

**First Sunday of Advent**

Today is the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of a new Church year. Why are these four weeks before Christmas called “Advent”? The term comes from a Latin word (adventus) meaning ‘coming, arrival’. We immediately think it refers to the coming of Jesus at Christmas time and that is correct. But it is not the whole story. In fact, we can speak of three comings of the Lord and all are referred to in the Scripture readings today. If we want to celebrate the First Coming of Jesus and prepare for his Second Coming, then the way to do it is to be aware of his coming into every moment of every day. The Scripture for today tells us that on the bus of life we should:

**a. Be ready to get off the bus at any point**, that is, be ready to meet the Lord whenever he calls us to himself, whether that be in the very near future or many years away. The important thing is: Be prepared.

**b. Do not be afraid**, do not worry. Fear, worry and anxiety do not solve any problems. Fear, worry and anxiety are about things, which do not yet exist and most probably will never exist as we imagine them.

**c. Improve our relations with the people around us.** A good life consists not so much in the kind of work we do or how “successful” we are but how we have related with other people – with family, other relatives, friends, colleagues and total strangers.

**St. Teresa of Avila:**

“May you be content knowing you are a child of God.”

**Youth Ministry**

As we prepare for Christmas, we invite you to walk with us over the four Sundays of Advent in prayer and reflection. Advent is a great time to prepare ourselves to make an invitation to the Lord to be born again in our hearts, and to help us journey closer to the Father.

Our prayer will be centered on the Gospels of the Four Sundays of Advent and will be partnered with an illumination from The Saint John's Bible. The Saint John's Bible is very special because we find images (illuminations) that help bring a very real and human understanding of the Word of God to life. Please follow the link to take advantage of Advent resources for youth:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/uploads/docs/AdventResource2018-YouthMinistry.pdf>

**Installation Mass for Fr. Marian Gil OMI**

On Sunday, **December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at **10:00am** the official installation of Father Marian Gil, OMI, as pastor of St. Teresa Parish will take place. For this occasion, Bishop Douglas Crosby OMI will be present. We invite our entire parish community to join our Pastor for this solemn occasion and meet Bishop Crosby. Following the Eucharist, there will be a Potluck Brunch in our parish hall. Please join us for this special celebration!

<b>Mass Intentions</b>	
December 3 – December 9, 2018	
<b>Tuesday, December 4:</b>	7:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, December 5:</b>	8:30 a.m. + <b>Tom Nakluski</b> – <i>Sandra Nakluski</i>
<b>Thursday, December 6:</b>	8:30 a.m.
<b>Friday, December 7:</b>	8:30 a.m. + <b>David Lamka</b> – <i>CWL</i> 7:00 p.m. <b>For GVO St. Teresa Covenant Community</b>
<b>Saturday, December 8:</b>	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 1)+ <b>Harry Wismer</b> – <i>Joan Wismer</i> 2)+ <b>Deceased Members of the Beaupre Family</b> – <i>Pat and Dan Weiler</i>
<b>Sunday, December 9:</b>	10:00 a.m. <b>Mass for Members of St. Teresa Parish</b>

<b>Stewardship Report</b>	
<b>November 25, 2018</b>	
Sunday Envelopes.....	2,268.50
Loose.....	38.50
Building and Maintenance.....	20.00
Snow blower.....	100.00
Vigil Lights .....	73.50

**Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2018**

Monday, December 3 – Rev. Octavio Ciadao  
 Tuesday, December 4 – Rev. Jose Edson Moreira  
 Wednesday, December 5 – Discalced Carmelite Sisters  
 Thursday, December 6 – Rev. Peter Raymond  
 Friday, December 7 – Rev. George Nowak, C.R.  
 Saturday, December 8 – Rev. Pawel Szymanowski, C.R.  
 Sunday, December 9 – Second Sunday of Advent

**PREPARING FOR  
FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION**

**Thursday, December 6, 2018** at 7:00 p.m. in our parish hall there will be a meeting for the parents of our First Communion candidates. II session - *Reconciliation: the gift of God's Mercy.*

**Sunday, December 9th, 2018 at 10.00 a.m.** Holy Mass with gifts: “Actions speak louder than words”. During this Mass our Confirmation candidates will present their projects, which they selected as part of their preparation program for Confirmation.

