

## 3rd Sunday of Lent

One of the recurrent themes throughout the Lenten season is **the compassion and mercy of our God**. It is something that we constantly need to be reminded about. Our God is always faithful and consistent. His love for us never changes, no matter how we behave, no matter how serious our sins may be. It has to be that way because our God not only loves, he IS love. Love is of the very essence of his being; he cannot not love.

In today's Gospel, some people approach Jesus and tell him of how some Galileans had been killed by Roman soldiers in the Temple sanctuary. Did they want Jesus, as a Galilean himself, to denounce the Roman authorities? Jesus responds by taking another track altogether. Instead, he mentions another incident, apparently a sheer accident when a building fell on some purely innocent people and killed many. Jesus asks his questioners: "Did these people die because of their sin? Was this God's way of punishing them? If I do not suffer in that way, does that mean that I have no sin?" When thousands are killed or made homeless as the result of some terrible natural disaster, an earthquake or a cyclone, are we to read it as an act of punishment for those people or even for the whole country?

Does God love those victims less? Are those who escape such disasters more loved by him? Maybe it is the other way round. Those who died may have been ready to meet their God while those who survive are being given an opportunity to put things right with their lives. Jesus gives a clear warning: "Unless you repent, you will ALL die as they did." 'Repent' (Greek, metanoia) implies not just regret for the past but a radical conversion and a complete change in our way of life in responding to and opening ourselves to the love of God.

**St. Teresa of Avila**

"God has been very good to me, for I never dwell upon anything wrong which a person has done, so as to remember it afterwards. If I do remember it, I always see some other virtue in that person."

**Lenten Spiritual Exercises**

During the season of Lent we are invited to dedicate more time for prayer and undertake spiritual exercises which help us to overcome our weaknesses and all the forms of addictions. We invite you to pray during this holy season for special grace that would help you to improve your life. You may write your intention and place it into the basket that is in front of the painting of crucified Jesus. This image reminds us of enormous Love that God wants to bestow upon each of us. We will pray for all these intentions with our entire community every Sunday.

**Vocations**

The Lord is kind and merciful and calls us to proclaim His Name. Consider service in the priesthood or consecrated life. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton 905-528-7988 email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

**Stations of the Cross at St. Teresa Parish**

All Parishioners are encouraged to take part in Lenten Devotion, Stations of the Cross, which is taking place in our parish every Friday at 7 p.m. Parish organizations are invited to lead this Lenten Devotion. Please contact our parish office in advance to put your group on our schedule.

**Lenten Parish Retreat** will take place from **Sunday, March 31st – Wednesday, April 3rd**. Please find enclosed, a bulletin insert about our upcoming Lenten Retreat program. This is a special time of grace, please take advantage of this event. We encourage you to share this information with your family and friends. As a reminder, you can post this insert on your fridge so you can pray for the success of our Parish Retreat.

**Offertory Procession**

Communion candidates will bring the offertory gifts to the altar on the following Saturday & Sunday:  
**March 30th** – 5:00pm Devon Lorentz & Family

**Preparing for 1st Holy Communion** - meeting with parents of First Communion children on **Thursday, April 11th** at 7:00 pm in our parish hall.

**Parish Survey 2019**

Please remember to complete the survey that was in your bulletin last week and return it next Sunday, placing this form in the box that will be left at the back of the church. We are very excited about this process of discerning our gifts and talents which we can share at the service of our community in order to assure our growth and strength as a parish.

**Installation of Parish Pastoral Council**

During the 10 a.m. Mass the Installation of newly formed Parish Pastoral Council will take place. We would like to thank the following parishioners for accepting the invitation to serve as members of this council. Mary Helen Stroeder, Magie Navaleza, Barbara Daly, Stefan Sebastian, Jason Fedy, and Alijah & Madeline Weber.

**Coffee Sunday**

The next Coffee Sunday has been deferred to **Sunday, April 7th** after Mass. Hope to see you there.

