ST. DENIS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

230 Lake Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 5Z3 Phone: 905-685-5911 † Fax: 289-434-5269 www.stdenischurch.ca

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Denis Parish is to create a warm and welcoming, Christ-centred, Catholic community that answers the call to know, love, and serve God by spreading the Gospel through words and actions.

PASTORAL TEAM

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Stephen Joseph Bruzzese pastor@stdenischurch.ca

PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

Rev. Fr. Aji Varghese ajivargheseoic@gmail.com

SECRETARY & BOOKKEEPER

Mrs. Nancy Chmay secretary@stdenischurch.ca

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed everyday for lunch: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. *Please feel free to drop anything off outside of business hours through the mail slot.*

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST. DENIS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

Principal: Mrs. Victoria Wegelin 175 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 1S1 905-682-4156

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

Principal: Mrs. Branka Jones 615 Geneva Street, St. Catharines, ON L2N 2J3 905-934-3112

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY

Principal: Mr. Tony Della Ventura 541 Lake Street, St. Catharines, ON L2N 4H7 905-646-2002

SACRAMENTAL SERVICES

MASSES OF THE LORD'S DAY Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday to Friday: 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

(IN CHURCH) Tuesday to Friday: 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Saturday: 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Sunday: 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

(IN MEETING ROOM) Monday to Friday: 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

BAPTISM

Every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. *Please call the parish office to schedule an appointment with the priest!*

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

(IN MEETING ROOM) Sunday to Saturday: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

> MONTHLY HOLY HOUR (1st Thursday & 1st Friday) 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

DEVOTION TO MARY (DAILY RECITATION OF THE ROSARY) 7:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Would you like to become a parishioner? Please call or email the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity towards our parish!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, January 31 – Private Mass St. John Bosco, Priest Sp. Int. Catherine Jones

Tuesday, February 1 – 8:00 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, February 2 – 8:00 a.m. The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) Sp. Int. In Thanksgiving

Thursday, February 3 – 8:00 a.m. St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, February 4 – 8:00 a.m. Sp. Int. Souls in Need of Prayers

MASSES OF THE LORD'S DAY 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 5 – 4:00 p.m. Mary Greene | Joseph & Marie Keber Sp. Int. Arthur Bielak

Sunday, February 6 – 8:00 a.m. Christopher Corso | Ben Opdein

Sunday, February 6 – 10:00 a.m. Pro Populo – For the People

Sunday, February 6 – 12:00 p.m. Patricia Fortier



COLLECTION FOR JANUARY 23

Offertory	\$ 4,240.00
Building Fund	\$ 245.00
Total Collection	\$ 4,485.00

Thank you for your faithful stewardship!

~ Please remember the parish in your will ~

THE PASTOR'S PORTICO

Last week before Mass I was asked by a parishioner, "*Father, why is it so cold in the church?*" Although I could have come up with several witty replies, I simply gave the honest answer, "*Because even keeping the church at* $64^{\circ}F(17.5^{\circ}C)$ *the heating bill last month (December to January) was* \$2,075.78." The person who asked was shocked and so I thought it would be best to share that with everyone, in case you might be wondering the same thing. While it is a small sacrifice, we can offer it to the Lord for the salvation of souls and sanctification of the Church.

On the topic of finances, as promised on the feast of the Epiphany, you will find enclosed the comparative income statement for 2020 & 2021. Due to our large payments towards our outstanding debt, it appears that we had a growth in expenses by \$122,041.91 and an overall deficit of \$17,481.94.00. These should not be concerning because of the substantiation above. What is more important is that the parish increased its revenue by \$91,017.68 and we were able to build the St. Joseph Sanctuary, replace 10 new windows and patio door in the rectory, and install a new high-definition security camera system throughout the parish complex. If you have any questions about the income statement, please do not hesitate to ask; this is just one more way St. Denis can be transparent with you.

This week we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. February 2nd also marks the World Day for Consecrated Life. At Mass we have the blessing of candles and hear the words of Simeon's Canticle, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). This is recited each night around the world by those who pray the Divine Office. Perhaps a good pre-Lenten practice would be to say some of the Divine Office and what better place to start then Night Prayer (Compline). Want to add it to your phone for free? Search for iBreviary on your app store!

Fr. Stephen Joseph Bruzzese

PASCHAL CANDLE

As you may remember from last year, the Paschal Candle, purchased new each year is approximately \$500.00. Last year we started a new at St. Denis, in which one family sponsored the cost of the Paschal Candle, and as such, they will receive the remainder of the Paschal Candle this Easter. I would sincerely like to thank Rick & Carol Loeffen, who sponsored the Paschal Candle last year in honour of The Loeffen Family. This year the Paschal Candle will depict the Jesus as the Prince of Peace.

The reason we purchase a new Paschal Candle every year is given to us in the words of the *Exsultet* (*The Easter Proclamation*):

On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar, which glowing fire ignites for God's honor, a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light, for it is fed by melting wax, drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious.

O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human.

Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honor of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven. May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Paschal Candle for 2022-2023, please let Fr. Stephen know by email.

PARISH OFFICE REOPENING

The parish office will reopen to in-person visits starting on Tuesday, February 1st. A reminder that the office hours are listed on the front of the bulletin

QUEEN OF CLERGY CENACLE

This is a group of laity and clergy dedicated to praying for an increase in vocations to priesthood and for all priests (and bishops). To join this virtual prayer group, please email <u>cenacle@stdenischurch.ca</u> to be added to the group list. The next meeting is **Monday**, **January 31**st at 7:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

Our next available single Mass intention is: Tuesday, February 25th. Our next available multiple Mass intention is: Saturday, February 12th. *Reminder:* you are welcome to book upto 1 year in advance, please get your dates soon, as to not be disappointed.

CHAPEL VEILS

There are chapel veils available for purchase at the parish office. The cost is \$25.00 each. All proceeds will support the new Marian grotto.

TAX RECEIPTS

Good News! Tax receipts will be available starting on weekend of February 5th & 6th after Mass. After this, they will be available for pick up at the parish office (depending on restrictions). Please make sure that your information is up-to-date, if any of your information has recently changed.

CALLING ALL CHORISTERS

Cassandra, our accompanist, and cantor is looking for volunteer singers to form a choir at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Singers would be expected to attend a weekly rehearsal (day and time TBD), practice the hymns at home, and follow all diocesan COVID-19 protocols. If you are interested, email Cassandra at music@stdenischurch.ca for more information. I look forward to hearing some new voices!

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Fr. Stephen is still looking for some young men who feel called to serve at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (Saturday 4:00 p.m. & Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.). If you are interested, let me know by email or after Mass.

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

