

# SACRED HEART OF JESUS

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

238 Main St. N., Rockwood, On N0B 2K0 Phone: 519-856-4711 FAX 519-856-2331  
Parish Office Email: office@sacredheartrockwood.ca  
Website: sacredheartrockwood.ca

# The Epiphany of the Lord



January 08, 2017

### Mass Times

Saturday 6:00 pm St. Peter's Mission  
Sunday 9:00 am Sacred Heart Church  
11:00 am Sacred Heart School

**DAILY:** Monday No Mass  
Tuesday 7:00 pm  
Wed. & Thurs. No Mass  
Friday 8:00 am

### Confessions

Tuesday, 6:30pm to 6:45pm  
Saturday 5:30pm to 5:45pm (St. Peter's)  
Sunday 8:30am to 8:45am  
and by appointment

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday 7:30 pm to Friday 8:00 am

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

(JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> TO JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>)

Tuesday 7:00 pm † *Vi Coulson: Nancy Coulson*  
Friday 8:00 am † *John N. Gregory: Peter Gabriel*

### SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 9:00 am † *John N. Gregory: Sharon & Brian Gregory*  
11:00 am *For the People*

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Mark Morley  
pastor@sacredheartrockwood.ca

## Gospel Quotation:

"They knelt down and  
paid him homage. "

# Pastor's Message

## MOTHER MARY AND HOW TO LISTEN TO A HOMILY

In my homily last Sunday, on the occasion of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, I spoke of her as **our mother and our teacher**. When we look to the Scriptures, we see **Mary teaching us many things**. In last Sunday's reading from the Gospel of Luke, upon hearing what the shepherds told her about the birth of Jesus, we are told that **Mary: "treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart."** In this passage, **Mary teaches us to be contemplative**, that is, she teaches us to take time to ponder in our hearts what God is doing for us, and what God is doing in and for the world. When she heard the shepherds tell her about the angels, and how they had announced to them the good news that Jesus is the Messiah, Mary no doubt pondered these words along with what she had been told by the angel Gabriel. Not knowing what the future would hold, she contemplated the unfolding of God's plan for our salvation. As the calendar year begins anew, we should also follow our blessed Mother's example and ponder God's plan of salvation for each one of us as sons and daughters of God. By taking the time to ponder in our hearts what God is doing for us, we prepare ourselves to begin another year of discipleship. Moreover, we not only have the example of Mary as one who ponders, but we also have Mary as our Mother whom we can call upon to help us with our contemplation. By way of illustration, I shared with you something I pondered with the help of Mary. As I followed Mary's example and pondered what God had been doing in my life, I had a realization that changed the way I understood my vocation and my own life's story.

Mary also teaches us how to listen to a homily. Sometimes people complain about my homilies. They say it was too long, or that it was too dense. I'm sympathetic. But I've also had people praise my homilies. Sometimes they say it taught them much, or that it was much appreciated. Knowing that different people prefer different formats of homilies, from Sunday to Sunday, I try to switch it up. One Sunday the homily will be long. But the next I will make it short. One Sunday the homily will be theologically dense. But the next Sunday I will lighten it up by making it more anecdotal. Last Sunday, I started it off somewhat theologically heavy. However, I demonstrated how, following Mary's example, we can engaged in theological reflection by contemplating the meaning of God's Word and applying it to our own lives. Just as we need to ponder in our hearts what we hear in the Scriptures, I encourage you to ponder in your hearts what you hear in my homilies.

