



MASSES OF THE WEEK

Monday, February 16 - Ferial: Weekday
9:00a.m. - Remie Rato, Nicola Bada.

Tuesday, February 17 - Ferial: Weekday
7:30a.m. - Isidro Cabling, The Deceased Members of the Kleinveld Family.

Wednesday, February 18 - Ferial: Weekday
7:30a.m. - Louis McAnany, Paul & Ellen McAnany.

Thursday, February 19 - Ferial: Weekday
7:00p.m. - Mary Kennedy, Christian Ogbodo.

Friday, February 20 - Ferial: Weekday
7:30a.m. - Ellen & Ray Nicol, Robert & Alice McAnany.

Saturday, February 21 - Ferial: Weekday
5:15p.m. - Peter Vasko, Francisco Santiago Sr., Sandra Brown, Angelina Cristobal. Intentions of Emeka (Ralph) Okeke.

Sunday, February 22 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.

Sunday Offering: \$7,860.50

This figure includes the weekly direct deposits from a number of our parish families.

PARISH NEWS

ANNUAL SCOUT PARADE

Next Sunday at our 11a.m. Mass we welcome all those involved in the various Scouting Organizations for their annual parade and banquet.

ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY MASS

St. Michael's School Community will come together with the parish community for the 5:15p.m. Mass Saturday, February 21st, 2009.

PASTOR'S DESK: "SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE"

Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed for the Church a special year to honour the 200th anniversary of the birth of St. Paul the Apostle. Present in Palestine, that is Judea and Galilee, Christians now call this place the Holy Land. Some of its characteristics in the first century included worship centered around the Temple in Jerusalem and its priesthood, and the various cultic rituals that were a part of the routine regimen of piety. Even this type of Judaism was not uniform. Some, who thought the purity of their faith was being threatened by the compromises of their religious leaders, fled to the Dead Sea and established a kind of ascetical, or hermitage, community of Qumran. Their desire was to escape the bad influence of the secular world and thus preserve authentic faith. (Today the Amish have reacted to modern life and try to separate themselves from modern secular influences). Hellenistic Judaism was influenced by Greek culture and they gradually translated their holy writings into the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament) into Greek. This translation is called Septuagint enabling the Jews in the diaspora to preserve and adapt their faith. Rabbinic Judaism goes back two hundred years before Paul and its name derives from the "rabbis", the Jewish leaders who rose to prominence after 70AD. They collected and preserved their sacred writings and incorporated them into a permanent sacred canon, the Hebrew Bible. The rabbis timeless interpretation and adaptation of the Old Testament influenced Paul's own approach to these sacred texts. Just as Christians later wrote the Book of Revelation, the Jews before them had a type of literature found in the Old Testament called "apocalyptic". It refers to an outlook that envisions the revelation of God's victory over evil at the end of time. The book of Daniel is a prime example of this kind of literature. Apocalyptic literature springs from the experience of dire persecution expressing a two-sided outlook of a cosmic battle between good and evil. Its ultimate message is a hopeful one for God and the forces of good will win the final battle. There will be a judgment day and all wrongs will be righted. The good will be rewarded and the bad punished...Now some 2000 years later we realize we do not know God's timetable for bringing this world to judgment day. The end is not as imminent as it was for Paul. May we in imitation of St. Paul encounter our own culture bravely with Christ as our guide.

LENTEN PRAYER EXCHANGE

During Lent we are going to invite parishioners to take part in a Lenten Prayer Exchange. You will exchange a slip of paper with your name, address and phone number on it and promise to pray for another family or individual during Lent and then if you wish at Easter you may send them a card telling them that you prayed for them during Lent. This is an important way for us to realize we need to prayerfully support one another.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Anyone (boy or girl) in Grade 4 and up who wishes to become an Altar Server is asked to contact Tom or Julia Luzi at 519-824-8071.

LENTEN PROJECT "I WILL SEND A FAMINE THROUGH THE WHOLE COUNTRY. IT WON'T BE FOOD OR WATER THAT IS LACKING, BUT MY WORD"

We invite you to participate in a special project to prepare for Lent. We will have a Bible Study Program on the Gospel of St. Mark. It will begin Thursday, February 26th until April 2nd in the Marian Library in the rectory from 7-9p.m. Please register at the Parish Office (519-824-3951) or e-mail ourlady@dionet.ca. Please register early as space is limited.

OTHER NEWS

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

Families offer a wonderful opportunity for sharing experiences with those we love. Some of the most joyful experiences are the times we spend celebrating key moments in our lives, such as Christmas, Easter and birthdays. As a family of faith, how about considering a yearly celebration of the day your child was baptized? The date can be remembered by marking the occasion in some special way; a simple prayer, by lighting the baptismal candle during one of your family meals, or by inviting God-parents for dinner. Celebrations send a message to our children about the importance of the occasion. Baptism is a "new birth" which fills us with the grace of God and opens the door to eternal life. It is a great day to celebrate and remind our children of the everlasting goodness of their faith. (Diocesan Office For Ministry 1-905-528-7988).

ECUMENICAL WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER

The Ecumenical Week of Guided Prayer will take place March 1st to March 7th. Registration deadline is February 22nd. Information available at the Tower Entrance or call 519-846-5078 or 519-824-6329.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY!
If God is your Co-pilot - swap seats!

PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL

Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul led by Father George Nowak, CR. April 20th to May 1st. Destination includes Istanbul, Kavala, Thessalonika, Athens and a four night cruise to Turkey and the Greek Islands. Cost is \$3,998 (double occupancy). To register call 1-519-576-3860 (St. Mary's, Kitchener).

ANSWERING THE CALL TO DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD - WEEKEND OF DISCERNMENT

Hosted by St. Peter Seminary in London, a discernment weekend offers a special opportunity for men considering a vocation to diocesan priesthood to reflect on the call of God in their lives, immerse themselves in seminary life and interact with seminarians who can share and witness from personal experience. Feb 27th to March 1st at St. Peter's beginning with registration at 7p.m. and concluding with lunch on Sunday at 2p.m. The weekend is open to men who are in grade 12 and older. Please contact Father Cull at the Diocesan Vocation Office.

STEWARDSHIP:

What kind of thank you note am I sending to God today? Stewardship is showing our gratitude.

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

On Sunday, April 19th Bishop Anthony Tonnos will celebrate a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of Christ the King at 2:00p.m. for couples married 25,40,50, 60 or more years in the year 2009. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only) those married 60 years or more are allowed 1 guest). To participate in the celebration please refer to the poster at the tower entrance of the church.