St. Denis Roman Catholic Church

230 Lake Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 5Z3
Phone: 905-685-5911 † Fax: 289-434-5269
www.stdenischurch.ca

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Denis Parish is to create a warm and welcoming, Christ-centred, Catholic community that answers the call to know, love, and serve God by spreading the Gospel through words and actions.

PASTORAL TEAM

ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Fr. Stephen Joseph Bruzzese administrator@stdenischurch.ca

SECRETARY & BOOKKEEPER

Mrs. Nancy Chmay secretary@stdenischurch.ca

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mrs. Susan Lewczynski music@stdenischurch.ca

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed
Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed everyday for lunch: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please feel free to drop anything off outside of business hours through the mail slot.

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Denis Catholic Elementary

Principal: Mr. Kevin Lamb 175 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 1S1 905-682-4156

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

Principal: Mrs. Jacqueline Watson 615 Geneva Street, St. Catharines, ON L2N 2J3 905-934-3112

St. Francis Catholic Secondary

Principal: Mr. Jim Whittard 541 Lake Street, St. Catharines, ON L2N 4H7 905-646-2002

SACRAMENTAL SERVICES

MASSES OF THE LORD'S DAY

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday to Friday: 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

(IN CHURCH)

Tuesday to Friday: 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday: 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

(IN MEETING ROOM)
Monday to Friday: 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

BAPTISM

Every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Please call the parish office to schedule an appointment with the priest!

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

(IN MEETING ROOM)
Sunday to Saturday: 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR

(1st Thursday & 1st Friday) 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

DEVOTION TO MARY

(DAILY RECITATION OF THE ROSARY) 7:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Would you like to become a parishioner?

Please call the parish office and/or fill out a census card. Thank you for your continued generosity towards our parish!

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, April 19 – Private Mass Stephanie Cosgrove

Tuesday, April 20 – 8:00 a.m. Joseph DiVellis & Joe Kozelj

Wednesday, April 21 – 8:00 a.m. St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church Kelly Pleadwell

Thursday, April 22 – 8:00 a.m. Jozef & Kazimiera Jasinski

Friday, April 23 – 8:00 a.m.

St. George, Martyr

Holy Souls in Purgatory

MASSES OF THE LORD'S DAY

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday, April 24 – 4:00 p.m. Marek Ignasiak

Sunday, April 25 – 8:00 a.m.

Holy Souls in Purgatory
Leo James Moody
Stephanie Cosgrove
Sp. Int. For the People of Hong Kong & China

Sunday, April 25 – 10:00 a.m. Pro Populo – For the People

Sp. Int. Priests of the Diocese of St. Catharines



COLLECTION FOR APRIL 11

 Offertory
 \$ 11,835.00

 Building Fund
 \$ 375.00

 Total Collection
 \$ 12,210.00

Thank you for your faithful stewardship! ~ Please remember the parish in your will ~

THE ADMINISTRATOR'S ALLEY

Thank you to everyone who joined myself, Fr. Ben, and His Excellency, Bishop Bergie at the Cathedral last weekend for Divine Mercy Sunday. I pray this was a fruitful experience for you, as it was for me as a confessor; we each heard over 1 hour of confessions with no breaks. I am looking forward to more inter-parish events with the Cathedral.

Speaking of confessions, a reminder that here at St. Denis, confessions are heard Tuesday through Friday 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. (currently taking place in the church). Also, Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. & Sundays from 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. (currently taking place in the sacristy stairwell). In addition to these times, every night of the week (Monday to Friday) confessions are heard from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the meeting room. The five regular confessors are: Fr. Stephen Bruzzese (Monday), Fr. Paul McDonald (Tuesday), Stuart MacDonald Fr. (Wednesday), Fr. Robert Novokowsky (Thursday), and Fr. Benjamin Weber (Friday).

As Catholics navigating our way to the heavenly banquet, we should be trying to get to confession every two weeks (at minimum once a month). In the same way we take our cars to get washed on a regular basis, we should also take our souls for a regular cleaning. Remember, the only sin which is unforgiven is the sin that is not confessed. If it has been a while, do not fret, the Father simply wants to welcome you home.

