

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 21, 2008

Weekday & Christmas Masses:
Please see following
page for complete Mass schedule.



*Here I am, the servant of the
Lord: let it be done to
me according to your word.*

FAITH FIRST:

I followed Jesus this week by...

I helped decorate my home for Christmas. **Shaylee D.**

I bought presents at the school Christmas Fair for my family.

Adam H.-M.

Pray for my best friend who is leaving to Ottawa. **Kyra Q.**

I helped my mom with Christmas decoration. **Nikos K.**

Going to a seniors' residence **Michelle F.**

Helping Nana put up the Christmas tree. **Emma P.**

I made a bird feeder for the birds to help them get through the winter. **James K.**

Helping my sister to do her homework and prepare for a math test. **Debbie P.**

FAITH FIRST is a home-based religious education program for children from kindergarten through high school. The reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation are an essential part of our faith journey and are included in the program. Registration for 2008-2009 will take place in the spring. 514-620-4057.



Wishing all our families a peace filled Christmas!

Question of the week (Do Not Be Afraid)

Reading I: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 (The Lord Speaks to Nathan)

Reading II: Romans 16:25-27 (Him Who Can Strengthen You)

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38 (The Angel Gabriel)

Adults: What do the words, "Do not be afraid" say to me this Advent? What fears do I need to turn to God?

Children: Who is the person I trust the most? What makes this person trustworthy?

VOCATION VIEWS REFLECTION:

Fourth Sunday in Advent: Mary received and responded to the Lord's will through the invitation of an angel. Who are God's messengers in your life? Listen to God speaking to you through them.

Christmas:

Christmas: A child is born for us; a son is given to us. Are we willing to proclaim the tidings of great joy to the world?

Diocesan Vocations Office: 514-925-4348 vocationsmtl@hotmail.com.

SANCTUARY LAMP: The sanctuary lamp signals the presence of the Lord Jesus in the Tabernacle and burns for seven days. We invite you to have the sanctuary lamp memorialized in the name of a sick person, a deceased love one, or a special intention, for a donation of \$20.00. 514-626-4111.

Week of December 21st: Chris Kolodnicki, requested by Willy & Alfred Kolodnicki, and Mike & Rina Callard

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS



Thank you to all who covered the cost of our beautiful Christmas flowers and plants! Dear Lord, grant your abundant blessing on all those on whose behalf these offerings were made:

Eddie Mallette and Debbie Patry, Anthony & Grozdana Listes, Stella & Stanley Szuszwowski, Susan Munro, Antonio Cabral, Al Mack, Terry Tobin, Mrs. Joan Harkin and family, Dusan Medvescek, Ellis Charasidis, Louis A. Pereira, Alfonso Mio, Gladys and Ralph Haley, Fr. Thomas, Peter & Jane Holloran, Agnes O'Donnell, Anne Marie Watkinson, Wilson, Lee-Loy and Charles families.



BECKET'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT and Children's Play **Sunday Dec. 21, at 7 pm** in the Church. All welcome. Free.

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS – DEC. 20TH to DEC. 28TH

Saturday	December 20	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
4:30 pm	Nazzareno & Anna Loreto D'Alesio	Bernice & Peter Zanetti
Sunday	December 21	
9:00 am	Our Parishioners	
11:00 am	John D'Souza	family in Canada & England
Mon.	December 22	
7:15 pm	Terry Laporte	her family
Tues.	December 23	
8:30 am	Intentions of Mabel Bennett	Pauline & John Basciano
Wed.	December 24	CHRISTMAS EVE (church)
4:30 pm	Thanksgiving	Clayton & Maureen Marolly
7:00 pm	Maria Rosario Soler	The Robertson family
10:00 pm	Maria & Victor Kozlowski	Children & grandchildren
Monday	Dec. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE (hall)
4:30 pm	Ralph Peluso	Chuck & Marietta Lawton
7:00 pm	Rita Desouza	Ron & Joy Pinto
Thurs.	December 25	
10:30 am	Lola Hunt	Marietta & Chuck Lawton
Fri.	December 26	~ No Mass ~

Saturday	December 27	HOLY FAMILY
4:30 pm	Mario Vani	Mattea & Family
Sunday	December 28	
9:00 am	Our Parishioners	
11:00 am	Lola Vani	Johanna & Tony Buccongello

