Parish Offices

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs & St. Bernard

110 Adams Avenue, Delhi, ON N4B 1P7 Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am-12:00 noon 1:00 pm-4:30 pm PHONE (519) 582-1312 EMAIL olmstbern@dol.ca

St. Mary & St. Cecilia

211 Union Street Simcoe, ON N3Y 2B3 Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 am-12 noon 1:00pm-4:30 pm PHONE (519) 426-0887 EMAIL stmarvcecilia@dol.ca

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs

110 Adams Ave., Delhi Saturday Vigil at 5:00 pm Sunday at 11:00 am

St. Marv

211 Union St., Simcoe Saturday Vigil at 5:00 pm Sunday at 11:00 am

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

165 Thompson Rd, Waterford Sunday at 9:00 am

St. Cecilia

17 Lynn Park Ave. Port Dover Sunday at 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs Every Saturday 4:00 pm-4:30 pm

St. Cecilia & St. Bernard of Clairvaux Every Sunday 8:15 am or by appointment

CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES IN NORFOLK



St. Mary, Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, and St. Cecilia

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"We are a Eucharistic community forming faith-filled disciples of Jesus in loving service of God and neighbour for salvation"

Website: <u>www.catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca</u> Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/stbstcstmolqm</u>

Pastoral Team

To reach a staff member, call your Parish Office and use the extension provided

Rev. Augustine Ogundele, Pastor <u>aogundele@dol.ca</u> ext: 222
Rev. Charles Akinloye, Associate Pastor <u>ctakinloye@dol.ca</u> ext: 223
Kathryn Heemskerk, Pastoral Minister <u>kheemskerk@dol.ca</u> ext: 224
Deacon Andy Alway <u>aalway@dol.ca</u>
Deacon John Doomernik <u>idoomernik@dol.ca</u>
Deacon Gerard Van Schyndel <u>gvanschyndel@dol.ca</u> ext: 236

Parish Team

Debbie Drinkwater, Administration Manager ddrinkwater@dol.ca ext: 240
Mary Zylstra, Finance Secretary mzylstra@dol.ca ext: 241
Mary Louise Haggith, Office Secretary/Receptionist mlhaggith@dol.ca ext: 0
Laurie Smith, Bulletin Editor and Scheduling Coordinator lsmith@dol.ca ext: 225
John Fettes, St. Bernard, Caretaker
Bill Hasilo, Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, Caretaker
Kristopher Urech, St. Mary, Caretaker

Catholic Schools

St. Joseph, Simcoe 519 426-0820 École Sainte-Marie, Simcoe 519 426-4775 Holy Trinity Catholic High School, Simcoe 519 429-3600 St. Frances Cabrini, Delhi 519 582-2470 St. Cecilia, Port Dover 519 583-0231 St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Waterford 519 443-8607

Diocese of London: Being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus

Bulletins can be viewed on our website: https://catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca/

2nd Sunday of Advent—December 10, 2023 3rd Sunday of Advent—December 17, 2023

A Message

Dear Friends,



Advent Season is a journey of grace to celebrate the mystery of incarnation; God becoming man in Jesus Christ. It is a great mystery that cannot be limited to material and physical preparation as we do in our world today. The Church in her wisdom makes us understand that we need some spiritual preparation to get ready for the celebration in the weeks of Advent. During this season, we are to

keep in mind the two comings of our Lord Jesus Christ- when he took the human form and born of the Virgin Mary as well as his second coming in his glory when we will come to judge the living and the dead. Therefore, during this season, the readings will continue to inspire us to be awake to our Christian responsibilities so that we may be favored at the coming of our master for heavenly reward. As we shop for all kinds of decorations, Christmas trees and gifts, for outward preparation, let us not forget the inward preparation that we must also purify our hearts of everything that does not promote the love of God so that Jesus may find a home in our hearts when he comes.

