

Christmas Newsletter 2010

St. Pius X Parish

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Dear Parishioners:

I greet you with joy as we celebrate the glorious Feast of Christ's Birth and prepare to begin a new year. In this message, I wish to bring you up to date on happenings in our parish since the summer.

It has been a very busy fall. All of our parish groups resumed their activities in September. We have completed several education programs, celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation with 82 young people, had many celebrations with our parish schools, tended to the sick and homebound in our community, and celebrated several Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Our youth ministry was extremely busy and did an outstanding job on their Halloween For Hunger campaign. They collected over 8 tonnes of food for the St. Vincent de Paul Society, who directly assist many needy families in our community. Our young people also participated in a weekend retreat in Rockwood in October. In addition, a fine youth choir is now in place at the 7:00 pm Sunday Mass. We are very grateful for the excellent leadership that Christina Morrison provides for our young people.

Our Catholic Women's League sponsored another successful Bazaar and have contributed generously to the parish to assist us with the purchase of some new vestments and with our upcoming Lenten spiritual enrichment program.

We have completed our commitment to raise \$15,000 for the Kisumu Water Project in Kenya and raised over \$5,000 for the Orphan Outreach Program in Nyalienga Parish in Homa Bay, Kenya. Sister Mara Frundt, SSND, who visited us in October, will be advising us shortly regarding their most urgent needs so that we can plan our mission projects for the coming year.

The big event of the fall was the appointment of Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, as the ninth Bishop of Hamilton on September 24, 2010 and who was installed on November 8, 2010. He is replacing Bishop Anthony Tonnos, who has retired after 26 years of faithful service. See the back page of this newsletter for more information about our new bishop.

On December 6, I was appointed a Vicar General for the Diocese of Hamilton, which means that I will be part of a team assisting Bishop Crosby in the governance of the Diocese. Some additional work, I am sure, but a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the Church in our diocese.

Finally, a word of thanks to all who have joined us for the Christmas feast. If you are a visitor, we look forward to your return. If you are a parishioner, we hope you will join us for some of the many events listed in this newsletter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG,
Pastor

Our Parish Staff

Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG. *Pastor*
Father Bill Foote *Associate Pastor*
Miss Christina Morrison *Youth Minister*
Mr. Colin Cousins *Director of Music Ministry*
Mrs. Anita Reansbury *Office Administrator*
Mrs. Lisa Berki *Bookkeeper*
Mr. Ron Cook *Maintenance Supervisor*

Our Parish Liturgies

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday at 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 & 11:00 am

& 7:00 pm.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is celebrated most Sundays during the school year at the 9:00 & 11:00 am Masses.

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER

Every Monday at 8:00 am in the chapel.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday to Friday at 8:00 am

Our Lady of Providence Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration

Fridays: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm.

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 4:00 - 4:30 pm.

and other times by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be requested at any time by contacting the parish office.

Sacramental Information

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Baptism is celebrated on several Sundays during the year. Parents are asked to contact the parish office to make arrangements. Following an initial meeting with one of the priests and participation in Sunday Mass, a date is set for the celebration.

ADULT INITIATION

Any adults who wish to become Catholic are invited to contact one of the parish priests at their earliest convenience. A program of formation appropriate to their needs will be offered prior to Baptism or reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.

CONFIRMATION

Parishioners will be advised of the date for the next celebration of Confirmation later in the year.

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion will be celebrated with children in our parish who are in grade two or higher during the regularly scheduled 5:00 pm and 11:00 am Masses on the following dates:

May 21-22, 2011

June 4-5, 2011

June 18-19, 2011

June 25-26, 2011

An information meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the parish hall. The deadline for registering candidates for the First Communion preparation program is Friday, January 28, 2011 at 4:00 pm. Upon completion of the preparation program, parents will be advised of the date of their child's First Communion.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

An information meeting for all parents who wish to prepare their children for the sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on **Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 7:00 pm** in the parish hall. The celebration of First Reconciliation will take place on **Saturday, May 14, 2011 at 10:00 am.**

MARRIAGE

Engaged couples are asked to contact the parish at least nine months prior to the anticipated date of Marriage. A Preparation course is required prior to the celebration of Christian Marriage.

The Christmas Season

MARY MOTHER OF GOD

On January 1, 2011 we celebrate the Solemnity in honour of Mary Mother of God, one of the most ancient feasts of the year in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a holy day of obligation for Catholics in Canada. Mass will be celebrated on Friday, **December 31, 2010** at 5:00 pm and on Saturday, **January 1, 2011 at 11:00 am.** There is no evening Mass on New Year's Day.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

We will celebrate the Epiphany or Manifestation of the Lord on Sunday, **January 2, 2011.** There is no vigil Mass on Saturday. The regular schedule of Masses will be celebrated on Sunday.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Christmas season concludes with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 9, 2011. At our regular Sunday Masses we will renew our Baptismal Promises.

