

## MASS TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

(incl. Children's Liturgy)

Tues @ 7:00 pm (Rectory)

Wed @ 7:00 pm

Thursday & Friday

@ 9:00 am

Adoration Fridays 9:30-11:30

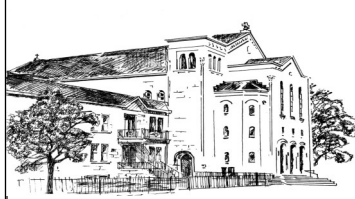
## St. Willibrord Roman Catholic Church

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**December 20, 2015**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### Announced Masses

*Saturday December 19th*  
**SIMBANG GABI**

*Sunday December 20th*  
**In Thanksgiving**  
By the Burcena Family  
**SIMBANG GABI**  
**For Favour Received**  
By Shirley Reith

*Monday December 21st*  
**SIMBANG GABI**

*Tuesday December 22nd*  
**SIMBANG GABI**

*Wednesday December 23rd*  
**SIMBANG GABI**

*Thursday December 24th*  
† **Deceased Members of the**  
**Doyle Family**  
By Adeline Doyle  
**In Thanksgiving**  
By A. Quicho & M. Pasal  
**In Thanksgiving**  
† **Juana Bolofer & Sotero**  
**Rosales** By the Bolofer Family  
**Anniversary Blessings for Janet**  
**and Bernard Burcena**

*Friday December 25th*  
**CHRISTMAS MASS**

*Saturday December 26th*  
† **Emmett & Gary Cavanagh**  
By the Family

*Sunday December 27th*  
† **Leona Panganiban**  
By Maureen Redrino  
**In Thanksgiving**  
By the Burcena Family

**Meditation:** Do you recognize the indwelling presence of the Lord Jesus in your life? Blessed are you if you see and recognize the Lord with the "eyes of faith". The word "blessed" [*makarios* in Greek] literally means "happiness" or "beatitude". It describes a kind of joy which is serene and untouchable, self-contained, and independent from chance and changing circumstances of life.

### ***God gives us supernatural joy with hope in his promises***

There is a certain paradox for those "blessed" by the Lord. Mary was given the "blessedness" of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which pierced her heart as her Son died upon the cross. Anselm, a great teacher and Archbishop of Canterbury (1033-1109), spoke these words in a homily: "Without God's Son nothing could exist; without Mary's son, nothing could be redeemed." To be chosen by God is an awesome privilege and responsibility. Mary received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. Her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fueled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises.

Jesus promised his disciples that "no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away. Do you know the joy of a life given over to God in faith and trust?

### ***They were filled with the Holy Spirit***

What is the significance of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth before the birth of Jesus? When Elizabeth greeted Mary and recognized the Messiah in Mary's womb they were filled with the Holy Spirit and with a joyful anticipation of the fulfillment of God's promise to give a Savior. What a marvelous wonder for God to fill not only Elizabeth's heart with his Holy Spirit but the child in her womb as well. John the Baptist, even before the birth of the Messiah, pointed to his coming and leaped for joy in the womb of his mother as the Holy Spirit revealed to him the presence of the King to be born.

### ***The Lord wants to fill each of us with his Holy Spirit***

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us to enable us to know and experience the indwelling presence of God and the power of his kingdom. The Holy Spirit is the way in which God reigns within each of us. Do you live in the joy and knowledge of God's indwelling presence with you through his Holy Spirit?  
- rc.net

**CONFESSIONS** will be heard 15 minutes before each Mass ~ weekdays, as well as on weekends.

**BAPTISM** Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office at 514-769-9678. A meeting with Parents and Godparents is a pre-requisite. Godparents must be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church.

**MARRIAGE** Please contact the Parish Office or Father Gregory well in advance.

ST. WILLIBRORD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pastor

Fr. Gregory Nunez

Office Staff

Yvonne Pelling (mat. leave)

Administration

Terrel Joseph

Adult Faith Formation

Julian Paparella

Administration and PCL



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve—Thursday, December 24th

*Carols at 7pm and Mass at 7:30*

Christmas Day—Friday, December 25th *at 10:30*

New Year's Eve—Thursday, December 31st *at 7pm*

New Year's Day—Friday, January 1st *at 10:30*

*Please join us and invite your family and friends. Together we celebrate Christmas with Christ Jesus our Lord!*

We pray for the healing and peace of all our sick, Flo Davies, Adeline Doyle, Sterling Smith, Joe Brisindi, Dan Boyer, Yolanda Gannancial, Rita Riley and Marie-Paul. God is with you always.

SIMBANG GABI MASSES continue until Christmas Eve

Thank you to all those who have been attending our *Simbang Gabi* Novena in preparation for Christmas! Masses continue each night at **7pm** (including Sunday) concluding with Christmas Eve Mass on the 24th at 7:30pm. Thank you to all the committees who have lead our liturgies and all those who brought food!

Christmas Basket Volunteering!

We have over 300 families registered to receive Christmas baskets of food and children's gifts this year, and our delivery day is this **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD!!!** Please consider volunteering in the Parish Hall to serve our brothers and sisters in need. Let us remember Jesus' words: "Whatever you did to the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me" (Mt. 25:40). **Volunteer times: Sunday 1-6pm, Monday and Tuesday 6-9pm!**

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you to Angele Lafleche and all her volunteers for their hard work preparing for the Christmas Baskets!!!

Thank you to all those who have donated food and funds for our Christmas Baskets!

Thank you to Carole Wepruk and Anastasia Wargachuk for all their hard work with the 2015 Raffle!!!

Thank you to all those who bought and sold Raffle tickets!

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS in the words of POPE FRANCIS

"In these last days of Advent we prepare ourselves spiritually to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Christmas is a feast of joyful hope, for God has become one with us in the person of his Son, true God and true man. He showed his love for us by becoming part of our world, with all its conflicts, its suffering and its poverty. *Jesus is truly Emmanuel: God among us.* This is the great "gift" which he brings: a divine love which heals and transforms our hearts, overcoming all uncertainty and pessimism. Our joyful contemplation of the mystery of Christmas should make us realize that, as God has become one of us, we too are called to become like God: *humble, close to others, especially the poor, and ever attentive to their needs.* This Christmas, let us ask Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, to help us see in our neighbour the face of Jesus, God made man. *May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem,* bringing the joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women." (General Audience, Dec. 18, 2013)

Raffle Draw Saturday, December 19th!!!

Our 2015 Raffle is to be drawn Saturday, December 19th at 9pm! At the time of publication we are still awaiting the results and the grand total of funds raised! Thank you to Carole and Stasi and to all those who bought and sold tickets! May God bless you for your generosity!

Sunday Missals for 2015-2016

Sunday Missals for 2015-2016 are on sale for \$6.00! Available at the back of the church, together with our religious items table!