We want to congratulate St Cecilia Parish for the celebration of their 125th Anniversary coming up next year. It shall be celebrated on January 14, 2024. A book has been put together that tells the story of the faith journey of the community. We thank Dennis Blake and everyone who contributed to making the book a reality. Further information will be in the bulletin and announcements at weekends. We pray that the labor and courage of our forebears in the witness of their faith will continue to inspire us to be steadfast on our journey to the kingdom of God. Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord Always! God is greater than our challenges!! Fr. Augustine Ogundele

<u>Life in our Parish</u>

We welcome into our Family of Parishes through the Waters of Baptism the following:

St Bernard: Kaylee Sage, child of Rebecca and Ronald

Brynnleigh Misner, child of Courtney and Robert

St Mary: Matilda Laking, child of Heaven and Hunter

St Cecilia: Claire Mc Donald, child of Kristi and Jeffery

Jude Blashkiw, child of Tegan and Zachary

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs: Eirena Pichette, child of Charito and Christopher

First Communion/First Reconciliation Sacraments for Post Christmas Group

First Communion/First Reconciliation Parents for post Christmas group. Your materials are ready for pick up at the office. Please come as soon as possible. We need to get everyone registered and started.

Prayer for the First Week of Advent – a Prayer for Hope

O Lord, as we enter this season of Advent, this time of waiting and anticipation, **fill me with the hope of Christ**. Help me to wait **in great expectation** for your great light to shine in this world, for all who are living in darkness to see the dawning of your light. This world can be so dark, so troubling, so full of despair, yet you are light and love. **May your light fill all** the darkest corners of this world. and all the darkest corners of my own heart. **May your love conquer all** despair and hate, leading us all to a better life in you. **This is the hope of Christmas, that the birth of a baby – Jesus Christ, your Son – will change the world**, and will work a change in my own life. Lord, I pray to be filled with this hope that light will triumph over darkness, love will conquer evil, and Jesus will save us all. This I pray through your Son Jesus Christ, Amen.

To everything there is a season . . . "a time to be healed. . .

We pray for all the sick of our Parishes: Michael McLeod, Nick and Dorothy Botzang, Bill Perreira, Eileen Nan, and Matt LeSage

"a time to die. . . "

We pray for all the faithful departed: Archie Verspeeten, Margaret Cameron, Gerard McMann, Marva McElhone and Mary DeBock

Eternal rest grant unto them

Please contact our **Prayer Line** for anyone in need of comfort and solace. We have parishioners who share their gifts and gather in a prayerful ministry to pray for whatever request comes to them.

Prayer Line: 519 582-2431



Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk Christmas Schedule

CONFESSIONS

Saturday December 9, 2023

St. Mary 9:00-11:00 am

St. Bernard 1:00-3:00 pm

Saturday December 16, 2023
Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 9-11:00 am

St. Cecilia 1:00-3:00 pm

Thursday December 21, 2023

St. Mary 7:00-9:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 5:00 & 9:00 pm

St. Mary 5:00 pm & 12 midnight

St. Bernard & St. Cecilia 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

St. Bernard & St. Cecilia 9:00 am

St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 11:00 am

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Special blessing of families and individuals after mass
Saturday December 30, 2023

St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 5:00 pm

Sunday December 31, 2023

St. Bernard & St. Cecilia 9:00 am

St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 11:00 am

NEW YEAR'S EVE ADORATION

St. Mary 11:00 pm to 12 midnight



NEW YEAR'S DAY

Feast of Mary, Mother of God



St. Bernard & St. Cecilia 9:00 am St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 11:00 am

EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 5:00 pm

St. Bernard & St. Cecilia 9:00 am St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs 11:00 am



The Spirit of Truth and Love Catholic Prayer Group

The Spirit of Truth and Love Catholic Prayer Group meets every 1st & 3rd Tuesday evening at 7:45 pm electronically on Zoom, and every 2nd & 4th Tuesday in person after Mass at St Mary's. For more information, call John/Barra: 519-583-0277, or E-mail: johnbarra@sympatico.ca

PARISH MISSION

"The Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk with the participation of the Vocations Office is proud to bring you a three night mission event titled 'Your Best Yes This Advent', a journey in exploring the power of saying yes to the Lord. Fr. Danny Santos, Director of Vocations and Seminarians, will lead us in an encounter of this transformative experience by sharing stories of the Blessed Virgin Mary as well as presenting special relics at the events. Through drawing inspiration from Mary's faith and courage we can discover the beauty of saying 'yes' to what truly matters.