Weekday Readings for December 22nd to December 26th:

Mon.	Dec. 22	1 Sm 1: 24-28	Lk 1: 46-56
Tues.	Dec. 23	Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24	Lk 1: 57-66
Wed.	Dec. 24 (eve)	Is 62: 1-5/Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25	Mt 1: 1-25
Thurs.	Dec. 25 (day)	Is 52: 7-10/Heb 1: 1-6	Jn 1: 1-18
Fri.	Dec. 26	Acts 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59	Mt 10: 17-22

NEW TO THE PARISH? Welcome! If you are a new to our parish, and would like to join our community, we invite you to take an unassigned envelope box (at the back of church), fill in the yellow card and drop it in the collection plate at any Mass. For information about parish activities and programs, please see the front and back cover of this bulletin for names and contact numbers.

CWL: Reminder - \$15.00 membership fees are due and can be dropped in the collection basket at any Mass. Please indicate CWL c/o Elinor Gallagher on the envelope. Thank you.

PARISH AND FAITH FIRST OFFICES are closed for the holidays from **Dec. 24th to Jan. 5th**. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all the staff at Becket!



BECKET'S ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER & DANCE: Wednesday Dec. 31st at 6:30 pm. Gourmet catered meal, great music and dancing, joke corner, door prizes. Join us and dance the night away. Tickets \$35.00 each. BYOBeverage. 16 & older. Reserved seating available. **LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS: DEC. 22ND.** Gord & Tootsie 514-421-8699.

BECKET HAPPENINGS AT A GLANCE

Christmas Eve Masses

4:30, 7:00 & 10:00 pm in the Church

4:30 & 7:00 p.m. in the hall

Christmas Morning Mass

10:30 am

Holy Family

Sat. Dec. 27, 4:30 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 28, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Holy hour of prayer for God's peace in the world

Wed. Dec. 31, 3:15 p.m.



Vigil of Adoration and Prayer

Wed. Dec. 31, 10:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight

Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Wed. Dec. 31, 4:30 p.m.

Thurs. Jan. 1, 10:30 a.m.

Epiphany of the Lord

Sat. Jan. 3, 4:30 p.m.

Sun. Jan. 4, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Baptism of the Lord

Sat. Jan. 10, 4:30 p.m.

Sun. Jan. 11, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

HOCKEY IS BACK AT BECKET: Join us for street hockey in the church parking lot on Saturdays at 2 p.m., weather permitting. Bring your hockey stick and dress warm! Free hot chocolate.



A **"BYG" THANK YOU** from Becket Youth Group to all parishioners who came out to buy our Christmas crafts. We made over \$100.00 which will be used for activities, retreats and social events for our parish youth. Want to join BYG (Becket Youth Group) or learn more about us? Call Damian: 514-696-9432

BECKET YOUTH CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR HOLIDAY BASH Dec 28th in the parish Hall. Pot Luck. Bring your friends! RSVP Damian: 514-696-9432, Nick: 514-696-4167, or Zander 514-624-0908.

THANKS TO THE ADVERTISERS, this weekly bulletin is offered free of charge for our parish. Thanks to our advertisers, and welcome the new ones!

CHRISTMAS - A SENSE OF THE SEASON: You probably know the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Even though a radio station once proclaimed the twelve days of Christmas as those before December 25, Christians have always kept Christmas as a season from December 25 until January 6 (the traditional Epiphany). The church calendar today even extends the celebration until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord—the Sunday after Epiphany.

Here is what the church says about the season of Christmas: "Next to the yearly celebration of the paschal mystery [meaning the Triduum and Easter season], the church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations. This is the purpose of the Christmas season." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, #32)

More than just "Jesus' birthday," the Christmas season is a time for remembering and revelling in the nativity of Christ, the revelation of Christ to the Jewish shepherds, the revelation of Christ to the Gentile magi (that's us!), Christ's baptism by John in the Jordan, and Christ changing water into wine at the wedding "on the third day" (John 2:1) in Cana of Galilee. In all these saving events, we know that "the Word is made flesh and dwells among us."

How can we keep Christmas not just as a day, but as a season? Keep the tree up (and watered!) and shining bright until the Baptism of the Lord. Sing carols and read the scriptures every day. Light a candle near your crèche (at a safe distance!) and sing or say the prayer of the angels: Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever. Amen!