

# The Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 2016



*Christ is Born*  
Let the Heavens be Glad,  
and Let the Earth Rejoice  
-Psalm 96:11

## Last Week's Collection

Sunday Offering - \$ 2135.00  
'Host a Family..' \$ 5.00  
Building fund - \$ 30.00  
Christmas Decorations - \$ 20.00  
Bless you for your continued  
generous support.

*thankful  
&  
blessed*

## Upcoming Events

Host a Family Fund Raising Programs:

Family Mass & Luncheon - January

Trivia Night - February

Friends, please join and support  
that we may help  
two Syrian families.

## Mass Schedule & Intentions from December 24, 2016 to January 1, 2017

<b>Christmas Eve Saturday</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>	Family Mass For all our intentions Carol Singing
	<b>12:00AM</b>	Midnight Mass For us and for all our dearly deceased ones
<b>Christmas Sunday Nativity of the Lord</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones
	<b>11:00AM</b>	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones
Monday		No Mass
Tuesday	<b>6:30PM</b>	† Domenico Locco by Mr. & Mrs. Morrone
Wednesday	<b>12:30PM</b>	† Memorial Mass for Mary Rokosh
Thursday	<b>9:00AM</b>	† Maria Agostino by Mr. & Mrs. Frank
Friday	<b>9:00AM</b>	† Aladino Magazzeni by Fernando DiMarcantonio
<b>New Years Eve Saturday</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>	Mass of Thanksgiving for 2016
<b>New Years Sunday</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>	Mass for World Peace
	<b>11:00AM</b>	Praying for All Blessings for 2017



Thank you for  
supporting  
'Host a Family'

**2017**  
*Happy New Year*

## NEW YEAR'S EVE Celebration

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR 2016 AND WELCOME 2017 WITH  
EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION, ADORATION, DINNER & FELLOWSHIP

"So if anyone is in Christ,  
there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away;  
see, everything has become new!"  
2 Corinthians 5:17

MAIN CELEBRANT:  
ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS  
LAWRENCE SILDANHA

**DECEMBER 31, 2016 AT 8:00PM  
TO JANUARY 1, 2017 AT 1:00AM**

Registration  
**\$15**  
(Ages 4 & above)  
Dinner at 8pm

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.GETHSEMANEMINISTRIES.COM](http://WWW.GETHSEMANEMINISTRIES.COM) OR CALL 905-386-1111

[www.gethsemaneministries.com](http://www.gethsemaneministries.com)  
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Gethsemane Centre  
84008 Wellandport Road  
Wellandport ON L0R 2J0

**GETHSEMANE MINISTRIES**  
A LAY CATHOLIC MOVEMENT SINCE 1997



## Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us

**POPE FRANCIS**  
**December 21, 2016**



Dear Brothers and Sisters: Our  
catechesis on Christian hope

leads us in these last days of Advent to  
contemplate the mystery of Christmas as the  
coming of hope into our world. By fulfilling his  
promises and sending his Son, born of the Virgin  
Mary, God established his Kingdom on this earth  
and directed our hope to eternal life. This hope is  
realistic and reliable; it is a hope that redeems  
and saves, for Christ, by coming in the flesh, has  
opened the way for us to ascend to the Father. In  
these days, as we prepare the Christmas crib in  
our homes and churches, let us be attentive to the  
message of hope it embodies. In the little town of  
Bethlehem we see revealed God's love for each  
of us, however small or lowly. In Mary, who  
trusted in God's word, we see the Mother of  
Hope. Joseph, too, is the man of hope, who gave  
Jesus his name, which means "God saves". The  
peace proclaimed by the angels was heard with  
joy by the shepherds. May we too open our  
hearts to the Good News of the Saviour's birth  
and renew our hope in the Kingdom of justice,  
peace and holiness that he came to bring.

## Thank You—Christmas Concert

Thank you everybody for supporting this  
Host a Family fund raising program. Special  
thanks to Mr. Tom Marshall for organizing  
and MC'ing this event. We are indebted to  
all the students, Sacred Heart Choir, Music  
team from Gethsemane Ministry, and Tom  
Marshall for their wonderful performance.  
We also are grateful to the Syrian families  
for showcasing their talents. Lot of thanks to  
all the volunteers for running this program.  
Finally, a big ThanQ to Mr. Defazio and all  
the staff at Notre Dame College School.

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**



Yours sincerely in Christ,  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.  
Bishop of St. Catharines

*My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a  
great light...For a child has been born for us, a  
son given to us."*

*When we look to the Christmas stable what do we  
see? Our God came to us not in magnificence and  
power; he came to us in poverty and simplicity.  
He was born in a barn with straw and animals, with  
a manger for his crib. This image shows us that our  
God accepted so little in order to give us so much.  
What an incredible gift of love!*

*Sadly, what we see in our world today is  
something completely opposite to what Jesus  
has modeled for us. People seem to demand much  
and give little. This is especially true regarding  
our relationship with God. The darkness of this  
world is often the result of selfishness and a  
rejection of God's love.*

*Christmas gives us the opportunity to focus on God  
and others, especially those most in need. Gifts of  
love are offered, knowing that it is far better to give  
than to receive. We savor the simplicity of family  
and friendship as we gather to celebrate God's  
gift to us. This feast has the power to transform us  
as we open our hearts to Jesus who accepted so  
little in order to give us so much.*

*I wish to take this opportunity to wish you and your  
loved ones a truly blessed Christmas. May our  
darkness be dispelled by the light of Christ and our  
hearts filled with the Good News of Christmas: 'The  
people who walked in darkness have seen a great  
light...For a child has been born for us, a son  
given to us."*