This three night event begins on Sunday, December 10th at 7pm in St. Mary's Church | Simcoe. Followed by Monday, December 11th at 7pm in Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs | Delhi and the conclusion will be Tuesday, December 12th at 7pm in St. Mary's Church. All are welcome to attend.

St. Mary's Church

Please join us on Wednesday Dec 13 10:00a.m to 12:00 pm to help clean all the wood in our church. It hasn't been done in awhile so bring your pails and rubber gloves and help make our beautiful church shine for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. See you there.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the week of December 10, 2023

All Churches of Catholic Family of Parishes: In Gratitude to our Volunteers

Mass Intentions for the Week:

Mon Dec 11 St. Mary

9:00 am +Laurens Maissan

+John & Madeline McSloy

Tues Dec 12 <u>Cedarwood</u>

2:00 pm Intentions of Residents and Staff

St. Mary

No Mass (Parish Mission)

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs

No Mass (Parish Mission)

Wed Dec 13 St. Cecilia

9:00 am +Helen & Peter Herzog

(School Mass) +Pat Driscoll

9:00 am * Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs

(School) +Archie Verspeeten

+Maria & Manuel Sousa +Maria & Manuel Mauricio

+Mary Murphy

Intentions of the Heyndrickx & Coppens

Families

7:00 pm St. Bernard of Clairvaux

+Louis Debono +Herb Smith

Thur Dec 14 St. Cecilia

9:00 am +Howard Dwyer

+Frank Oliver

Fri Dec 15 St. Mary

10:00 am Intentions of Maurice Roche & Family

+Carol Shewburg

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

11:30 am +Herbert & Marjorie Smith

+Irene Holodinsky & Ryan

Special Intention for Helen McMahon &

Family

Adoration 30 minutes prior to Weekday Mass

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the week of

December 17, 2023

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs: Archie Verspeeten St. Bernard of Clairvaux: Anthony Vidmontas

Mass Intentions for the Week:

Mon Dec 18 St. Mary

9:00 am +Olga Kuska

+Belmira, Joe & George Curado

+Maria Josefina & Antonio Correia Borges

Tues Dec 19 Rosewood Senior Living

10:30 am Intentions of Residents & Staff

7:00 pm **St. Mary**

+Herbert & Marjorie Smith +Antonio & Maria Santos

7:00 pm **Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs**

+Marva McElhone

+Albertine & Jerome Degryse +Jose Borges & Joaquim Borges

+Margaret Ann Smith

+Raul Ferreira & Reinaldo Gomes

Wed Dec 20 St. Cecilia

9:00 am +Tony Masella

+Madeline Devries

11:00 am Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs

+Jessie Cordeiro

+Luiza Gomes Ferreira & Lucinda Miranda

Ferreira

+Paul Polfliet & Lucien Verbuyst

Deceased Members of William & Cecilia

Smith

7:00 pm St. Bernard of Clairvaux

+Mary, Stan & John Zlomanczuk

+Michael Clancy

Thur Dec 21 St. Cecilia

9:00 am +Helen Azzopardi

Intentions for Blessed Souls in Purgatory

10:30 am Norview

The Intentions of Residents and Staff

Fri Dec 22 St. Mary

10:00 am +Eddie Laing

+Lucia Gama

Intentions of the Moore Family

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

11:30 am +Tony, Martin & Angus Van Den Hurk

+Anthony Vidmontas

A Prayer for the Second Week of Advent – a Prayer for Peace

Heavenly Father, Lord of All, **come and fill this world** with your peace. May there be an end to hatred and division among your people. Cease all the fighting and war in this world. Heal the bitterness and hurt in my own heart. In this season of Advent, **prepare my heart** for the coming of Jesus, our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Fill my heart** with your peace which passes all understanding. For of the greatness of his government and peace, there shall be no end. Amen.

