



Please pray for our brothers and sisters who are ill. For our parishioners, their families and caregivers, including: Theresa Rock, Ann Leduc, Avery Belanger, Andrea DeMeo, Allen Benoit, Richard Cathcart, Neil McCarthy, Sheila Gasnick, Emily Miller, Andrea Redway, Lorraine Leduc, Patrick and Alice Cornwall.

MASS INTENTIONS

Epiphany – January 7th

9:30AM – For Kenneth Kennedy
Requested by Alma Kennedy

11:30AM – For the Intentions of Our Parish

January 14th

9:30AM – For Jack and Helen Hutton
Requested by their extended family

11:30AM – For the Intentions of Our Parish

Readings Next Sunday

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3.3b-10,19

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 40

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6.13c-15a,17-20

Gospel: John 1.35-42



FINANCIAL REPORT December 24th Collection

14/40 Envelope Donations \$	465.00
34 Pre-Authorized Debit \$	922.50
Loose Collection - \$	48.65
Vigil Lights	6.00
Total - \$	1442.15
Giving Goal \$	2000.00
Variance \$	- 557.85
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION	\$2671.00

TAX RECEIPTS: Preparation of tax receipts will begin in January with a projected issue date of the last Sunday in January. If your address has changed in 2016 please advise the office if you have not already done so.

PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT FORMS: The New Year is a great time to make the switch to the Pre-Authorized Debit method of contributing to your faith community. Forms and information brochures are available on the welcome table at the back of the church. Current donors can also change their donation amount at any time by completing an adjustment form that is also available on the welcome table.

FINANCIAL RECAP FOR 2017: Our Parish has faced increasing financial challenges over the past few years. From January 2013 to August 2016 we were without a permanent Pastor for most of those months. The rectory was also vacant for much of that time. As a result an artificial financial situation was created due to unusually low salary costs and decreased utility charges for the rectory.

In August 2016 we returned to our normal expected costs with the arrival of a part-time Pastor who resides in the rectory. It became quickly apparent that the shortfall in our weekly offerings was an issue.

Fr. Pierre fully reported the situation to the Parish and asked parishioners to prayerfully consider increasing their weekly giving goal. The response was positive and has resulted in a 10% increase in donations to the General Fund and 30% increase to the Building Fund.

We have seen an increase in donations using the Pre-Authorized Debit program with six more households choosing this method of contribution. This is especially helpful as it provides the Parish with a stable and consistent income each month.

Our situation has improved but there is still work to be done. Our church was built in 1914. An aging building will always need maintenance. In July 2017 we had an electrical fire due to old wiring that was not to current code. We incurred considerable expense to replace the wiring and electrical panels.

As we go into the New Year, Finance Council will provide a full and accurate report to the Parish once the accounts for the year are finalized. A sincere thank you to all who have stepped up and increased their support this year. It has helped us to continue working towards building a stable and viable community.



HOSPITALITY SUNDAY TODAY!

Please join us after Mass today in Mary Beattie Hall for our monthly hospitality Sunday. The coffee pot is always on and everyone enjoys warm fellowship.

PREPARING THE CHRISTMAS ENVIRONMENT:

The lights and banners went up. The tree was trimmed. The Nativity set was arranged. The poinsettias were placed and the altar was dressed. Many thanks to those who made it happen: Dianne, Ellis, Mike, Sacha, Matthew, Leo, Mede, Theresa and Loretta.

WISDOM IN THE CITY: Talks and discussion to expand mind, heart and spirit for youth and young adults (15+) by professors from Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College, in partnership with St George's Parish. \$60 for all 4 evenings (Mondays Jan 29, Feb 26, Mar 26, Apr 23, 7-9:15 pm), which will also include dessert and prayer. Registration by January 19 to wisdom@saintgeorges.ca.

PASTORAL VISITS DURING CHRISTMAS: During the holidays a group of volunteers visited members of our community that are sick or shut in. This year our volunteers were Shona Timmins, Ann Carmichael, Theresa Nieminen and Mede McAtee. They brought poinsettias, cookies and a card from the Parish to each person they visited. The holidays can be a lonely time of year so it is especially important to keep in touch with the people in our faith community that need our prayers and friendship.

MEETING DATES FOR JANUARY:

PARISH COUNCIL – TUESDAY, JAN 16TH

FINANCE COUNCIL – TUESDAY, JAN 23RD

