



**NEW PARISH SECRETARY:** As many already know from reviewing the Minutes from our Parish Pastoral Council Meeting in December, we have hired a new Parish Secretary. Her name is Lisa Walz. She is known to many of you already, as she and her husband Rob have become very involved in our Parish family ever since their arrival about a year ago. Lisa will begin her new position on Tuesday, January 7th: exactly 2 years to the day since we last had a Parish Secretary. So, it has been a long time coming, and we welcome her with open arms.

For now, the Parish Office hours will remain the same, as they seem to provide the level of service currently needed in our Parish. As always, adjustments can be made as needed.

We are grateful to Lisa for accepting to take on this position, and we know everyone will come to know and love her as she becomes better known to you over the months and years ahead.



**ALPHA - COMING SOON:** Beginning on January 23rd, and continuing for the next 9 weeks, the Alpha Course will be offered to everyone in our city. During those 10 Thursday nights, we will begin at 6:30pm with a hot meal (no charge!), continue with a half hour video presentation, and conclude at 8pm after a half hour small group discussion. Christ is knocking at your door. Will you answer Him and let Him in? **Even if you have encountered Him already, you may find in ALPHA a useful means to reach out to others who do not yet know Him. Try it out, and see if it is something you might consider inviting someone to next Fall.** Registration helps us to prepare the necessary resources and appropriate amount of food. You may register simply by calling or e-mailing the Parish Office with your name. The dates and times of Alpha were distributed at our Christmas Masses, and there are still a number of those information folders available in the Church.

**CHIT CHAT AND COFFEE:** *Join us in the Parish Meeting Room on Friday, following Mass, for some hot Christmas coffee and conversations!*



The next General Meeting of St. John's Catholic Women's League will be on January 6th at 1:30pm in the church hall. All members are encouraged to attend and participate, as we launch into a new year and a new decade. Also, our Wednesday morning craft sessions will begin once again on Wednesday, January 8th following the morning Mass.



**MAINTENANCE MINISTRY:** We are seeking a self starting parishioner to look after the various maintenance needs of our Parish. One of our most dedicated volunteers - Harvey Quackenbush - is 'retiring' after serving in this area for many years.

The parameters of this Ministry are open to negotiation, depending on the needs and abilities of the woman or man who wishes to volunteer. This can be a team Ministry, or a Ministry of one. It can be one that simply organizes, calls forth others, and plans, or it can be hands on and "I'll take care of it myself". If you are intrigued, interested or mildly curious, please speak to Fr. Michael at your convenience.

**ADOPT A BABY:** Over the last year, parishioners adopted, named and prayed for an unborn child, asking that by God's grace, she or he be spared from destruction through abortion. Nine (9) boys and four (4) girls were adopted. Our Sunday morning Epiphany Mass this weekend was celebrated for them, and each of their names was spoken during the Eucharistic Prayer. They will be printed here next weekend, in the bulletin for the Baptism of the Lord. New prayer cards will be made available at that time next weekend, for those who wish to adopt an unborn baby this year. This is a spiritual response, encouraged by Bishop Fulton Sheen, to one of the greatest evils of our time.

**Donation Receipts:** Thank you for your ongoing support of our Parish family, through the offering of your time, treasure and talents. Since the government of Canada rewards those who give of their 'treasure', we will soon be issuing receipts you can use to take advantage of this deduction against your taxes, but only for those donations made in 2019. All donations going forward will be acknowledged at the end of 2020.

**Financial Report:** As always, your Parish Finance Committee will prepare an annual financial report over the next number of weeks. After it has been reviewed by the Parish Pastoral Council, it will be published in the Parish bulletin.

**Envelopes:** There are still a few 2020 donation envelopes that have not been picked up. They are in the Parish Office. You can either ask Lisa for your box during office hours, or ask Fr. Michael to retrieve it for you at any other time. For those who wish to switch to automatic donations, there are forms available for that in the entranceway of the Church. For those who wish to begin using weekly envelopes, there are boxes available in the Church - just ask Fr. Michael or a Minister of Hospitality for one.