Starting this coming Monday, April 19th at 7:00 p.m. (for 1 hour) on GoogleMeet, I will be leading a new parish group called Queen of Clergy Cenacle. This group is dedicated to praying for an increase in vocations to priesthood and for all priests (and bishops); especially those in the Diocese of St. Catharines. The hour long meeting will consist of a few parts: Welcome & Introductions, Prayer for Priests & Priestly Vocations, The Rosary, The Litany for Priests, Closing Prayers, and Q & A with me (or the guest priest). If you would like join this virtual prayer group, please email 2021.jmj@gmail.com to be added to the group list – the link will be emailed to you weekly. Please do consider joining us in to pray for our priests!

Fr. Stephen Joseph Bruzzese

FINANCIAL UPDATE

On another note, I would like to give you a brief financial update (a more comprehensive update to come in July). Upon my arrival, I was pleasantly surprised to find out that His Excellency, Bishop Bergie, reconciled a substantial amount of the parish's debt to the tune of \$630,870.11 on October 10, 2018 in the 60th Jubilee Year of the Diocese of St. Catharines. However, the parish was still in debt \$171,508.08 with regards to diocesan assessments, like cathedraticum, health insurance, clergy aid, etc. As of today, with your great generosity, smart savings, and God's grace we have managed to pay \$54,965.97 towards our outstanding debt; leaving us with a balance of \$116,542.11, which I am confident we will be able to eliminate in the coming months/year.

You may be asking yourself; how did we manage to pay such a large amount towards our debt in such little time? The answer is quick simple, we have reduced expenses and increased revenue; making sure to widen our margin of growth.

For example: we were once paying \$1,610.93 quarterly (\$6,443.72 annually) for our elevator maintenance; we have now renegotiated our contract with OTIS Canada for the next five years and currently pay \$678.00 quarterly (\$2,712.00 annually) for a cost savings of \$3,731.72 annually.

Another example: we have a carpet service, changing the carpets bi-weekly at a cost of \$107.55 (\$2796.30 annually) which we have eliminated by purchasing our own commercial carpets from Costco at a price of \$1,759.92. First year cost savings of \$1,036.38 with subsequent years at \$2,796.30 in savings.

Also, we have generally seen an increase in the regular offertory collection, as well as in the area of capital donations (this has ranged between \$1,000.00 to \$8,000.00). His Excellency, Bishop Bergie has been pleased to see how we are doing financial (as well as spiritual) and wishes us well in the days ahead.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you for your continued commitment in sharing your time, talents, and treasures to our parish. We are truly blessed and grateful to have many parishioners who have given of their time, their talents, and their treasures in building up our parish community. We must always remember these four principles with regards to stewardship and ministry: **Cheerfulness, Generosity, Gratitude, and Intentionality.** Thank you for your commitment to parish life here at St. Denis.

BOOKS FOR SALE

I still have 25 copies of the *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father* by Fr. Donald Calloway for sale at the parish office for \$20.00 a copy. I would HIGHLY recommend this book, especially during this year dedicated to St. Joseph. I learned more about St. Joseph in 33 days, then I did in my whole time in the seminary. I also hope to have some copies in the near future of *The Interior Castle by St. Theresa of Avila*.

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Here is the prayer to St. Joseph we say after Mass:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

HOLY OIL STOCKS

Each year at the Chrism Mass, the Holy Oils are blessed and consecrated by His Excellency, Bishop Bergie. The three oils that are blessed and consecrated are: Oil of Catechumens, Oil of Chrism and Oil of the Sick. These oils are used in the Sacraments of the Church namely: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick. The oils are stored in an oil stock and placed in the ambry.

The parish needed to purchase a new set of oil stocks, to be used primary in the Sacrament of Baptism. The older versions were not conducive to the applications of the oils. The total cost was approximately \$250.00, if anyone is interested in sponsoring this item, your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

COVID-19 UPDATE

We continue in the "Stay-at-Home Order". All Weekday Masses (Tuesday to Friday) will remain in the Church, while all Masses of the Lord's Day (Saturday & Sunday) will return to the parking lot.

Parents who have scheduled their child and/or children's First Holy Communion, are still welcome to attended in the parking lot. The Sacrament of Confirmation scheduled for Thursday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. has been postponed. For the most up-to-date information, please visit www.stdenischurch.ca or call the parish office at 905-685-5911.

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