St. Bernard CWL:



The C.W.L. Christmas Dinner will be on Thursday December 7th, in the church hall. Social hour from 4 - 5 pm followed by dinner .Cost is \$ 25.00 per person. ALL ladies of the Parish and spouses / friends are invited. To sign up please call Patti at 443 -5269 or Betty at 443 - 5023 before Nov.29. deadline.. Hope to see you all there.

Our Lady of La Salette CWL:

Our Lady of La Salette CWL executive are inviting all members to join them and Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs CWL for Christmas Dinner on Dec.7, 2023 starting with Mass at 5:30 and potluck dinner to follow in hall. If you would love to join us please give me a call or text for confirmations Edith 519-533-3198. That could be your perfect opportunity to pay for your membership that is \$35.

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs CWL:

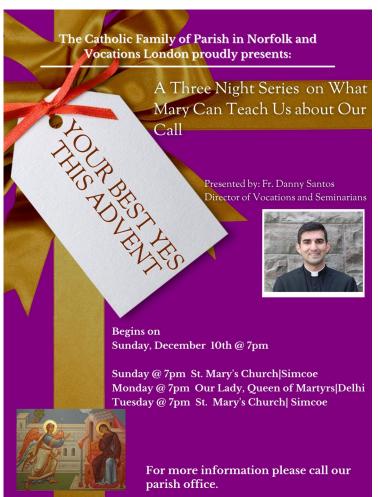
Christmas Mass/Potluck: Our December gathering will begin with a Mass at 5:30 pm at OLQM church and followed by a potluck dinner in the Parish Hall. All members are welcome, feel free to bring along a perspective member.

2024 MEMBERSHIPS: To renew your membership please use an envelope and enclose \$35 and your name. Please make your cheque out to OLQM CWL. (Sue Gaal, Membership convenor 519-582-8201). This can be submitted by:

- dropping it in the collection basket at Mass, with envelope clearly indicating OLQM CWL
- 2) dropping it off at the Parish office on Tuesdays or Thursdays during the hours of 8:30 a.m. -12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
- 3) mailing it to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs CWL, 110 Adams Ave, Delhi, Ont. N4B 1P7

St. Cecilia CWL:

The ladies of the parish are invited to attend a Christmas lunch consisting of a turkey dinner on December 13 . The doors will open at 12 noon for a social and lunch will be served at 12:30. The cost is \$20 and will be collected at the door. Your CWL 2024 membership fee of\$35 can also be paid at that time. If you would like to attend, please call Evelyn at 519 583 9528, or email at ehudecki@gmail.com. Please try to let me know if you are coming by December 07 in order for us to let the caterers know how many to prepare for.







THE GIVING TREE-St. Mary's Church

Every year St. Vincent de Paul asks for your support in ensuring that every family has a joyous Christmas!! We provide Christmas hampers directly to 50+ families in our community. Each family receives a hamper with a turkey or ham, potatoes, vegetables, bread, milk, cookies, and other items that will guarantee that they will not go hungry.

With the increased costs we are all facing this year from heating our homes to groceries, your continued support is urgently needed. Please consider taking a tag or two off our Giving Tree and help us to fill our Christmas hampers! The Giving Tree will be up from December 2nd – December 17th. Just take a tag,

purchase the item, or gift card and place it under the tree in a bag before or after mass by noon on December 17th. Please also return the tag in the bag so that we can re-use the tags.

If you are an early shopper, feel free to purchase a gift card from Walmart, Giant Tiger or a grocery store and leave it under the tree during the first week of Advent! Hampers include gift cards for each adult, and a food store gift card for each family for the incidentals. Other items you may consider purchasing are peanut butter, coffee, hot chocolate, chocolates, or cookies. Every little bit helps! Your support will help us create a Merry Christmas for a family, couple, a single person, or the elderly who may not be able to afford even the basic food necessities this holiday season.