Thank You

**YOUR OFFERINGS for December 25th and 29th, 2019**

<b>St. John the Evangelist</b>	Envelopes: \$1,500.00	Loose: \$816.50
	Pre-authorized Deductions: \$786.00	Christmas: \$3,980.00
	Heating: \$100.00	Initial Offering: \$70.00
		<b>Total: \$7,252.50</b>
<b>St. Bernardine of Siena</b>	Envelopes: \$430.00	Loose: \$151.40
		Christmas: \$405.00
		<b>Total: \$986.40</b>

**Mass Schedule**  
January 6 - January 12, 2020

**St. John the Evangelist**

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday, January 6		No Parish Mass
Tuesday, January 7	9:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of all Parishioners
Wednesday, January 8	9:30 a.m.	For Fr. Charles Mathieu by St. John's CWL
Thursday, January 9	9:30 a.m.	For Millie McNamara by Debbie Monaghan
Friday, January 10	9:30 a.m.	For Joe & Priscilla Egan by The Egan Family
Saturday, January 11	4:30 p.m.	For Melina Fraser by Stella Astgen
<b>BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> Sunday, January 12	10:30 a.m.	For the Intentions of all Parishioners

**St. Bernardine of Siena**

Sunday, January 12	9:00 a.m.	For Marty Arcand by Carolyn & Richard Jacobs
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**AN EPIPHANY BLESSING**



For those who wish to bless their home (which is also a blessing for all who live and visit that home), you may take a piece of blessed chalk with you after Mass and write the following over one or more of the entrances to your home:

**20 + C + M + B + 20**

That is the current year, the crosses which point to Christ, and the names of the Magi (by tradition): Caspar, Balthazar and Melchior. It is also the Latin Phrase: Christus Mansionem Benedicat (May Christ Bless this House). If you wish, you may also pray this prayer at the same time (or a similar prayer using your own words):

*Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Your law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home, upon all who dwell herein, and upon all those who visit. Through Christ our Lord.*

The Roman Catholic Parishes of  
**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST - Garson & Falconbridge**

**ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA - Skead**

255 Church St., P.O. Box 510, Garson, ON P3L 1S6

**Phone:** 705-693-2032

**Fax:** 705-693-9725

**Email:** [stjohnsgarson@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsgarson@gmail.com)

**Parish Website:** [www.stjohnsgarson.org](http://www.stjohnsgarson.org)

**OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK**  
Tuesday - Thursday 10am - Noon

**January 5, 2020**  
**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

**Pastor**

Fr. Michael Williams

**Secretary**

Lisa Walz

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

**RCIA and Pastoral Care:** Marie Bardswich

**Music Director:** Jeannine Longe

**Parish Organist:** Mariette Hickey/Cecilia Ross

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Myron McCormick	Finance - ex officio
Marie Bardswich	St. John's
Rachel Charette	St. John's
Sue Quackenbush	St. John's
Diane Myre	St. John's
Lisa Walz	St. John's
Trudy Hinds	St. Bernardine's

**PRAYER LINE**

Elaine Lamarche	705-693-3339
Rachel Corbett	705-693-3241

**ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA**

**Parish Contact**

Carole Larrett	705-969-4607
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**Communion to the Sick**

Rolande Kehoe	705-969-2838
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St. John Church  
Garson



St. Bernardine  
Church - Skead

**SUNDAY MASSES**

Saturday 4:30 pm. St. John the Evangelist

Sunday 9:00 am. St. Bernardine of Siena

Sunday 10:30 am. St. John the Evangelist

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

See in side for this week's schedule

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays: 3:30 - 4:00pm

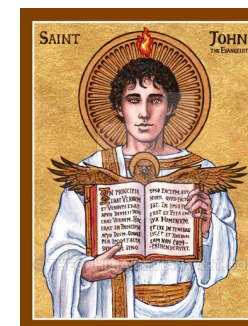
**CALL FR. MICHAEL REGARDING:**

Home Visit, Communion or Anointing of the Sick

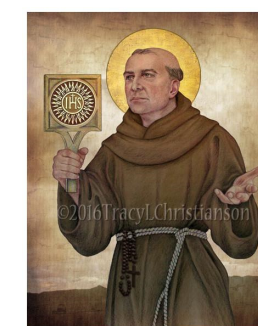
Individual Celebration of Reconciliation

**FOR BAPTISM, HOLY COMMUNION,  
CONFIRMATION & MARRIAGE:**

Please speak with Fr. Michael at any Sunday Mass  
(6 months minimum notice is needed for Marriage)



St. John the Evangelist



St. Bernardine of Siena