



Sursum Corda

December 9 & 10, 2017

Issue 346- Second Sunday of Advent



St Mary of the Visitation
Parish
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Cambridge, Ontario N3C 2N2
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Lord's Day Mass – Saturday at 5:00pm,
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:30am

[Children's Ministry](#)

This Weekend

Christmas is coming! Are you ready? I'm not asking if your tree is decorated, outdoor lights installed or if the family Christmas card has been mailed. I am asking if you are ready to celebrate the birth of Christ? There are many opportunities during Advent to prepare for the Christ child. Additional copies of our parish newsletter - **"Our Family of Faith"** –are available at the Welcome Desk. Check it out!

Thank you for your enthusiasm for our annual [Red Stocking Campaign](#) and also [Kindness Counts Project!](#)

Join us in our **Catholic Café** after Mass. This is a great time to invite friends and family to join you for Mass!

We will welcome families from our parish school of Our Lady of Fatima at our 11:30am Mass and St Gabriel at 5:00pm Mass. We will host a special Children's Ministry (JK-Grade 4) at our 5:00pm Mass, and of course at our 11:30am (age 2-Grade 4) as usual.



**RED STOCKING CAMPAIGN
-DECEMBER 3-17, 2017**



Our message series continues. Last week we focused on "Life at 360" and we received the invitation, as we continue to pray the [Litany of Humility](#), to gain perspective. [Check out our message from last week](#) and bring a friend along as we continue our journey toward the Nativity of the Lord.

FAST FACTS

[Check Out "Next Gen"-Youth & Young Adults Events](#)

[Diocesan Workshops & Activities](#)

[Children's Activities Calendar](#)
[Teen Activities Calendar](#)



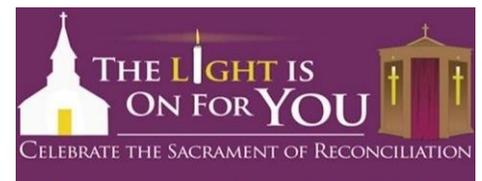
[OUR SHUTTLE SERVICE RETURNS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE – CHECK IT OUT!](#)



We are pleased to let you know that this Christmas we will be offering a special Children's Ministry program (JK – Grade 4) at **both our 5:00pm and 7:00pm Christmas Eve Masses** - [check out details!](#)

Handling the Holidays

Facing this time of year is difficult for those grieving someone they loved. You are invited to an informal gathering on **Monday, December 11th at 7:00p.m. in our Parish Centre**. Come in a spirit of prayer; join others and prepare for Christmas with renewed hope.



**Day of Mercy - December 14 -
8:00am-8:00pm**

12 Hours - 12 Confessors. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the most powerful encounter with divine mercy. During this time the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Church. **The light is on for you!**

May Our Lady of the Visitation continue to be our inspiration, model and guide

Thank you!

- To all who were a part of our very successful **Parish Craft Sale** last Saturday! A positive turnout and great collaboration by all – thank you! Plus Father Freitas got the thumbs up from Santa during the parade!
- To several parishioners who have been signing up recently to “lean in” with many of our liturgical ministries.

Make Advent count
by making
Kindness
♥ Count!

Our **Neighbourhood Ministry** is seeking to continue to impact 160 children in our Parish Schools and in co-operation with Family and Children Services

We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys, and we will assemble such into a kit made up of small trinkets which will be distributed to some of the students and families which we have partnered with. Consider purchasing one additional toy:

- a box of lego or play dough
- a small box of puzzles or small children games
- a doll or mechanical cars
- or any toy

As you do; please bring and place in the "Large Gift Box" in the Parish Centre Narthex. These will be distributed by our Neighbourhood Ministry and made available to those in need

A Place for **YOUNG FAMILIES**



Children's Ministry

Our Children's Ministry is in full throttle this Lord's Day. **Kids Zone** for Ages 2 & 3 and our full array for those in **JK-Grade 4** all at our 9:30am and 11:30am Masses **Bring completed registration forms** or see the display.



Current envelope users are reminded that Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2018 will be available in the Parish Centre **THIS WEEKEND**. Those *not currently using envelopes* but who are interested in obtaining Sunday Offering Envelopes, may use the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk. You are invited to consider **Pre Authorized Giving** or **On Line Giving** as a method to support our parish family. Forms available at Welcome Desk

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

At the 5:00p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, children of the parish (aged 4 to 12) will act out a simple narrative of the first Christmas. *Rehearsals will be in the Church on Sunday, December 10th and 17th at 2:00p.m. Space is limited.*

Confirmation Information

Our **Searching in the Spirit** small groups meet this coming week for session # 2. Don't forget to return your "Golden Ticket" at Mass this weekend.

First Communion and Confirmation Parent Meetings

If you missed our recent Parent Meetings for **Confirmation** and **First Communion**, please see Father Freitas at Mass to pick up materials and to register.

SUNDAY MISSALS FOR 2018

2018 Sunday Missals will be available this weekend at the Welcome Desk for \$5.00 and don't forget that Children's Sunday Missals are also available.

C.W.L. POTLUCK SUPPER

All ladies of the Parish are invited to celebrate the season on **December 12th**. It begins with **Mass at 6:00p.m.**, followed by a potluck supper in the Parish Centre. All are welcome and bring along a canned item for our Food Pantry.



Christmas 2017

Inserted in the bulletin this weekend is information on our annual Christmas Floral Tributes. During the holy season of Christmas, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes for placement in the Church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. The floral tribute sheets will be placed near the altar in a gift-wrapped box, and your loved ones will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.



BE A PARKING LOT MESSENGER OF CHEER!

We are looking for people to help make our Christmas Eve Masses as welcoming and safe as possible. We have a core team ready to help manage and direct traffic before these Masses, but we could definitely use more help! We need assistance starting at 4pm on Christmas Eve. What a better way could there be to start your Christmas celebration than by wishing "**Merry Christmas**" to so many of your friends as you help direct them into their parking spaces! If you are interested and available to help out, please leave your name at the Welcome Desk or office.

SURF AND TURF CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 11, 2017 - 6:30 P.M. - PARISH CENTRE

All Men of the Parish are invited to our annual Christmas Gathering except this time - with some Surf and Turf! Get together for some delicious food and the fraternity of the fellows. Admission is \$20.00. **RSVP is required**. All men of the parish are welcome to join this event - Bring a friend!