

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 31st, 2017  
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God January 1st, 2018 Year B



When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." (Lk 2:22-40)



So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. (Lk 2:16-21)

Last Week's Collection

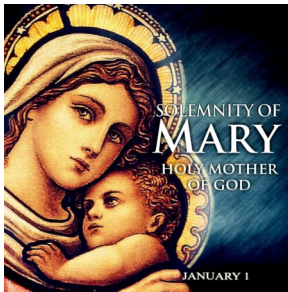
Sunday Offering Dec 23/24- \$ 2075.75  
Christmas Offerings Dec 25: \$ 2607.25  
Repair & Renovations fund - \$ 115.00  
'Host a Family..' \$ 87.00  
Bless you for your continued generous support.

Mass Schedule & Intentions from December 30, 2017 to January 7, 2018

Saturday	5:00PM	† Giuseppina Gallo by Ralph DeFazio
Sunday	10:00AM	Feast of the <b>Holy Family</b> of Jesus, Mary & Joseph. We pray for all the families.
	5.00PM	Mass of Thanksgiving - for 2017
New Years Day Monday	10:00AM	<b>The Solemnity of Mary</b> , The Holy Mother of God! A day of obligation, too. Also celebrated as <b>World Day of Peace!</b>
Tuesday	9:00AM	No Mass
Wednesday	9:00AM	† Gerard Begin by Helen Charette
Thursday	9:00AM	† Antonio DiCesare by Luigi & Gina Pace
Friday	9:00AM	† Franco Sdao by Teresa Costanzo
Saturday	5:00PM	† Giuseppina & Antonio Gallo by Family Mike Fazari by Wife Nancy & Son Angelo Bernardo Marchio by Angelo Fazari
Sunday	9:00AM	† Maria Eisenring—DeChellis by Lorenzo & Anna-Maria Marchionda & family Dawn Ann MacDonald by Bill & Sana Szakaly Oreste Mazzei by Ida Berardi & family
	11:00AM	For us and for all our dearly deceased ones



Thank you for supporting 'Host a Family Program'



Mary Mother of God Pray for Us.

Upcoming Events - 2018

Mass with Anointing of the sick - Feb.10&11  
Honouring Married Couples - Feb.17&18

Host a Family Fund Raising Programs:

Friends, please join and support that we may help our 2nd Syrian family.

MARY'S MOTHERHOOD WITH REGARD TO THE CHURCH

Paragraph 6. Mary - Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church

963 Since the Virgin Mary's role in the mystery of Christ and the Spirit has been treated, it is fitting now to consider her place in the mystery of the Church. "The Virgin Mary . . . is acknowledged and honored as being truly the Mother of God and of the redeemer. . . . She is 'clearly the mother of the members of Christ' . . . since she has by her charity joined in bringing about the birth of believers in the Church, who are members of its head."502 "Mary, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church."503

. . . she is our Mother in the order of grace

967 By her complete adherence to the Father's will, to his Son's redemptive work, and to every prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity. Thus she is a "preeminent and . . . wholly unique member of the Church"; indeed, she is the "exemplary realization" (typus)510 of the Church.

Read more on Mary and her Role as Mother of God Catechism of the Catholic Church

[http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc\\_css/archive/catechism/p123a9p6.htm](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p123a9p6.htm)



Saint Andrew the Apostle, pray for us



Pope Francis - General Audience  
December 27, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In this holy season of Christmas, we celebrate the birthday of Jesus, who is God's gift to us, our Saviour and the Light of the world. Without Jesus, there is no Christmas! Our traditional celebrations express our joy that God's light shines in a world darkened by sin and injustice. Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, we too are called to seek and find Jesus, who comes to us in hiddenness and poverty. Sadly, despite the coming of the light many prefer to live in darkness. Yet those who receive the gift of Jesus come to know God's saving grace and the promise of a new life, based no longer on selfishness but on self-giving love. Our tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is ultimately a sign of our gratitude for the gift of Jesus and our desire to share him with others. Christmas reminds us that God's plan intersects with our history, and opens the way to a better future, a new world. This Christmas, may Jesus be born anew in each of us, so that by our lives, he may be a gift of salvation for all, especially the poor and those of our brothers and sisters who are most in need.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Bishop Bergie will preside at the liturgy for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday, January 21, 2018, 3:00 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, 3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines.

The Second Vatican Council's declaration on Christian Unity expresses the Church's heart on this issue, "The restoration of unity among all Christians is one of the principal concerns of the Second Vatican Council. Christ the Lord founded one Church and one Church only. However, many Christian communions present themselves to men as the true inheritors of Jesus Christ; all indeed profess to be followers of the Lord but differ in mind and go their different ways, as if Christ Himself were divided.) Such division openly contradicts the will of Christ, scandalizes the world, and damages the holy cause of preaching the Gospel to every creature." (Unitatis Redintegration; Introduction)

The theme for the 2018 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes to us from the Caribbean region: "Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power" (Exodus 15:6).

The resources have been prepared by the churches of the Caribbean by an ecumenical team of women and men under the leadership of His Grace Kenneth Richards, Catholic Archbishop of Kingston et. al.



My dear friends, I wish you and all and your dear ones a grace-filled New Year 2018!

In this Christmas season we thank the heavenly Father for the greatest gift He gave to us in Christ Jesus. Let us praise the Lord with much gratitude for this great gift. May our hearts overflow with generosity and love especially to the marginalized and vulnerable in our society.

I take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers and staff of our parish for their zeal and dedication: Catholic Women's League, St.Vincent de Paul Society, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers, Choir and Organists, money Counting team, Ushers, VBS team, Sacristan, Youth & family Ministry teams, Host a Family volunteers, Decoration team, Maintenance team, Meatball making team, Golf Fundraiser team and the Secretary and Accountant. Special thanks to each and every volunteer and their family for doing different ministries in our parish. Special thanks to your support to the 'Host a Family Program'. I wish all the best for the KABA family who are with us now, from Syria.

I also thank all the parishioners, well-wishers and CWL for their generous offerings to the church; and for the greetings and gifts you gave to me personally.

Again thank you, one and all for all your prayers and support to our parish. Please keep me in your prayers and I assure you of my prayers.

Let us continue to pray and work together in the NEW YEAR.

God bless you.  
Fr. Paul Vellakunnath, Pastor

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY.

January 2018 topics are 'Welcoming the New Year' on January 8th; and 'Who Am I Now', on January 22nd. Kathryn McMorrow is the presenter for both sessions. Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls. Pre-registration is not required. For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email [separatedanddivorced@saintedc.com](mailto:separatedanddivorced@saintedc.com)