

4th Sunday of Lent

In today’s Gospel, we have one of the most graphic descriptions of Jesus’ – and therefore of God’s – thinking. Jesus answers the Pharisees by telling three parables, only one of which is given in today’s Gospel. The first parable is about a shepherd who has lost one of his sheep. He goes to extraordinary lengths, even leaving all the other sheep, to find that single one that has gone astray. That is a picture of God and the sinner. The second parable is about a poor woman who loses a coin. It may be only one coin but it means a lot to her. She turns her house upside down till she finds it and when she does, she joyfully tells all her neighbours. But the most striking story is the third parable. We normally call it the “Prodigal Son” but, in fact, the emphasis is less on the son than on the father, who clearly represents God and Jesus. There is no force involved. The police are not sent out. Servants are not instructed to haul him back. No, the father waits. It is up to the son himself to make the crucial decision: does he want to be with his father or not? Eventually he “came to his senses”, that is, he realised the wrongness of what he had done. The father, for his part, filled with compassion for his son’s experiences, runs out to meet him, embraces him and brushes aside the carefully prepared speech the son had got ready. **God is not interested in the past but only in the present.** I am judged not by what I have done or not done earlier. Nor need I be anxious how I will behave in the future. I am judged by my relationship with God here and now.

St. Teresa of Avila

“Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.”

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 enourmous Love that God wants to bestow upon each of us. We will pray for all these intentions with our entire community every Sunday.

Vocations

Like the forgiving father of Luke's Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness, and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? 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 3<sup>rd</sup>**. 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:  
**April 7<sup>th</sup>** – 10 a.m. Alexis Tavares & Family  
**April 13<sup>th</sup>** – 5 p.m. Abigail Henderson & Family  
**April 21<sup>st</sup>** – 10 a.m. Inara Walker & 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. Reconciliation for the Grade 3 – 8 students will take place on **Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** at 10:45 a.m.

Parish Survey 2019

Please remember to complete the survey that was in your bulletin 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.

**Separation and Divorce** can be a painful and confusing time for those living the experience. Learning how to cope and being supported by those who have lived through it as well is important to ensure future health. The Family Ministry Office offers Levels programs in Kitchener for you if you are in this situation, or may want to refer anyone else. Check out the website at: hamiltondiocese.com, or call the parish office and we can give you their number to call. The program begins this week on Tuesday, March 26th so don’t wait. Registrations at the session Tuesday are welcome.

Stewardship Report

March 17, 2019

Envelopes.....	\$2,154.00
Loose.....	243.00
Building and Maintenance.....	30.00
Memorial Donations- Moser.....	265.00
Seminary Education.....	50.00

Mass Intentions

April 1 - 7, 2019

**Monday, April 1 – 7:00 p.m.**

+**Sonia Miranda - Elzbieta**

**Tuesday, April 2: 7:00 p.m.**

+**Rose Lehmann – Betty Plummer**

**Intention of Father Dave Lewis – St. Teresa Parish**

**Wednesday, April 3: 8:30**

+**Maria Forthuber – Helene Meier**

**Wednesday, April 3: 7:00 p.m.**

+**Sonia Miranda - Elzbieta**

**Thursday, April 4: 8:30 a.m.**

+**Rose Lehmann – MH & Hugh Stroeder**

**Thursday, April 4: 9:45 a.m.**

**School Lenten Mass**

**Friday, April 5: 8:30 a.m.**

**Intention of Lee Binkle – Erma Williams**

**Friday, April 5: 7:00 p.m.**

**Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday, April 6: 9:00 a.m.**

+**Tynek, Batiuk, Bauza & Krupa Families – Lidia Bauza**

**Saturday, April 6: 5:00 p.m.**

+**Ludwig Ceh – Theresa Ceh & Family**

**Sunday, April 7: 10:00 a.m.**

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

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2019

Monday, April 1 – Rev. Philip Reilly  
Tuesday, April 2 – Rev. David Walter  
Wednesday, April 3 – Holy Ghost Congregation  
Thursday, April 4 – Rev. George Stortz  
Friday, April 5 – Rev. Msgr. