

# Mass Intentions



Monday, January 5th	12:10 p.m.	† Michael Webster
Tuesday, January 6th	12:10 p.m.	† Dan White
Wednesday, January 7th	7:00 p.m.	† Trixie Steele
Thursday, January 8th	12:10 p.m.	† Loreto Porretta
Friday, January 9th	12:10 p.m.	† Gladys Srigley
Saturday, January 10th	9:00 a.m.	† Greg MacDonald

## ENVELOPE USERS!

Thank you for your support.

Thank you also for your cooperation.



It is important that when you use the first couple of envelopes that you include your name and full address so that in a year from now we can give you proper credit for taxation. Why not take a minute on this very day and write your name and address on the envelopes for the next three Sundays? After that, all recording will be done by envelope number.

If you have not picked up your envelopes yet speak to anyone on the parish team. They will be happy to give you a box.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. – for children ages 4-8. Volunteers interested in assisting this ministry at please call 10:00 a.m. please call Nancy Weistra @ 728-1787.



## STAY 'N PLAY



Every Monday morning from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Come out Moms, Dads or Caregivers and join the fun! For further information,

please call Theresa Rodman at 728-9142.

## UNDECORATING THE CHURCH

We will take down our decorations in the church on Monday, January 5th after the noon mass. Anyone who can help is encouraged to assist.

## YOUTH EVENTS

“*The Great Pasta Event*” on Sunday, January 11th at 4:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All youth are invited to come out and participate in preparing and enjoying!

“*Movie Night*” on Friday, January 30th at 7:00 p.m. For further information please call or email Robin Parkes at 728-2985 or ym4smp@gmail.com.

## VOCATION



The Son of God is manifested to the world first through the visit of the Magi. Today, God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church.

For single Catholic men, 18 years and older, who are considering a call to the priesthood the next “*Come and See*” Retreat Weekend at St. Augustine's Seminary in Scarborough will take place on Friday, February 1st to Sunday, February 3rd. To register, or for further information, contact Fr. Liborio Amaral at (416) 968-0997, or email [vocations@vocations.ca](mailto:vocations@vocations.ca). Visit the Vocation website at [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca).

## STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2008 AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

During the year 2008 the parish of St. Mary's received through baptism or profession of faith, 147 people into the



IN OUR PARISH

Catholic Church, a slight decrease from the 151 people in 2007. Within our community 158 children made first communion, interestingly this is exactly the same number of children in 2007, and 162 children made confirmation, compared to 2007 when we had 120 confirmations.

We had 26 couples who were married or received blessings of civil marriages. This is an increase from the 23 couples we had in 2007.

Sadly, there was an increase in the number of deaths at 95, compared to the year before at 71.

## JOIN THE ROSARY APOSTOLATE IN THE SCHOOLS



We are looking for volunteers who are willing to dedicate two hours a month to pray the Rosary with school children in our Catholic schools. Training and orientation is provided. Please contact Anné Gariépy at 705-436-3401 if you can help.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION



Marriage preparation will be running in the parish in the winter months ahead. Our parish preparation program will begin **March 3rd and run through to April 21st. It is held every Tuesday evening from 7 – 9:00 p.m.** Please call the parish office to register.

### MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS



#### Winter Interlude – January 28, 2009

We are in need of a small committee to help with the set-up and clean-up for this event. If you are available for this service, please notify Sister Mary Rose as soon as possible.

#### Life Story Writing Group: 2009

The main purpose of this programme is a Life Review leading to increased insight and appreciation of one's personal story. It also leads to greater integration of the various strands of one's life, "undertaken from a faith perspective, it is a search for evidence in your life that God has been with you and is still with you. Such discovery nourishes one's spirit and energizes for the journey ahead." (Dr. Richard Johnson)

Applications are available at the back of the church. The programme requires a minimum of 6 participants and a maximum of 12 – 15.

### A.E.D. (AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR)

St. Mary's CWL has donated a defibrillator to the community parish. It has been installed in the parish and is located in the hallway beyond the kitchen leading to the library. Several parishioners have been trained in the use of this saving device.

### WEEKLY SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS



Create new pathways to seeing, hearing and believing in Jesus Christ with the Word of God. Attend weekly scripture reflection sessions based on the Sunday readings. Sessions are held Tuesday evenings from 7-9:00 p.m. in the library. For further information, please contact Helen Irwin at 726-4615.

### CENACLE



Come join us in prayer. The Marion Movement of Priests meets every Monday morning in the church at 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. For further information please call Joan at 721-0704.

### FIRST COMMUNION

Letters regarding First Communion will be going home with all Grade 2 and 3 students during the first half of January. If your child does not provide you with this letter by January 16th you will be able to access it on the parish website for the information involved.

### INFORMATION FOR PARISH REGISTER



#### NOTICE

In mid-December we sent to all households the "Information for the Parish Register" form. Thank you to those who have returned it. We will follow-up in the near future with those who had particular concerns about sacraments and we will start to design the education evenings for those wishing to update their faith.

If you have lost the form it is accessible on the parish website at [www.stmarysbarrie.com](http://www.stmarysbarrie.com) and can be sent electronically at your convenience.

### LET'S THINK ABOUT CHRISTMAS

## Jot this down

The great feast is over for another year and on the parish front things have gone well. This is a reflection of the dedication of so many people. There is one issue that the households of the parish could do well to reflect on. That is, how we celebrate Christmas Eve. In other years, we have obscured information for example, the answering service did not inform people there was a 5:00 mass, and of course, the Pastor has in the weeks preceding challenged people to look at when they come to mass. The week before is probably not the time to think about that. Now is the time.

The 5:00 mass on Christmas Eve probably had 1800 at it in a church that seats 950. This makes for a very poor liturgical celebration.

This is one of the few opportunities we have to reach out to a large number of Catholics who are not strong in their faith. Would it not be a good thing that we gave them the most positive experience possible of participating in mass? Leaning against a wall in the foyer is not what we are striving for. Strictly speaking on the level of safety there are great concerns as well.

Would families start the discussion now about why they cannot integrate the Eucharist into their Christmas celebrations on Christmas morning or later on Christmas Eve? *Let's consider this as an opportunity to share our faith well.*