.
Devotions
St. Joseph and Saint André - Tuesday after the 12:00 pm mass - St. Peter’s.
Our Mother of Perpetual Help - Wednesday after the 7:00 pm mass - St. Boniface.
Every first Friday at St. Boniface Church there is exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm—come be transformed by the healing power of Jesus.