

Our Parish Bulletin

Dec. 30, 31 2017

Mass Times:

NO New Year's Eve Mass

Sun. Dec. 31 9 am St. B. - Fr. Art
9 am OLL – Comm, Serv.
11 am St. M. – Fr. Art

Mon. Jan. 01 **New Year's Day**
11:00 am St. M. – Fr. Art

Tue. Jan. 02 No Mass

Wed. Jan. 03 10 am Betel – Fr. Art

Thur. Jan. 04 No Mass.

Fri. Jan. 05 No Mass

Sat. Jan. 06 5:30 pm St. M. – Fr. Art

Sun. Jan. 07 9:00 am St. B. – Comm.
Service

9:00 am OLL – Fr. Art

11:00 am St. M. – Fr. Art

New to one of our Parishes? If so,

welcome! If you would like to become a member of our parish, please fill out a Parish Registration form found at the entrance of the Church and put it into the collection basket.

Need Prayers: Request prayers through our Living Links Prayer Chain by writing your requests in the Footprints Book at the entrances of our Churches or calling Germaine Gougeon 204-642-9943. Please ensure the person is aware they are being prayed for

► *Not of our Faith?, please join in our Communion Procession to receive a blessing. Cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like to receive a blessing.*

► **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** available after weekday Masses at 10:30 am, before or after 5:30 pm. Mass on Saturdays OR call Fr. Art for an appointment.

If you would like to be added to any of the church help lists e.g. readers-greeters cleaners-counters, etc. contacts are: [phone prefix - 204]

St. Benedict's: Joan Materuk - 642-8751

St. Michael's: Angela Zalevich - 642-5315

Our Lady of the Lake: Liz Anderson-389-5251

St. Michael's is in need of readers and greeters - please volunteer your services.. It would be greatly appreciated.

Also to join one of the church organizations

CWL - Mary Desveaux 642-7733

Camp Morton Ladies Aid Rose Marie Hess 642-8678

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

St. Benedict's Cleaning Schedule - 2017

Jan. 01-06 L. Nelson/M. Stevens

Jan. 08-13 E. Malak/J. Vouriot

Jan. 15-20 J. Materuk/B. Franz

Jan. 22-27 P. Barnesky/F. Petrowski

Jan. 29-Feb. 3 J. Banera/M.Pytel

Feb. 05-10 R. Hess/P.Tremblay

NOTE TO ST. MICHAEL'S PARISHIONERS...Re: 2018 Offering Envelope Boxes..
Please look for your NAME not your old envelope numbers as they have changed.

Deacon's Corner: Two Brothers:

Two brothers worked together on a family farm. One was unmarried and the other married with children. They always shared equally in what they grew, both produce and profit. But one day the single brother said to himself, "You know, it's not right that we should share the produce equally, and the profit, too. After all, I'm all alone, just by myself, and my needs are simple. But there is my poor brother with a wife and all those children." So each night, in the middle of the night he took a sack of grain from his bin, crept over the field between their houses, and dumped it into his brother's bin. Meanwhile, unknown to him, his brother had a similar thought. He said to himself, "It is not right that we should share the produce and profit equally. After all, I am married, and I have my wife to look after me and my children to care for me for the years to come. But my brother has no one, and no one to take care of him in the years to come." So he, too, in the middle of the night took a sack of grain from his bin and sneaked across the field to deposit it in his brother's bin. Each night for several years the brothers would sneak grain into the other's bin, and both were puzzled for all those years why their own supply did not dwindle. Well, one night, it just so happened that they both set out for the other's house at the same time. In the dark they bumped into each other carrying their sacks. Each was startled, but then it slowly dawned on them what was happening. They dropped their sack and embraced each other. Suddenly, the dark sky lit up and a voice from heaven spoke, "Here is the place where I shall build my Temple, for where brothers and sisters meet in love, there my Presence shall dwell."

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This weekend we celebrate the start of a New Year, a new beginning and the feast of The Holy Family. Our story today is one of generosity and care for others as family and friends. It is comforting to have good friends and family around one as supports and as resources in times of trouble. Our privilege, as sisters and brothers in the Lord, is to serve those who are less fortunate than us and to be that source of support and of resources for them. At this time of year we find ourselves making New Year Resolutions, which often go by the wayside when they involve exercise or dieting. However, we also know that some people in our area "diet" not by choice but by necessity. Choosing between rent and heat and foregoing food is a regular choice for some of our neighbours. Loving our neighbour as ourselves is the challenge Jesus puts before us and challenges us to feed the hungry. The Evergreen Basic Needs table at the back of our churches is often bare and people continue to be hungry as a result. Let it be our New Year's Resolution that we keep this table filled each week from the bounty the Lord provides us with.

If you look for me at Christmas, you won't need a special star. I'm no longer just in Bethlehem, I'm right there where you are.

You may not be aware of me, amid the celebrations. You'll have to look beyond the stores and all the decorations.

But if you take a moment from your list of things to do. And listen to your heart, you'll find, I'm waiting there for you.

You're the one I want to be with, you're the reason that I came. And you'll find me in the stillness, as I'm whispering your name.....Love, Jesus.

May the Lord bless us all with a holy and faith filled New Year.

.....**Deacon Philip.**