Thank you in advance for bringing the light of Christmas into the homes of others!

St. Vincent de Paul Port Dover/Walsh - Christmas Giving Tree

The St. Vincent de Paul will once again be providing Christmas "Baskets" to local families who need a little extra Christmas cheer this year! **The Giving Tree will be up and ready after masses at St. Cecilia's Church starting on November 25th/26th.** We are unable to collect canned goods but will still be collecting gifts at the back of St. Cecilia's and St. Michael's churches for young children, as well as gift cards or cash donations. We are using gift cards in lieu of donated canned goods so that the families can go to their store of choice and choose the items they would like. We have had great success with this in the past couple years.

You can also feel free to leave a donation in the St. Vincent de Paul box at the back of any of the other churches that do not have a giving tree. We would really appreciate your support in purchasing gift cards to Walmart or Real Canadian Superstore or providing a monetary donation towards these gift cards. We would also love you to select a child's name and gift idea from the back of the church that can be found on the giving tree and purchasing the gift.

Any purchased gifts please leave unwrapped as its easier to sort and ensure it goes to the right family/child. Please attach the tag that you got from the tree onto the gift before placing it in the box by the giving tree.

If you would like a tax receipt for your donation of \$20 or more, please place your donation in an envelope with your name and address enclosed.

All donations can be dropped in the St. Vincent de Paul box at the back of the church any weekend from November 26th until Dec. 10th. Our St. Vincent de Paul helps people from all over Norfolk County and last year we distributed approximately 50 Christmas baskets thanks to your generous contributions. We look forward to your generosity again this year. Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and have a Merry Christmas!

Development and Peace

We wish to thank parishioners for supporting our campaign "Stand for the Land "in support of two communities in Honduras, Guapinol and San Pedro who are trying to protect their land and water from being polluted by a mining company. These signatures will be presented to the Honduran Ambassador to Canada at a later date.

Juana Zuniga, a Honduran who was in Canada for the launch of the campaign was totally surprised by the breath of the campaign across Canada. He said that they were just a small country trying to protect their land and water and were very grateful to Canada for their support.

Development and Peace Committee.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM SIMCOE/WATERFORD/DELHI ST VINCENT DE PAUL

SSVP'S EMERGENCY FOOD DELIVERY -- last delivery of emergency food before Christmas is Thursday December 21st, 2023, We will start delivering emergency food in the New Year on Thursday January 4, 2024

To receive an emergency food delivery before our Christmas break, please call our Toll Free Number1-855-561-4184 before 5:00 pm on Wednesday December 20th 2023.

St. Vincent de Paul Community Kitchen

St. Vincent de Paul Community Kitchen will serve its last meal before Christmas on Thursday December 21st, 2023.

We will look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year when we reopen on Tuesday Jan. 2, 2024.

May God grant you peace and happiness this holiday season. God Bless,

Members of St. Vincent de Paul

Job Posting

Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk Part-time Caretaker

Position: Caretaker

Family of Parishes: Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk

Location: Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs Parish-110 Adams Avenue, Delhi

Commitment: 15 hours a week, including weekends and evenings

POSITION SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Pastor, the Caretaker manages and ensures the timely maintenance and upkeep of the properties of the Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk. The Caretaker works collaboratively with the the Pastor, Administration Manager, Pastoral Team, staff, laity, committees and Diocesan staff.

