

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!

EUCCHARISTIC 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, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, February 7 – Private Mass

Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, February 8 – 8:00 a.m.

St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

Klara Schapoks

Wednesday, February 9 – 8:00 a.m.

Sp. Int. Tessie Aoanan

Thursday, February 10 – 8:00 a.m.

St. Scholastica, Virgin

Michael Myers

Friday, February 11 – 8:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes (World Day of the Sick)

Holy Souls in Purgatory

MASSES OF THE LORD'S DAY

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, February 12 – 4:00 p.m.

Mary Greene | Elsa Holomego

Sp. Int. Arthur Bielak

Sunday, February 13 – 8:00 a.m.

Sp. Int. Robert Lessard

Sp. Int. Arthur Bielak | Sp. Int. Catherine Jones

Sunday, February 13 – 10:00 a.m.

Pro Populo – For the People

Sunday, February 13 – 12:00 p.m.

Patricia Fortier



COLLECTION FOR JANUARY 30

Offertory	\$ 2,567.00
Building Fund	\$ 120.00
Total Collection	\$ 2,687.00

Thank you for your faithful stewardship!

~ Please remember the parish in your will ~

THE PASTOR'S PORTICO

It is hard to believe that it has now been over one year since I have arrived at St. Denis. I honestly have no idea where the time went; I guess the old saying is true, "*Time flies when you are having fun!*" One year ago, I wrote in the bulletin as the then Administrator, "*My continued prayer is that one day I will have the great privilege to serve St. Denis as your pastor.*" I can certainly say that God answered that prayer, and I am looking forward to many more years ahead!

Last week we celebrated a beautiful candle lit Mass for the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas). If you were unable to attend but would like some blessed candles or would like to have your candles blessed, please let me know. It is always good to have a few blessed candles on hand. Jesus says, "*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.*" Let us always be a people who walk in the light of Christ.

Soon we will begin the Season of Lent...again, where has the time gone? Nevertheless, I would like us as a parish to be spiritually prepared to make a more intense Lenten Season this year. Typically, as Catholics, we don't start thinking about Lent until about Shrove Tuesday, as we are mowing down on a mound of pancakes, covered in delicious syrup. Let's change that for 2022. Let's start thinking about the three Lenten disciplines now: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. If you want to go even further, you could participate in pre-Lent, which was traditionally known as *Septuagesima* (70 days before Easter) and lasts until Ash Wednesday. As Jesus said in the Gospel of Mark, in order to cast out some demons, it requires prayer and fasting. What are the demons we need to cast out of our lives?

I would like to thank an anonymous donor who came forward last week to sponsor the Paschal Candle for 2022-2023. This year the Paschal Candle will depict the Jesus as the Prince of Peace. Fortunately, this year, the Paschal Candle will not need to be exposed to the elements and while it was beautiful to celebrate in the St. Joseph's Sanctuary, I look forward to being able to celebrate inside the church this year!

Fr. Stephen Joseph Bruzzese

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 cenacle@stdenischurch.ca to be added to the group list. The next meeting is **Monday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Our next available single Mass intention is: Wednesday, March 9th. Our next available multiple Mass intention is: Saturday, February 19th. **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

Tax receipts will be available after Mass this weekend. After this weekend, they will be available for pick up at the parish office. 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!

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

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

*From a sermon by Saint Sophronius for
The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)*

In honor of the divine mystery that we celebrate today, let us all hasten to meet Christ. Everyone should be eager to join the procession and to carry a light.

Our lighted candles are a sign of the divine splendor of the one who comes to expel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brilliance of his eternal light. Our candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ.

The Mother of God, the most pure Virgin, carried the true light in her arms and brought him to those who lay in darkness. We too should carry a light for all to see and reflect the radiance of the true light as we hasten to meet him.

The light has come and has shone upon a world enveloped in shadows; the Dayspring from on high has visited us and given light to those who lived in darkness. This, then, is our feast, and we join in procession with lighted candles to reveal the light that has shone upon us and the glory that is yet to come to us through him. So let us hasten all together to meet our God.

The true light has come, *the light that enlightens every man who is born into this world*. Let all of us, my brethren, be enlightened and made radiant by this light. Let all of us share in its splendor, and be so filled with it that no one remains in the darkness. Let us be shining ourselves as we go together to meet and to receive with the aged Simeon the light whose brilliance is eternal. Rejoicing with Simeon, let us sing a hymn of thanksgiving to God, the Father of the light, who sent the true light to dispel the darkness and to give us all a share in his splendor.

Through Simeon's eyes we too have seen the salvation of God which he prepared for all the nations and revealed as the glory of the new Israel, which is ourselves. As Simeon was released from the bonds of this life when he had seen Christ, so we too were at once freed from our old state of sinfulness.

By faith we too embraced Christ, the salvation of God the Father, as he came to us from Bethlehem. Gentiles before, we have now become the people of God. Our eyes have seen God incarnate, and because we have seen him present among us and have mentally received him into our arms, we are called the new Israel. Never shall we forget this presence; every year we keep a feast in his honor.



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