

Second Sunday of Advent

There are many strange names in today's Gospel. They are the names of people and places most of us have never heard of. Why does Luke mention these people and places? He is telling us that the story of John the Baptist and of Jesus is really historical. This story really happened in this world at a particular time and a particular place. Today's Gospel, speaks of John the Baptist. He – an equally historical figure – was chosen to announce the coming of Jesus: the Messiah, the Christ, the Saviour King. "Prepare a way for the Lord," he calls out and his words are equally meant for us as for the people he directly spoke to. He comes "proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins," says Luke. Like John the Baptist, each one of us has a mission to communicate the Spirit of Christ and his message of hope, love, freedom and peace to others. To help people fill their valleys and make their rough paths smoother. A word of affirmation and encouragement can work wonders. To have a naturally cheerful disposition can be a real witness of Christian joy.

St. Teresa of Avila:

"You pay God a compliment by asking great things of Him."

Youth Ministry

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. Please follow the link to take advantage of Advent resources for youth:
<https://hamiltondiocese.com/uploads/docs/AdventResource2018-YouthMinistry.pdf>

Vocations

Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister in order to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the Lord?" If you think God is calling you to be a priest call Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988, x2246.

Preparing for First Communion and Confirmation

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 III: Eucharist - the gift of God's Love".

Sunday, December 16th, 2018 at 10.00 a.m. Holy Mass with gifts: "Actions speak louder than words". During this Mass our First Communion candidates will present their projects, which they selected as part of their preparation program for Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Offertory Procession

Confirmation & Communion candidates will bring the offertory gifts to the altar on the following Sundays:
December 16th, 10 a.m. Robert Sebastian & his family.
December 23rd, 10 a.m. Aliyah Chouinard & her family.
 Along with the offertory gifts, candidates will bring nonperishable food to support our SVDP association who provides support to the poor.

Mass Intentions

December 10 – December 16, 2018

Tuesday, December 11: 11:00 a.m.
School Advent Mass

Tuesday, December 11: 5:30 p.m.
Living and Deceased Members of CWL

Wednesday, December 12: 8:30 a.m.
+Winnifred Rabak - CWL

Thursday, December 13: 8:30 a.m.
Through the Hands of our Lady of Fatima for a son's Vocation - Mother

Friday, December 14: 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 15: 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 15: 5:00 p.m.
+Veronica Reid – McDonald & Reid Family
+Scott Weiler –Pat & Dan Weiler
+Doug Beaupre –Pat & Dan Weiler

Sunday, December 16: 10:00 a.m.
Mass for Members of St. Teresa Parish

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2018

Monday, December 10 – Rev. Lech Wycichowski
 Tuesday, December 11 – Rev. Stanley Zaryczny
 Wednesday, December 12 – Carmelites of Mary Immaculate
 Thursday, December 13 – Rev. Brendan McGrath
 Friday, December 14 – Rev. Miro Grubisic
 Saturday, December 15 – Rev. David Perrin
 Sunday, December 16 – Third Sunday of Advent

Stewardship Report

November 18, 2018 (should have been last week)	
Sunday Envelopes.....	1,810.00
Loose.....	173.20
Building and Maintenance.....	10.00
Christmas Offering.....	40.00

Coffee Sunday – Join fellow parishioners for more Christmas Spirit after the 10 a.m. Mass next **Sunday, December 16th**.

The Blessing of the Baby Jesus figurines

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent).

All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on **Saturday, Dec. 15th at 5:00 pm and on Sunday, Dec. 16th at the 10:00 am** Mass to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day - as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

St Teresa Parish Christmas Party will be held on **Saturday, December 15th** following the 5 p.m. Mass. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. 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.

Christmas CWL Potluck - Bring your favourite dish and your favourite people (husbands, children, friends) to our annual Christmas potluck. Wear a special Christmas outfit and be prepared to sing-a-long with Sue Weber Bell and friends. Please join us for the whole evening starting with Mass at 5:30. A good time is guaranteed!

School Christmas Pageant (during Mass on Saturday, December 15th). We are so happy to have the students put on a Christmas pageant again. We would like to thank Lorianne Schaus for all her hard work

The 40th Annual Advent Novena – An Invitation to Prepare for Christmas: **Nine daily Masses at 6:30 a.m.** at St. Agnes Church, 75 Bluevale St. N. Waterloo, **Friday, December 7th to Saturday, December 15th.** Coffee and fellowship following each Mass celebration.

Euchre Results

Next game night will be **December 14th**.

Bingo

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



What kinds of things does the Diocese do for Parishes and others already?

The good work of the Diocese of Hamilton is widespread. Here are a few examples of the ways diocesan offices enhance the life of our Parishes and people:

- Advocating for the dignity of all life and supporting and promoting marriage and family life.
- Encouraging vocational discernment to priesthood and religious life.
- Programming and support for youth and young adult ministry.
- Adult faith formation, catechesis, religious education and sacramental preparation.
- Assistance in the relocation and resettlement of refugees.
- Advocacy on behalf of the poor and marginalized.
- Assistance for Parishes in all aspects of sacred worship, including formation for liturgical ministers.
- Support for Parishes in the areas of human resources, building maintenance, financial reporting, stewardship, charitable giving and Parish development.

Does the Diocese help organizations outside of it?

Yes, the Diocese is generous to many in need. For example, the Diocese has an ongoing financial commitment to help the Archdiocese of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, which is still suffering from the effects of the devastating earthquake there in 2010, and the Diocese of Churchill-Hudson Bay, which includes northern Manitoba and the territory of Nunavut. The Diocese also supports many worthy causes within and outside of the Diocese, such as: organizations who support the poor and marginalized, like St. Vincent de Paul, the Good Shepherd and several others; health care initiatives, including hospice care and conscience protection for those in the medical field; community organizations such as the Catholic Youth Organization, Catholic Family Services and Catholic Children's Aid; and several other organizations and causes in need who do the work of the gospel. Additionally, the Diocese is proud to have made a significant gift to St. Peter's Seminary in London, helping to ensure the seminary can continue its mission to form priests for our Diocese and the Church in Canada.

Why a significant gift to a seminary in another Diocese?

There is a longstanding and fruitful connection between St. Peter's Seminary in London and the Diocese of Hamilton. For more than a hundred years, St. Peter's has trained a majority of our diocesan Priests Of the current Hamilton seminarians, the majority are at St. Peter's, which is one of only three English-speaking seminaries in Canada. The seminary is in need – these funds were required for St. Peter's to continue its mission of forming Priests, deacons and lay ministers – and its vitality is important to the long-term outlook for vocations in Hamilton.