

# St. Edward the Confessor

December 25, 2017  
Christmas 2017



## **Thank You**

. . . very much for your support and generosity.



The collection on December 10 was \$905.  
Last Sunday's collection amounted to \$980.  
And the Helping Others collection totaled \$570.



Offering envelopes for 2018 are available in the hall. If you would like to start to use offering envelopes, please see Neil MacPherson or Tom Donahue.



## Mass Schedule

Please take note that the schedule of Masses this week will be different than usual:

**Dec 25:**

Mass on Christmas Day is at 10:00 a.m.

**Dec 30 & 31:**

There are no regular weekend Masses.

**Dec 31:**

New Year's Eve Mass is at 5:00 p.m.

**Jan 1:**

New Year's Day Mass is at 10:00 a.m.

**Jan 6 & 7:**

We return to our regular weekend Mass schedule, 5:00 p.m. Saturday and 9:00 a.m. Sunday..

**Readers Needed**



Lectures are needed at every Mass. If you would like to be part of the lectures' team, contact Brenda Leigh by e-mail: [bleigh@ciena.com](mailto:bleigh@ciena.com)

**Ministers of the Cup**



We need two volunteers at each Mass to assist in the distribution of the wine during Holy Communion and the clean up following communion. If you are interested in helping here contact Evelyn Zibrowski at [evelyn.zibrowski@videotron.ca](mailto:evelyn.zibrowski@videotron.ca)



"They say they are three kings."

' The angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I bring you the most joyful news ever announced, and it is for everyone! The Savior – yes, the Messiah, the Lord – has been born tonight in Bethlehem. You will find a baby wrapped in a swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' Luke 2: 10-12

If you have announcements for our community, you can email them to [craiglangbuchanan@gmail.com](mailto:craiglangbuchanan@gmail.com)  
or  
[anmarriedimichele@bell.net](mailto:anmarriedimichele@bell.net)

### **Reflecting On the Manger** **The Mystery Revealed to Us in the Hay**

The story of the birth of Jesus, as told to us by Luke, is full of joy in the midst of great conflict and sadness - even irony and rejection. It prepares us for the scandal of the cross by helping us see, in such a beautifully told story, that Jesus' mission is revealed

to us, in how he came to us - in poverty and humiliation. There, in the hay, we begin to know. There, in the manger, we begin to understand. Our God is revealed to us by coming in the lowliest of possible places. It is a meditation for our whole lives. This story is here to bring us light in the midst of any darkness, poverty, rejection, emptiness, sinfulness we experience. By reminding us of where he comes, the Good New is also a revelation of who we are. We are the "people who walk in darkness." We are people who experience parts of our lives as dry and unwelcoming as that hay. We are people who, on our own, not only fail to know and understand; we are capable of tremendous infidelity and stubborn independence.

We get our word "manger" from the Latin (and so French, Italian, Spanish) root, which means simply "to eat." Jesus comes, into the greatest place of our poverty, not only to be "with us" but to nourish us. The manger can be the place we go this Christmas to be fed with the acceptance, love, and peace we need. There is no place of darkness in which we need ever feel alone. There is no situation, no loss, no tragedy that need ever leave us empty. There is no sin, no matter how selfish that will ever leave us apart from God's love.

We have prayed, "Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people. We await your coming. Come, O Lord." Now, our eyes are opened to the wondrous joy of his coming to us in that manger 2,000 years ago, so that we will know and understand his coming to us in our hunger today, and ultimately so that we will long for his final coming to bring us to the banquet that has been prepared, to fill all our longing.