**Mass Intention**

Wednesday, January 9th **†** Christine Lawrence

**THANK YOU TO ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Many thanks to all those who helped with the liturgies during the Advent/Christmas season. We appreciate those who served as altar servers, readers and Ministers of Communion. Thanks to the many angelic voices and talented musicians who made our celebrations so joyous. To all those who helped with their muscle and artistic eye to decorate our churches. Greeters, ushers and collectors served to make all welcome.

**God bless you for sharing your talents and time!**

**HELP IS NEEDED TO TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS ON MONDAY** The Christmas decorations will be taken down on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m.. Help is needed to disassemble and pack the trees, crèche and decorations. It is a big job and many hands are needed. Please meet in front of the altar and members of the Decorating Committee will direct you from there. Strong arms are also needed for carrying heavier items. Thank you for your help.

**GREETERS’ MINISTRY**

Greeters for the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses are asked to pick up their schedule for January, 2019 through March, 2019 at the back of the church.  Greeters, if you are on the email list you will receive the schedule via email.

We are always in need of additional parishioners who would be willing to help with this important ministry—especially for the 5:00 p.m. Saturday and 11:00 a.m.Sunday Masses.  It would involve at most only one Sunday every month or 6 weeks from September through June.  If you would like to join this ministry please call Paul Weisenberger at 780-929-5150.

Members of the Knights of Columbus sell No Frills and Sobeys gift cards before and after all weekend Masses. Please take the time to support the program regularly.

The Bible Study will resume on January 14/28, 2019. We are still doing the study called **Mary, Virgin, Mother, And Queen**.

The Knight’s of Columbus will be having their **pancake breakfast** on Sunday, January 20.  Come down and join us. “

**January 6 - The Epiphany of The Lord**

“They were overwhelmed with joy.” Epiphany gets its name in the story of the three astrologers from the East. They saw a sign in the heavens, correctly understood it and chose to follow it, no matter the personal cost. These three are fearless pilgrims, walking in the tiny light of star, travelling by faith. They are called wise because they search the heavens and their dreams for the direction from a source they cannot name. And, in their zeal, they find the One they are looking for. These wise men were the first Gentile followers of Jesus. Without benefits of Scripture or the stories of Salvation, without religion and its rituals, they made their way into the presence of Christ. Many have since followed in their footsteps, through many rituals, through many places and years, searching for the light that they do not entirely understand but are willing to risk everything for.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE**

Are you expecting a child in the near future? Consider taking Baptism Preparation now while you are waiting for the birth of your son or daughter. **The classes are for parents and sponsors (godparents).**

Attending now eliminates the need to find baby-sitters, rearrange feeding schedules etc. plus it adds to the joyful anticipation of your new arrival.

Parents wishing to register for the **next course** which will be held on **Monday,** **February 25th at 7:00 pm** please call the parish office.

The Bible Study will resume on January 14, 28, 2019. We are still doing the study called **Mary, Virgin, Mother, And Queen**.

**2019 DONATION ENVELOPES**

Sunday Offering Envelopes 2019 Offering envelopes for the new year are now available for pick up by parishioners

**NOTE TO SUNDAY COLLECTION ENVELOPE USERS:** Please put your name and address on at least one 2019 Sunday collection envelope so we can ensure we have the correct information in our database.

**From the Office of the Archbishop:**

**Putting the Word of God into practice**

Throughout the history of the Church, the Christian response to God’s love revealed in Christ has been three-fold: worship, witness and service. In these three ways we put into practice the Word of God.

**Worship**

From our awareness of this wondrous gift that is the Eucharist, and of the Lord’s command that it be celebrated in His memory, arise some questions: Am I, in fact, putting the Word of God into practice by participating fully every week in Sunday Mass? Do I allow other activities to take priority over my sacred obligation? Do I take time to prepare for Mass by reading in advance the Mass readings, pondering the many blessings for which to give thanks, or considering the needs I wish to place before the altar of God’s mercy?

**Witness**

There are many ways we can put the Word of God into practice through the act of witnessing to Christ. The most effective is by the way we live our lives. People pay more attention the what we do than to what we say. Yet, there are times when we are called upon to speak on the basis of our belief, particularly in those moments when people close to us, coworkers or society in general take directions contrary to the teachings of our Lord.

**Service**

What use do I make of time? Do I set aside time for prayer, for Sunday Mass, for the enjoyment of family? Am I able to dedicate some time to volunteer in the parish, our schools, hospitals or charitable organizations? What time can be dedicated to the study of the faith, or to understanding in the light of the Gospel the issues that impact the poor, both at home and abroad and the environment?

***~Archbishop Smith, Living in the Word of God, Pastoral Letter 2017***