Special Celebrations

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

On the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, there will be a special evening Mass during which we will bless the candles to be used in our liturgical celebrations during the coming year. Additional candles will be blessed for home use. Join us for this celebration on **Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at 7:00 pm.** in the church.

DEDICATION ANNIVERSARY

On the weekend of **February 5-6, 2011** we will celebrate the twenty-second anniversary of the dedication of our parish church at all the Masses on this weekend.

Other Events

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

This year our annual dinner dance will take place on: **Saturday, February 5, 2011** beginning at 6:30 pm. in the Parish Hall. As in previous years, this event promises to be a most enjoyable evening. Mark your calendars now.

KOOKIES FOR KENYA

On Valentine Weekend, come and support our young bakers. Our Youth ministry will be selling cookies after Masses on **February 12-13, 2011.** Proceeds will go to our African Mission Projects.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Our annual Pancake Supper, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, takes place this year on **Tuesday, March 8, 2011** from 5:00 to 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Be sure to join us.

BISHOP'S VISIT



Bishop Douglas Crosby will visit our parish on the weekend of **March 19-20, 2011.** He will celebrate with us and preach at each Mass. Following Mass there will be an opportunity for parishioners to meet our new Bishop.

Lent 2011

ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins on **March 9, 2011.** The Eucharist, with the distribution of ashes, will be celebrated in the church at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Additional celebrations of the Word of God will take place in our parish elementary schools on Ash Wednesday.

ST. PIUS READS!

The highlight of our Lenten Journey this year will be spiritual reading. This initiative is being sponsored by our parish Catholic Women's League who are underwriting a significant portion of the cost of this project. During Lent, everyone will be invited to read a wonderfully refreshing book, entitled **Rediscovering Catholicism: Journeying Toward our Spiritual North Star**, by Matthew Kelly. Copies of the book will be available at a minimal cost for those who wish to use this book as a guide for their Lenten renewal.

Those who wish an opportunity to discuss the ideas presented by Matthew Kelly, are invited to gather in the Parish Hall following the 9:00 am Mass on the following Lenten Sundays:

March 13, 2011
March 27, 2011
April 3, 2011
April 10, 2011

Coffee will be served following Mass and the discussion will conclude by 11:30 am.

THE CROSS OF CHRIST

Guided by Father Ron Rolheiser, OMI, we will reflect on the meaning of the cross in our Christian lives. A two-part video presentation will take place on **Tuesdays: March 15 and 22, 2011 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.** in the parish hall. A brief discussion will follow each video presentation.

TAIZÉ EVENING PRAYER

On **Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.** our young people will lead us in an evening of prayer, scripture and song in the style of the Ecumenical Community of Taizé in France.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On **Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.** we will celebrate the traditional Stations of the Cross. Father Wayne Lobsinger, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Kitchener, will be the guest preacher. Come and rediscover this ancient form of devotion in which we unite ourselves to the passion and suffering of Christ.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION

Our communal Lenten celebration of Reconciliation will take place on **Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 7:00 pm** in the church. Father Sam Restivo, CR, Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Resurrection, will be the guest preacher. Several priests will be on hand to celebrate the sacrament.

PALM SUNDAY

We begin Holy Week on Palm Sunday, **April 17, 2011.** Masses will be celebrated as usual: Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday morning at 9:00 and 11:00 am, and in the evening at 7:00 pm. At each celebration palms will be blessed and distributed.

Our young people will be participating in a special outdoor Palm Sunday Procession and will arrive at the church in time to participate in the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Palm Sunday Evening.

MASS OF CHRISM

The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Hamilton on **Monday, April 18, 2011 at 7:30 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 for use in our parish during the coming year. All are welcome.

Easter Triduum

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 at 8:00 pm.

The Passion of the Lord

Good Friday at 11:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Blessing of Easter Food

Holy Saturday at 1:00 pm.

Easter Vigil

Holy Saturday at 8:00 pm.

Easter Sunday Masses

9:00 am – 11:00 am – 12:30 pm.

No Sunday Evening Mass

Events After Easter

CWL RETREAT

The annual retreat evening for women will take place on **Thursday, April 7, 2011** beginning at 7:00 pm. in the parish hall. All women are welcome. Watch the bulletin for details.

CWL FASHION SHOW

Once again this year the Catholic Women's League will host a fashion show on **Friday, April 29, 2011.** Watch the bulletin for ticket information.

SPAGHETTI NIGHT

Our Annual Parish Spaghetti Supper will take place on **Friday, May 13, 2011** from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. in the parish hall. Once again we look forward to the fantastic meal prepared by members of the San Rocco Association.

MARIAN CELEBRATION

Our annual celebration in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary will take place on **Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 7:00 pm** in the church. More details to follow.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Once again our very young people (ages 5-11) will be joining us for our annual Vacation Bible School from **August 8 - 12, 2011.** The theme of this year's Bible School is: *PandaMania!* Watch for registration information in June.

SAN ROCCO FESTA

The annual Mass for deceased members will take place on **Saturday, August 13, 2011 at 7:00 pm.** The Festive Mass and Procession will take place on **Sunday, August 14, 2011 beginning at 1:00 pm.** Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, will be the principal celebrant for the Sunday Mass. Following the procession, the blessing and distribution of bread will take place in the church. Evening festivities take place at Lion's Park.

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

Young adults are invited to be part of a pilgrimage to Midland, **August 19-21, 2011.** This pilgrimage will coincide with the World Youth Days which will take place in Madrid, Spain in 2011. Watch the bulletin for more information in the spring.

FEAST OF ST. PIUS X

Our parish patronal feast takes place on the weekend of **August 20-21, 2011**. We pray for God's continued blessings on our parish community during the Masses on this weekend.

Adult Faith Formation

ORTHODOXY AND ECUMENISM

That All May Be One

During the last thousand years, the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Churches of the East have struggled toward reunion. Our three-part series will take a look at the history of what we, as Catholics, have always shared with our Orthodox brothers and sisters and examine the issues that continue to keep us apart. This series will be offered on Tuesdays:

January 18, 2011

January 23, 2011

February 1, 2011

Afternoon & evening sessions available:
1:30 - 3:00 pm. or 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

PRAYING WITH NEW WORDS

In 2002, Pope John Paul II issued a new edition of the Roman Missal, which has now been translated into English and will likely be introduced to parishes in Canada early in 2012. Many familiar texts which we use at Mass have been changed in the process of translation to more accurately express what is found in the official Latin text. Come and explore the changes and the reasons behind them.

This session will be offered in the parish hall on **Saturday, January 29, 2011**. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes at 2:30 p.m. Lunch is included. All are welcome!

JESUS, THE WAY

The Path of Christian Discipleship

This three-part video workshop will explore our Catholic understanding of Jesus Christ (Christology) and what it means to follow Jesus as disciples today. Our video facilitator will be Tom Zanzig. This series will be offered on Tuesdays:

February 15, 22 & March 1, 2011

Afternoon & evening sessions available:
1:30 - 3:00 pm. or 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

DAVID AND SOLOMON

Expanding the Kingdom

In this two-part video series we will accompany host Stephen Ray as he travels to the biblical locations where the life and work of David, and his son Solomon, so clearly foreshadowed the coming of Jesus Christ. This series will be offered on Tuesdays:

May 3 & 10, 2011

Afternoon & evening sessions available:
1:30 - 3:00 pm. or 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

Other Activities & Events

SECOND SATURDAY SOCIALS

Our series continues following the 5:00 pm Mass on the 'Second Saturdays' listed below, as parishioners and friends are invited to a casual supper in the parish hall. It's a chance to socialize and, for those attending the movie, its an opportunity to get something to eat before the film. A free-will offering will help defray the expenses of the meal. Upcoming movies include:

January 8, 2011

We're No Angels (1955)

February 12, 2011

The Corn is Green (1945)

March 12, 2011

Fiddler on the Roof (1971)

April 9, 2011

In This House of Brede (1975)

May 14, 2011

How Green Was My Valley (1941)

Parish Management

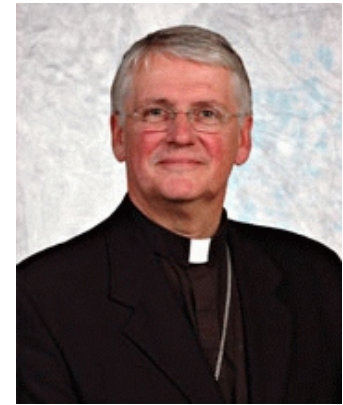
PARISH RECORDS

Help us keep our parish records up to date by letting us know of any change of address or if you are moving to another parish.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

During the past year we introduced the option of direct deposit as a means of making financial contributions to our parish. Several parishioners have taken advantage of this convenient way of contributing. Have you considered using this method to make your contributions to our parish community?

MEET OUR NEW BISHOP



Bishop Douglas Crosby was born in Marathon, Ontario on June 28, 1949, the oldest of seven children of Natalie and David Crosby.

He attended schools in Marathon, Ontario, before entering the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1968. He possesses degrees in Philosophy and French, Theology and Pastoral Studies (Counselling).

Bishop Crosby was ordained a priest on September 27, 1975, and was appointed assistant pastor of the Co-Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Labrador City, 1976-1981. He served his religious community as vocation director, coordinator of provincial services, Pastor of St. Joseph's Parish, and eventually Provincial Superior of St. Peter's Province of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He also served as Director of the Missions Office and then as English-language General Secretary of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop Crosby was appointed Bishop of Labrador City - Schefferville on November 4, 1997 and ordained on January 2, 1998. On August 6, 2003, he was appointed Bishop of St. George's, Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador. On September 24, 2010 Bishop Crosby was appointed the ninth Bishop of Hamilton. He was installed as Bishop of Hamilton on November 8, 2010 at the Cathedral of Christ the King.

We pray that he will be blessed with good health and wisdom as he shepherds the People of God in our Diocese.