Sometimes someone will say that they didn't get anything out of my homily. I suspect that this can happen, not because there wasn't anything to get from my homily, but rather because they tried to get everything. In other words, they went about listening to it the wrong way. A homily is a unique form of communication. Only a priest or deacon can give a homily at Mass. Not because clergy are trained and educated, but rather because we are ordained by God to preach the Gospel. A homily isn't a lecture. You shouldn't be listening to it trying to gain information. Nor should you expect to get everything said as if it was a motivational speech. When you ponder what you hear in your heart, you will receive something that the Holy Spirit determined you needed to hear, you personally, which may be different from what someone else needed to hear. If you find yourself having difficulty getting the whole thing, let go of your expectations and listen for the one thing that you need to hear. In our everyday mode of listening to others speak, we are trained to take grab at the words and take something away. However, listening to a homily requires a contemplative mode of thinking that opens our ears and our hearts to be receptive to the Holy Spirit. Call upon Mother Mary to help you. Some people like to close their eyes. This can help put you in a contemplative mode, but try not to fall asleep. I encourage you to consider the opening of the Mass a preparation to contemplate the homily. In fact, you can start preparing to hear the homily on the way to Mass by turning off the radio. A little bit of silence before Mass goes a long way. Try entering into a contemplative mode by pondering the opening hymn in your heart. Ponder the words of the priest's greeting. Ponder the words of the Penitential Act. Ponder the words of readings, the Word of God. If it helps, read them before going to Mass. Finally, ponder the words of the homily. Following Mary, treasure all these words and pondered them in your hearts. The Holy Spirit will not disappoint you.

*Fr. Mark Morley*

**PARISH UPDATES**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION UPDATE:** We are nearing the end of the year. How about a New Year's resolution to spend some time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; any time from Tuesdays 7:30 pm to Fridays 8:00am. If you feel ready to commit to a regular hour, the following is available, Tuesdays 11-12 pm, or you can double up at any other hour of your choice.

Call Jane Hosdil at 519-856-2398 to arrange for sign up, or any further questions. Thank you, and Happy New Year.

*Jane Hosdil*

**BOTTLE DRIVE:** The Knights of Columbus will be having a bottle drive early next year for The Special Olympics. If you can leave any empties you get from the Christmas season in Coulson Hall, it will help us get a jump on this worthwhile fund raiser.

*Dave Bell KofC*

**FROM THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON**

**RESPONSIBLE STEWARDS OF CREATION:** Close to five million litres of water are taken from Wellington County daily for a water bottling plant. This extraction of large amounts of water adversely affects the ecological balance of nature over a large area while depriving those who rely on wells of their right to water. Close to seventy-five percent of plastic bottles end up in land fill sites, thus contributing to contamination of the soil for thousands of years. Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, urges all parishes in the Diocese of Hamilton to refrain from using bottled water in church facilities. As stewards of Creation may we be leaders in the responsible use of our sacred mandate.

**This Week's Events**

*January*

9 *Rosary for Peace - Sacred Heart 7:00pm*

10 *Tuesday MASS (7:00pm)*

11 *Euchre Matinee: (1:00 pm Coulson Hall)*

13 *Seniors' Program at Rockwood Library*

*(11:30am to 1:30pm)*

*Next Catechism Class Date*

*January 11 at Coulson Hall - 6:45pm*

**Did You Know?**

- \* January 6<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Epiphany
- \* This is the feast day that we remember the three wise men or Magi that came to see the Baby Jesus
- \* Gaspar was the King of Sheba. He brought Frankincense to Jesus
- \* Melchior was the King of Arabia. He brought Gold to Jesus
- \* Balthazar was the King of Tarse and Egypt. He brought Myrrh to Jesus
- \* January 6<sup>th</sup> is also known as Twelfth Night

**PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

Thank you to all who organized and participated in our parish celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family at St. Peter's in Oustic on Friday, October 30th. A special thanks to the Knights. It was a great success!

*Fr. Mark Morley*



**Feast of the Holy Family**

**Prayer Calendar for Priests**

*Every day, in our diocese we are invited to pray for a priest serving in our parishes*

- Mon. - *Baptism of Our Lord*
- Tues. - *Rev. Arthur Scidmore*
- Wed. - *Consecrated Men and Women*
- Thurs. - *Rev. Gary Schlack*
- Fri. - *Rev. Mervin Perera*
- Sat. - *Rev. Thomas Manninezhat*