

**JANUARY 1, 2012 - THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH**

Readings	Liturgy	Intention	Please Pray for
Sunday, January 1 Numbers 6.22-27 Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 2.16-21	Mass - 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Our Parish Community Our Parish Community Our Parish Community	
Monday, January 2 1 John 2.22-28 John 1.19-28	No Mass (Office Closed)		Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.
Tuesday, January 3 <i>The Holy Name of Jesus</i> 1 John 2.29; 3.1-6 John 1.29-34	Mass - 7:00 p.m.	Joe Wender Alfie Lambe All the Souls in Purgatory	Rev. Edward Hinsperger
Wednesday, January 4 <i>St. Elizabeth Seton</i> 1 John 3.7-10 John 1.35-42	Mass - 8:30 a.m. Mass - 11:00 a.m. Heritage Green Nursing Home	Alex Marcuzzi Pierino Sottile	Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (C.M.I.)
Thursday, January 5 1 John 3.11-21 John 1.43-51	Mass - 8:30 a.m.	Carl Duff	Rev. Mariusz Durbajlo
Friday, January 6 - First Friday 1 John 5.5-13 Mark 1.4-5.7-11++	Mass - 8:30 a.m. 9 - 11:00 a.m. - Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (Benediction 10:50 a.m.)	Zbigniew Andrzejczuk	Rev. Mark Sullivan
Saturday, January 7 <i>St. André Bessette</i> 1 John 5.14-21 John 2.1-12	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	Rev. Adam Wroblewicz, C.R.
	Mass - 5:00 p.m.	Annie Kantor Giuseppina D' Apice Narduccio Capoferri Peter Comerton Norman & Elaine Betros	

Collection for December 24/25, 2011

Christmas - \$9,392.25
 Sunday - \$11,100.25
 St. Vincent de Paul - \$5.00
 Flowers - \$20.00



FIRST FRIDAY MASS & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, January 6, 2012

St. Gabriel's Parish

2261 Parkway Drive, Burlington

Mass begins at 6:30 p.m. in English and Polish, followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 8:00 p.m. closing with Benediction. Confessions, before, during and after Mass. Everyone is welcome.

The Week in Preview

Monday, January 2

Office Closed

Tuesday, January 3

9:00 a.m. Scripture Study
 6:15 p.m. Legion of Mary
 7:30 p.m. CWL Executive Meeting
 7:30 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul
 7:30 p.m. Liturgy Committee

Thursday, January 5

6:30 p.m. Children's Choir
 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Sunday, January 8 - Baptisms

Healing Mass at St. Patrick Parish

440 King Street East, Hamilton

Friday, January 6, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

Celebrant: Reverend Peter Coughlin



*Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
Announcements, Events & Meetings.....*

**FIRST COMMUNION
PARENTS' MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012, 7:00 P.M.

The parents of our First Communicants are expected to attend this meeting.

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*From Fr. Jim.....*

I would like to thank all of you for the cards, goodies and gifts that you have given me for Christmas. I am overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. I say it often to the bishop and to my fellow priests that I am truly blessed to be in this parish.

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2012 DONATION ENVELOPES

If you haven't already done so, please pick up your donation envelopes for 2012. They are located in the main hallway. If you are not currently using envelopes, but would like to, please call the parish office and a box will be prepared for you.

Come away for a few hours of prayer....

Praying with the Sisters of St. Joseph

All interested women are invited to join the Sisters of St. Joseph at the Motherhouse at 574 Northcliffe Avenue, Hamilton on Saturday, January 14th from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The day will include Mass, a short talk on prayer, time for reflection and prayer and lunch. Suggested contribution is \$20. Please call 905 528-0138 to register by January 8th.

**St. Jean de Brébeuf High School
Dinner, Silent Auction & Wine Tasting Event**

BRAVES CARE: HOME AND AWAY

Friday, January 27th

Doors open at 6 p.m., Dinner at 7 p.m.

Liuna Station Banquet Centre

360 James Street North

All proceeds to support Ryan Joslin and the Uganda Educational Learning Experience. Tickets - \$75, table of ten - \$700.00. For ticket information please contact Patti Wilson at 905 388-7020, ext. 3735



Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1 is the oldest celebration of Mary in the Catholic Church. The custom of honouring the Virgin on the first day of the New Year originates in the sixth century, when her celebration was tied to the octave day of Christmas, the eighth day after December 25th. In doing so, ancient preachers would remind their congregations about the role that Mary played in the history of salvation. Jesus was born of a woman, and so, as Eucharistic Prayer 4 states, "Made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, he shared our human nature in all things but sin." The human nature of Christ is rooted in his being born like us. As we round out the Christmas celebration with its Octave Day on January 1, we venerate the woman who gave birth to him.

There is a dual action in today's Gospel that is sometimes overlooked. The shepherds find the infant in the manger as has been told to them by the angel. And then they go out to tell others about the child. In the meantime, Mary reflects on all these things in her heart. These are the two complementary stances of the Christian: action and reflection. Both are needed for a balanced spiritual life. It is, in effect, putting into practice the two great commandments: love God and love your neighbour.

As we begin the New Year, it is customary to make resolutions: to diet, to exercise, to change something in one's life. Like Mary, who reflected on the events surrounding the birth of her child, we take some time to reflect on our own lives: where we have been, and where we are going. The Gospel gives us the opportunity to situate that reflection in a spiritual context. What does the birth of Jesus mean for me spiritually (reflection), and what do I intend to do about that in my daily life (action)?

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A NEW YEAR

Another fresh new year is here...

Another year to live!

To banish worry, doubt and fear,

To love and laugh and give!

This bright new year is given me

To live each day with zest...

To daily grow and try to be

My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity

Once more to right some wrongs,

To pray for peace, to plant a tree,

And sing more joyful songs!

William Arthur Ward