



New Year's Letter

St. Patrick's Parish

December 2017 - Liturgical Year B

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From the Pastor



Dear Parishioners & Friends:

On behalf of Deacon Terry and myself - and our entire parish staff - may I extend to you and your family our prayerful best wishes for a holy and blessed celebration of Our Saviour's birth.

If you are a visitor to our parish during this Christmastide - welcome! And, if you are a returning parishioner - welcome home!

We pray that you will find that the peace and joy of Christ the Saviour is very much present in our people and in the sacred liturgy we celebrate in this church.

Please take this Newsletter home and read it at your leisure. In it you will find an outline of some of the many events and celebrations that will be taking place in our parish over the next several months. We hope that you will join us for as many of these celebrations as possible.

Christmas brings us the welcome news that our God is loving and merciful and desires to be with us - so much so, that the Lord of heaven and earth became flesh and was born on this day - for us.

May this sacred season be an occasion for each one of us to share the divine love of our newborn Saviour with family, with friends and with everyone we meet.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Fr. William W. Foote
Pastor



Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday - Thursday:
8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Friday: 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
(Closed daily from 12 - 1 pm)

Parish Staff:

- ◆ **Pastor:** Fr. William W. Foote
- ◆ **Deacon:** The Rev. Mr. Terry Osmar
- ◆ **Secretary:** Lora Henry
- ◆ **Custodian:** Jean Czuczman
- ◆ **Music Director:** Stephanie Burgoyne
- ◆ **Ministry of Compassion:** Sue Elliott

Our Parish Liturgies

Masses on the Lord's Day

Saturday at 5 pm - Sung Mass
Sunday

8 am - Said Mass at the Altar of Our Lady
9 am and 11 am - Sung Mass
(Children's Liturgy at 11 am mass during the school year)

Weekday Masses

Tuesday and Thursday at 5 pm
Wednesday and Friday at 8 am

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday at 8:30 am
Concludes with Benediction at 9:30 am

Confessions: Wednesday mornings following the 8 am mass until finished and Saturday from 3:45 - 4:30 pm or by appointment

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Saturday Supper & Movie Nights

Join us for dinner and a movie, usually on the second Saturday of the month from October - May.

We gather in the Parish Hall for a simple supper following the 5 o'clock mass. Join us for mass or arrive shortly after (if you're planning to attend mass on Sunday morning). There is no cost for the supper, but donations to defray expenses are certainly most welcome.

The movie begins at 6:45 pm with an intermission break part way through that includes popcorn and beverages. On most occasions we're on the way



home by 9 pm.

Upcoming Movies:

Saturday, January 13th:
"Ladies in Lavendar"

Saturday, February 17th:
"The Finest Hours"

Saturday, March 10th:
"Captains Courageous"

Saturday, April 14th:
"The Hundred Foot Journey"

Saturday, May 12th:
"Casablanca"



Special Celebrations in 2018

Our Feast of the Dedication:

St. Patrick's Church was dedicated on January 9th, 1881. This year, we commemorate the 136th anniversary of its dedication at all masses on the weekend of Saturday, January 13th and Sunday January 14th. Incense will be used at 5 pm and 11 am.

Anointing Weekend:

The Sacrament of the Sick will be offered to parishioners on the weekend of Saturday, January 27 at 5 pm and on Sunday, January 28 at 9 & 11 am. Those suffering chronic illness or pain are welcome to receive this anointing.

Our Patronal Festival:

On Saturday, March 17th, we'll observe the Feast of St. Patrick and celebrate a Solemn Mass at 10 am. Incense will be used. Mass will be followed by a St. Paddy's Day reception in the parish hall. Please plan now to join us for this special celebration in the life of our parish.

Feast of Corpus Christi:

The Feast of Corpus Christi is commonly used as an opportunity for public Eucharistic processions, which serves as a sign of common faith and adoration. At the 11 am Mass on June 3rd, we invite everyone to participate in an outdoor procession followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Lent and Holy Week at St. Patrick's Parish

Ash Wednesday, February 14

Mass with the Imposition of Ashes will be offered at 8 am and again at 7 pm. The Liturgy of the Word and Imposition of Ashes will also be celebrated in each of our parish schools.

Lenten Penance Celebration

On Tuesday, March 6th at 7 pm we will gather in the church to celebrate this sacrament of God's mercy and forgiveness. Several priests will be on hand to hear confessions in several different languages in a timely manner.

Daytime Confessions during Lent

For those unable to attend our evening celebration and wish to celebrate this sacrament during daylight hours, confessions will be heard in the church on Tuesday, March 27th from 4 - 4:45 pm and on Wednesday, March 28th from 10 am until 12 noon and on Holy Saturday, March 31st from 11 am - 12 noon.

Stations of the Cross

Through prayer, music and scripture, the Way of the Cross allows us to join Our Lord on his journey to Calvary - each Friday evening during Lent at 7 pm in the Church.

Palm (Passion) Sunday

We begin Holy Week on Palm Sunday, March 25th. Masses will be celebrated at the usual times. At each celebration palms will be blessed and distributed.

The Mass of Chrism

The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton on Monday, March 26th at 7 pm. During this mass the priests of the diocese renew their commitment to serve the people of God and our bishop blesses the holy oils to be used in our parish during the coming year. All are welcome.

Our Lenten Study Series - In Four Sessions

THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON - A Story of Homecoming

By Fr. Henri J.M. Nouwen

Fr. Nouwen's insightful reflections centre on the different characters of Rembrandt's famous painting, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, while also paying close attention to the biblical parable from which Rembrandt drew his inspiration. The book is divided, thematically, into three parts or movements: The Younger Son, The Elder Son and The Father.