**Friday, December 14, 2018** at 7:00 p.m. Meeting with

parents of Confirmation candidates. Catechetical Session II: *Reconciliation: the gift of God's Mercy.*

**Nocturnal Adoration** is held every first Saturday of the month from 9 - 10 p.m. here at St. Teresa Parish. Please join us and spread the word.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** for St. Teresa School students will take place on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 – 12:30 pm. The following priests will hear confession: Fr. Marian Gil OMI, Fr. Toby Collins C.R., Fr. David Perrin, and Fr. Anthony Degutis OMI.

**GVO St. Teresa Covenant Community** is having their annual Christmas get together **Friday December 7th**. Father Marian will preside the First Friday mass at 7:00p.m. then everyone is welcome to the church hall for a Potluck dinner. There will be games, a gift exchange and carol singing with the wonderful and talented Art Thomas. Please plan to join us!

**December 8, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** This day Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate around the world will celebrate their patronal feast. On this occasion we would like to congratulate them and wish many graces in their missionary work.

**The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Advent Novena** – This 9 day Advent Novena of 6:30 am masses has been an annual tradition in K-W for the past 40 years. Beginning Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> to Saturday December 15<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy coffee and fellowship each day after mass. Breakfast on the final Saturday in the St. Agnes Parish Center with a free will offering. Proceeds to the SVDP Christmas Hampers.

**St Teresa Parish Christmas Party** will be held on **Saturday, December 15th** following the 5 pm Mass. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm and consists of turkey and all the trimmings including cake and ice cream for dessert! The cost for tickets is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 10 and under and there is a family rate of \$20.00 for families with 2 or more children 10 and under. Tickets will be available the weekends of December 1 & 2 and December 8 & 9 at the main door of the church or at the parish office. Following dinner there will be a carol singing as well as a visit by Santa Claus. Please plan on joining us ....**the more the merrier!**

**New Sunday Missals for the New Liturgical year 2018/19** are available for purchase at the back of the church starting with the First Sunday of Advent.

**Bingo**

Matinee on **Saturday, December 22nd** from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Charities Bingo Hall, 510 Krug Street, Kitchener.

**Vocations**

If you feel God is calling you to religious life or priesthood, then call Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988, x2246.



The Diocese of Hamilton is conducting the One Heart, One Soul Campaign to raise money for every Parish in the Diocese and for shared ministries. Answers to a set of Frequently Asked Questions appear in Parish bulletins regularly. A compilation of all questions that have been published are available throughout the campaign at oneheartonesoul.ca.

**Who will actually conduct the campaign at each Parish?**

The Diocese, with the help of the Steier Group, will manage the overall campaign effort, including the preparation of materials. At each Parish, the Pastor will identify campaign leaders who will work with the Steier Group. Those Parish leaders will help recruit other volunteers to form a campaign team that will conduct the personal visits and other elements that are the key to the success of the campaign.

**How much help with the campaign can our Parish expect to get from the Diocese and the consulting firm?**

The Diocese will pay the financial costs of the campaign. Parishes will not be responsible for any campaign expenses such as postage, printing or diocesan events held at the parish. If a Parish hosts an event to promote the campaign to its parishioners, the Parish will bear those costs. In addition, several Steier Group campaign managers will guide the Parishes through the campaign process. Each Parish will be assigned to one of four “waves.” The Parish will be responsible for forming a team of volunteers that implements the necessary elements of the process.

**How long will this take?**

On a diocesan level, the entire campaign will run through early 2021. On a Parish level, there will be four campaign “waves.” A Parish’s particular wave will run for six to seven months. That includes preparation, solicitation and follow-up phases. The active solicitation period will last three to four months.

**What happens if our Parish doesn't hit its financial goal?**

A clergy committee will implement policies that all parishes will follow on such questions. There will be incentives for Parishes to reach their goals. Parishes not reaching their goals face the prospect of not being able to complete needed projects