**Mass Intentions**

March 25 - 31, 2019

**Tuesday, March 26: 7:00 p.m.**

+**Berny Tenbult** – *Michael & Ann Onn*

**Wednesday, March 27: 8:30**

+**Mikolaj & Kinga Caruk** – *Andrew & Tina Caruk*

**Thursday, March 28: 8:30 a.m.**

+**Terry Plester** – *Hugh & MH Stroeder*

**Friday, March 29: 8:30 a.m.**

+**Rose Lehmann** – *Bill & MA Zister*

**Saturday, March 30: 9:00 a.m.**

+**Arlene Freiburger** – *Rosemary Mussar*

**Saturday, March 30: 5:00 p.m.**

+**Bill Scherrer** – *Schummer Family*

**Sunday, March 31: 10:00 a.m.**

**Mass for Members of St. Teresa Parish**

**Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2019**

Monday, March 25 – Rev. Chris Buda

Tuesday, March 26 – Rev. Frederick Scinto

Wednesday, March 27 – Chancery Staff

Thursday, March 28 – Rev. Aleksander Mazur

Friday, March 29 – Rev. Pat Aiello

Saturday, March 30 – Rev. Sutherland MacDonald

Sunday, March 31 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Stewardship Report****March 10, 2019**

Envelopes.....	\$2,197.00
Loose.....	66.65
Building and Maintenance.....	20.00
Memorial Donations- Moser.....	200.00
Votive Candles.....	161.05
Catholic Community Foundation.....	3,390.00

**Pasta Dinner Fundraiser: Sunday, March 31st**, St. Teresa Parish and St. Teresa School Playground Committee invite you to a Pasta Dinner catered by Ennio's. We are looking for prizes for raffles. To **donate** something for this evening please contact Barbara Daly at: bmdaly@me.com.

**Church Cleaning for Easter**

Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, April 13th** when we will once gather to clean in the Church for Easter celebrations. We will start after Mass at 9:45. Men, women, and children are welcome to help. We appreciate an hour or two of your time.

**Canadian Food for Children and Catholic Women's League**

On Tuesday, March 12th, following our CWL meeting, John and Linda Lou Pinnington gave a wonderful presentation on Dr. Andrew Simone's work sending food, clothing, personal hygiene items, etc. to countries in need throughout Africa, Asia and Central America. The Food for Children Warehouse is a few short blocks from St. Teresa Church on Guelph St. Our members were very eager to serve this needy organization. During Lent Dr. Simone is asking that we donate bars of soap. When we give a bar of soap to the poor, we prevent skin and lung infections, and diarrhea, we also stop flies from going into the eyes of the poor children. When the poor are clean, they are not ashamed of themselves. They have dignity and self-respect. Baskets will be made available at the church entrances until **April 14<sup>th</sup>** for donations of bars of soap for Dr. Simone's poor. We appreciate the generosity of our St. Teresa parishioners!

**Adoration for Life - Thursday April 4th**, 11-11:40 a.m. at St. Mary Our Lady of Seven Sorrows RC Church, 56 Duke St. W., Kitchener. Mass at 12 Noon or **Friday, April 5th** from 6-7 p.m. at St. Teresa Parish, 44 Leonard St., Kitchener. Mass at 7 p.m. Prayer and adoration are our responses to Holy God's gratuitous love for us and our faith lived in Him Who Is the absolute sovereign authority.

**It's KICKOFF time!**

The preparation phase of the One Heart, One Soul Campaign for the Diocese of Hamilton is moving into the active phase! A campaign kickoff Mass will be held at noon on Monday, March 25, Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI. The Pilot Wave Parishes will be holding kickoffs for their own efforts in April. Three additional waves over the next two years will allow every Parish in the Diocese to participate. Most of the funds from the three-year campaign will go to Parish projects, with a special emphasis on the Parishes most in need. A number of diocesan ministries will benefit as well. A series of Frequently Asked Questions about the campaign can be found on the campaign website – [www.oneheartonesoul.ca](http://www.oneheartonesoul.ca)

**Lecture in Catholic Experience** at St. Jerome's University on **Friday, April 5th**, 7:30p.m. entitled "Architecture for Social Transformation." LGA Architectural Partner, Janna Levitt, believes that architecture is an essential tool for creating living, working, and learning environments that celebrate diverse cultures, environments and social dynamics. Held in the Vanstone Lecture Hall, Academic Centre, 7:30 p.m. | Doors open at 6:45p.m. Tickets are not required at the door. Please register at: [www.sju.ca/lce..](http://www.sju.ca/lce..)