Fr. Nouwen says that after seeing the famous painting of the Prodigal Son, he recognized that his own spiritual journey was, in fact, marked by "three phases" represented by each of the three family members.

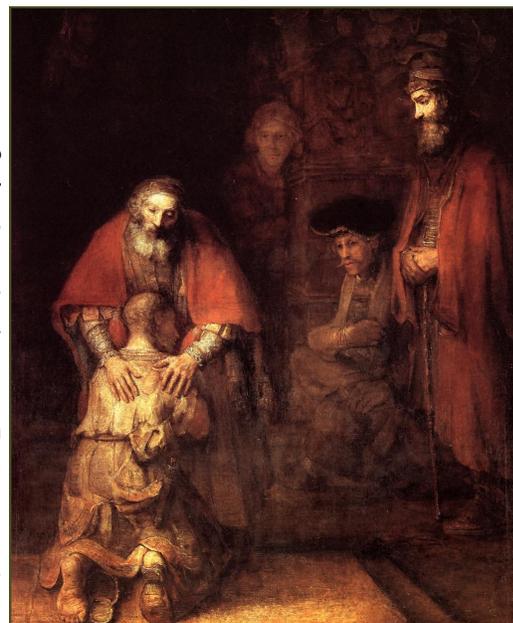
We are, as the readers, also invited to identify ourselves with each of these characters in our meditation and thoughts; for we are, in turn, the prodigal son, the elder brother and finally, the father.

Inserted into the back of the book is a postcard-sized reproduction of the painting for the reader's use in meditation and reflection. (The original, which hangs in the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, is more than life size.)

We'll begin our study and reflection with a description of the picture - a larger copy of which will be present at each session - and from which we will endeavor to follow Fr. Nouwen's description - and then, to interpret for ourselves this well-known and well-loved parable of Jesus, so fitting a subject for contemplation during the Lenten season.

Please join us on 4 consecutive Thursday evenings in Lent - February 22 and March 1, 8 & 15 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Books have been ordered and will be provided. Participants in the four week study series are invited, but in no way are obligated, to assist in defraying the expense of \$20 per book.

Kindly notify the office prior to Friday, February 2nd if you are planning to attend so that a book may be ordered and set aside for you.



Rembrandt van Rijn
The Return of the Prodigal Son, c. 1661-1669

The Easter Triduum - 2018



"Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance. Gradually, on either side of this source, the year is transfigured by the liturgy" (CCC 1168).

Please plan to join us for our annual celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Christ by which we are redeemed.

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Holy Thursday, March 29th at 8 pm

Watch before the Blessed Sacrament, Night Prayer at 10 pm

The Passion of the Lord

Good Friday, March 30th - The Solemn Liturgy

11 am and 3 pm

Holy Saturday Confessions: 11 am - 12 noon

Blessing of Easter Food

Holy Saturday, March 31st at 1 pm in the Church

Holy Saturday, March 31st

Easter Vigil at 8 pm

Easter Sunday - The Day of Resurrection - April 1st

Parish Masses at 8 am, 9 am and 11 am



Our Lady of Walsingham

Marian Celebration in May

Our annual celebration in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary takes place at our Lady altar on Thursday, May 10th at 5 pm. Mass will be followed by a simple supper in the Parish Hall. Beginning at 6:30 pm we'll have a one hour special presentation on the veneration of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk, England, together with a description of the shrine known as "England's Nazareth". Please join us.

*Hail Mary, full of grace.
The Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

St. Patrick's School Ministry

Confirmation Dates:

Friday, January 12 at 7 pm
St. Margaret School

Friday, January 19 at 7 pm
St. Teresa of Calcutta School

Friday, January 26 at 7 pm
Christ the King & St. Peter Schools

First Reconciliation:

First Confession will take place on the following dates at St. Patrick's Parish:

Saturday, April 21 at 11 am
Christ the King & St. Teresa of Calcutta Schools

Saturday, April 21 at 1:00 pm
St. Margaret & St. Peter Schools

First Communion:

Saturday, April 28 at 2 pm
St. Teresa of Calcutta School

Saturday, May 12 at 2 pm
St. Margaret School

Saturday, May 26 at 2 pm
St. Peter School

Saturday, June 2 at 2 pm
Christ the King School

Parent Information Meetings:

First Communion:
Tuesday, February 27th at 7 pm in St. Patrick's Church.

First Reconciliation:
Tuesday, April 10th at 7 pm in St. Patrick's Church.

Students need not attend these meetings.

Sacramental Information

The Baptism of Children

Baptism is normally celebrated on the last Sunday of the month (except during Lent) at 12:15 pm. An additional celebration may be added on the second Sunday, when needed. Dates for baptism may be set only after an initial meeting with one of the pastoral staff. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Adults who wish to become Catholics are invited to contact the parish office. A programme of formation will be offered prior to their Baptism. Those already baptized in other Christian traditions may be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. Regular participation in Sunday mass is a part of any preparation.

Sacrament of Marriage

The Diocese of Hamilton requires a minimum of six months' notice before the desired date of marriage. A marriage preparation course must be completed. Please contact the parish office.

Anointing of the Sick

Please notify the parish office regarding parishioners who are sick at home or in the hospital. The Sacrament of the Sick will also be celebrated on Saturday, January 27 at 5 pm and on Sunday, January 28 at 9 and 11 am.

Holy Orders

Please speak with Fr. Foote or Deacon Terry Osmar.

