

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



### **DAILY MASS INTENTIONS**

#### **Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. † Peter Hilbert

#### **Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 p.m. † Larry Papiez

#### **Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. † Fr. Tom Cresswell

#### **Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. † Msgr. Raymond Montague

#### **Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. † John Kelly and  
Special Intention – Irene  
Uranowski

#### **Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. † Manuel & Judite Leite

5:00 p.m. † Agnese Tedesco

-and- † Msgr. Jack Cartwright

#### **Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. † John Shwajch  
-and- Special Intention for  
Irene Uranowski

10:30 a.m. † Don Love

-and- † Karl Seul

12 noon † Lucy Bull

-and- † Fr. Paul Curley

6:30 p.m. † Thomas Dunder and  
Parishioners of St. Joseph,  
Living & Deceased

### **FR. RICO'S GOD TALK – Bible Study**

This is a weekly Bible Study that meets on Tuesday's beginning with Mass at 6:30 p.m. Our next meeting is Tues., January 7<sup>th</sup>. The topic is Isaiah 37-44. ALL are welcome.

### **THANKS**

Special thanks to all who came out to our parish Movie afternoon and our parish family skate! It was a fun time for all.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Both classes will begin this Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> for public, home and private schooled children. Please register your child through the parish office. The First Communion Class runs from 4 p.m.-5 p.m. and the Confirmation Class runs from 5:15 p.m.-7 p.m.



### **NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION**

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Every day in the Niagara Region, one in five students go to school hungry. Some of them wait in line before class to have breakfast. They lack necessities such as warm clothing, shoes, personal hygiene products, money for school uniforms and equipment for students with special needs. Poverty is often associated with third world countries that Niagara area Catholics regularly hear about and support, perhaps little realizing that poverty or special needs exist right here at home. The Niagara foundation for Catholic Education is a registered charitable foundation that within its means, attempts to lend a helping hand. Receipts are issued for tax purposes. Envelopes for this charity can be found in the church foyer. Please make your cheque payable to *Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education* or you can pay online at [www.nfce.org](http://www.nfce.org) **LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR OWN BACK YARD!**

#### **A CHRISTMAS THANK YOU!**



We would like to thank the Sobkowich family who generously donated the poinsettias to help beautify the church this Christmas season. Thank you also to our dedicated team of decorators, musicians, choirs and ministry members for helping to lift up the Parish of St. Joseph at all the Christmas liturgies. We would also like to thank parishioners who left cards and gifts for us to enjoy. May the Lord continue to bless you throughout the year!

*Fr. Rico, Pam, Tracy and Jody*

**SUNDAY JANUARY 5, 2020**

## **MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASS**

Please pray for the couples who will be attending our Marriage Preparation Class here at St. Joseph's at the end of January (24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>). As they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage, may God deepen their love for Him and for each other.

## **RETRouvaille**

**You Can Help Your Marriage** – Are you frustrated or angry at each other or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples. For confidential information about, or to register for an upcoming weekend at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, please call **905-664-5212** or email: [retrouvaille.hamilton@cogeco.ca](mailto:retrouvaille.hamilton@cogeco.ca) or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

## **CATHOLIC ALPHA IS COMING!**

**What Is Alpha?** Alpha is a series of interactive sessions exploring the Christian faith. Alpha runs all around the world in cafés, churches, universities, homes, bars—you name it. No two Alphas look the same, but they have three key things in common: food, a talk, and good conversation. This is a very effective tool in evangelization.

### **Food**

Offering a meal or snack is an essential part of Alpha; eating food together is great for building community. Most sessions start with food and a chance get to know each other.

### **Talk**

After the meal, a short talk is given—either live or played as a video. The talks, which explore the big issues around faith, are designed to engage and inspire conversation and draw people to come to know God.

### **Small Group Discussion**

The small groups provide the opportunity to share thoughts and ideas on the topic, and to build trust and friendship. The role of the host (leader) is to facilitate discussion, inviting guests to share openly and honestly, without any criticism or judgment. The groups often develop into small Christian communities within the parish.

**Stay tuned for more information on upcoming sessions to bring the message of Jesus to all!**

## **LET US PRAY – as a Parish Family**

There are many groups in the world who need our prayers this week. As a parish family, and your own local family, I encourage all parishioners to pray for these groups of people. Perhaps we can all spend some time this week lifting them to God. The power of prayer is real – let us all enter into this care for all who need God:

- The people of Australia as they battle the devastating fires – that God will protect them, the first responders and for rain

- Those Christians being persecuted throughout the world, especially in Nigeria, that peace will reign and freedom of religion will continue

- The Jewish people, in NYC and abroad who continue to receive harassment or threat because of their faith, that God will protect them

- For the Diocese of Buffalo and all dioceses throughout the world who need healing and peace

- For those who are homeless, hungry and impacted by the cold weather – that they will receive the basic human needs they require for life

- For the Confirmation students of our parish, who will celebrate their Inscription Masses – that they will truly enter into the Sacrament to which they are soon to receive

- For those mourning the loss of a loved one, that God will bring them His comfort and peace

- For an increase in Vocations to the priesthood, religious life and the diaconate, especially in the Diocese of St. Catharines

- For all students, teachers, support staff and all who care for them as they return to school that God will bless them and help them to learn

- In thanksgiving for the gift of life, that 2020 will be a year of God's grace for all people, that we all become holy

- For those who may be struggling with addiction, depression, mental illness or anxiety of any kind

- For those who are challenged to pay their bills and meet the needs of daily life, for themselves and for their families

- For those who are looking for a husband or wife, that God will guide them to their life partner

- For you – that God will continue to bless YOU!

- Your own private intentions

You all remain in my daily prayers and

I humbly rely on yours.

Fr. Rico