Summary of Duties:

- · Cleaning of all buildings including church, offices, Parish Hall.
- Contacting, arranging for and overseeing required work with outside contractors for services and/or repairs.
- Make arrangements for general maintenance and minor repairs of all buildings including painting, minor plumbing, electrical and carpentry repairs
- · Setup and take down for events and meetings taking place in the Parish Hall
- · Purchasing of all needed cleaning and maintenance supplies.
- . Ground maintenance of flower gardens and the coordination of snow removal and salting of all entrances and sidewalks

Qualifications and Requirements

- Prior experience in general maintenance and cleaning with knowledge of basic plumbing, heating, electrical electrical and carpentry
- Willingness and ability to work flexible hours including weekends, as needed.
- Ability to perform tasks of a physical and manual nature safely and efficiently.
- Use of a reliable personal vehicle, valid G driver's license and proof of personal insurance for vehicle are required.
- Strong organizational skills, verbal communication skills, creative problem-solving skills along with a high level of self-initiatives are required for success in this position.
- Prior experience delegating to and working with volunteers is an asset.
- Understanding of and a supportive attitude towards the mission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of London is necessary.

Please submit your resume along with 3 work related references to: ddrinkwater@dol.ca

Debbie Drinkwater

Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk 110 Adams Avenue Delhi, ON N4B 1P7

We thank all who apply to this position for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

A Prayer for the Third Week in Advent – a Prayer for Joy

Holy Father, Lord of all creation, you have power and might over heaven and earth. You speak a word and mountains move. You whisper and the sea obeys. You turn darkness into light and transform broken things into beauty. Lord, help me to see the wonder in your creation, to find the joy amidst the trials. For in you I can rejoice and be glad. No matter what the world brings, I can find joy in you. Help me to celebrate with joy and gladness this Christmas, for in you all things are made new. You are working to restore and remake all the broken pieces of my life and of this world. In you I will be glad and rejoice forever,

Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk

POSITION TITLE: Custodian

Location: St. Mary's Parish – 211 Union Street, Simcoe, ON Commitment: 15 hours a week, including weekend and evenings

POSITION SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Pastor, the Custodian manages and ensures the timely maintenance and upkeep of the properties of the Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk. The Custodian works collaboratively with the Coordinator of Property and Maintenance, the Pastor, Administration Manager, Pastoral Team, staff, laity, committees and Diocesan staff.

Summary of Duties:

- · Cleaning of all buildings including church, offices, Parish Centre.
- · Contacting, arranging for and overseeing required work with outside contractors for services and/or repairs.
- General maintenance and minor repairs of all buildings including painting, minor plumbing, electrical and carpentry repairs
- · Setup and take down for events and meetings taking place in the Parish Centre.
- · Purchasing of all needed cleaning and maintenance supplies.
- . Ground maintenance year-round including spring and fall clean up, flower gardens and the coordination of snow removal and salting of all entrances and sidewalks.

Qualifications and Requirements

- Prior experience in general maintenance and cleaning with knowledge of basic plumbing, heating, electrical and carpentry
- · Willingness and ability to work flexible hours including weekends, as needed.
- · Ability to perform tasks of a physical and manual nature safely and efficiently.
- Use of a reliable personal vehicle, valid G driver's license and proof of personal insurance for vehicle are required.
- Strong organizational skills, verbal communication skills, creative problem-solving skills along with a high level of self-initiatives are required for success in this position.
- Knowledge and experience using various computer programs including programs within Microsoft Office is required.
- · Prior experience delegating to and working with volunteers is an asset.
- Understanding of and a supportive attitude towards the mission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of London is Necessary.

Please submit your resume along with 3 work related references to: ddrinkwater@dol.ca

Debbie Drinkwater

Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk 110 Adams Avenue Delhi, ON N4B 1P7

We thank all who apply to this position for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

A Prayer for the Fourth Week in Advent – a Prayer for Love

Holy Father, thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, your greatest gift of love to your people. **Fill my heart** with such love, **opening my heart** to accept your great love for me. **Overflow my heart** with your love, so I may pour it out into the world. **Help me to love others as you've loved me – even those who aren't so easy to love**. For following you means loving others as you love me. Lord, thank you for your great gift of Jesus as we celebrate Christmas. **May I ever walk in your love and show the world I am your disciple by the love I show to others,** keeping Jesus, your Son, close in my heart. Amen. Shared from Prayer and Possibilities, by Kathryn Shirey