

January 1, 2022: Mary, Holy Mother of God

“The shepherds went with haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they say this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.”

Luke 2:16

Today, January 1, we complete our octave celebration of Christmas Day. It’s an often overlooked liturgical fact that we celebrate Christmas Day for eight straight days. We do this also with Easter Day, which concludes with the great celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. On this, the eighth day of the Octave of Christmas, we turn our focus to the unique and beautiful fact that God chose to enter our world through a human mother. Mary is called the “Mother of God” for the simple fact that her Son is God. She was not the mother of her Son’s flesh alone, nor the mother only of His human nature. This is because the Person of Jesus, the Son of God, is one Person. And that one Person took on flesh within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Though becoming the Mother of God was a pure gift from Heaven and not something that Mother Mary merited on her own, there was one particular quality that she had that made her uniquely qualified to fulfill this role. That quality was her immaculate nature. First, Mother Mary was preserved from all sin when she was conceived within the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. This special grace was a grace that was imparted to her from the future life, death and resurrection of her Son. It was the grace of salvation, but God chose to take that gift of grace and transcend time to impart it to her at the moment of her conception, thus making her the perfect and pure instrument necessary to bring forth God into the world.

Second, Mother Mary remained faithful to this gift of grace throughout her life, never choosing to sin, never wavering, never turning from God. She remained immaculate throughout her life. Interestingly, it is this choice of hers, to forever remain obedient to the will of God in every way, that makes her more fully the Mother of God than the simple act of bearing Him within her womb. Her act of perfect unity with the will of God throughout her life makes her, also, the perfect mother of divine grace and mercy and perpetually the spiritual Mother of God, continually and perfectly bringing Him into our world.

Reflect, today, upon these most solemn mysteries of our faith. This eighth day of the Octave of Christmas is a solemn celebration, a celebration worthy of our pondering. The Scripture above reveals not only how our blessed Mother approached this mystery but also how we are to approach it. She “kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” Ponder these mysteries, also, in your own heart and allow the grace of this holy celebration to fill you with joy and gratitude.

Mycatholiclife.com

January 1, 2022
Mary, Holy Mother of God
Sacred Heart Parish
A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Joseph Stany Moothedan

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Friday: 8:30 am- 2:30 pm

465 Curling Street
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curlingparish@hotmail.com

e-transfers: sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com
Password "Church"
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca
Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am

Mass During Week: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7 pm.
Friday at 10 am.

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather

Lohnes Complex First Fridays - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex, **closed to public.**

Bible Study: Bible study will resume on Sundays at 7pm.

Holy Hour of Adoration: Post-poned until further notice.

Reconciliation: By request.

Marriages: Six months’ notice required. A year’s notice is recommended.

Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

Family Connections: At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.

St. Vincent de Paul: To assist those in need. Call 638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

December 24th – December 25th, 2022

Regular Sunday	\$2322.00
Building Fund	90.00
Roof	850.00
SSVP	50.00
Christmas Offerings	2178.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. 7 pm	Late Paul Robertson
Wed. 7 pm	No intention
Thu. 7 pm	Deceased members of Robertson family
Fri 2 pm (Lohnes Complex)	No Intention
Sat. 4:30 pm	Joe and Nellie Hayes and Jim Hayes
Sun. 11 am	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Jan 7	
Jacqueline Neville	Bernadette Stone Marie Pennell
Jan 8	
Victoria Murphy	Brian Sparkes Eileen Moore
Communion to the Sick – Barbara Neville	

E-TRANSFER: We think we resolved the problem with the E-transfer, and we encourage you to try that process again.

SUNDAY ENVELOPES FOR 2023: Boxes are available for pick up at the church. If you don't have a box and wish to obtain a box of envelopes, please register at the parish office.

PARISH DUES: Parish dues were received from Joan Penney and Florence King.

THANK YOU: I want to thank you for your generosity to me at Christmas and throughout the year. Your gifts have been appreciated by me and my family. Your generosity allows me to be generous to other needy organizations. Again, thank you very much Happy New Year. Fr. Jim.

THANK YOU: A very big thank you to everyone who helped prepare Christmas Liturgies. Thank you to musicians, cantors, choirs, sacristans, servers, ushers, readers, communion ministers, and all persons who helped in anyway. Their work has made for beautiful celebrations here at Sacred Heart Parish, Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING: We owe a tremendous dept to those who came forward and worked so hard at cleaning our church for the Christmas Season. Their work shows their pride in our parish. It makes this house a welcoming beautiful and clean house of God.

CHANGE IN LOCATION OF WEEKDAY MASSES: Daily mass will be held in the parish house on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7pm and Friday at 10am

ROOF REPORT: As you can see, most of the works have been completed. This work ensures that our properties are well protected for now and for sometime into the future. Thank you to everyone who supported this work.

RELIGION (SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS): Registration Sheets for religion program are available at the church. You will be contacted at the first meeting.



A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER:

Lord, you make all things new,
You bring hope alive in our hearts
and cause our Spirits to be born again.
Thank you for this new year
for all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us a mighty flame
so that in our time,
many will see the wonders of God
and live forever to praise Your glorious name.
Amen.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF:

Donations were made for Christmas flowers in memory of the following; Marie Byrne by Joe Byrne; Thomas and Brian Griffin by Annie Griffin; Brake and Compagnion families by Dave and Dorothy Brake; William, Elizabeth, Dorita, David and Paulette Dobbin by Edward, Debbie, and Marion Dobbin; David Jones, Thomas, Anne and Bill Barry by Doreen Jones; Thomas Schulz, Bill Boland, Alex and Bride Hutchings and deceased members of Hutchings family by Joan Hutchings; John and Nora Griffin, George and Sarah Joyce by Jack and Clara Joyce; Joyce family by Veronica Hickey; Dana Beales, Elsie and Jerome Beales by Doug and Donna Beales; also by Catherine Musseau in memory of her parents, husband and sons.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: There will be a meeting on Monday, January 9th at 6:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS: Donations were also made by: Leo Fagen and Don and Theresa George.

THE MAGI OR WISEMEN: in ancient Iran - also known as Persia - a priest was called a "magus". The plural is "magi". The word "magic" comes from the same root. Magi were experts in astronomy. This was useful in determining the calendar and the end of winter and the spring planting season. They believed that stars and other celestial objects actually influenced, rather than merely coincided with, earthly events. One, or possibly a series of omens, led them to believe that a royal prince had been born in Israel. They were sent as ambassadors to provide tribute to the newborn. The bible does not say how many Magi visited. It is assumed that there were three because of the number of gifts. The Holy Family welcomed the Magi on Epiphany. There is a beautiful tradition that has been inspired by this event. Take some chalk and either have it blessed by your pastor or say your own blessing over it with your family. Ask God to welcome strangers to your home during the coming year. Finally write these numbers and letters over the front door of your home: 20 + C + M + B + the last digits of the current year. The letters represent the traditional names of the Wise Men - Casper, Melchior and Balthasar.

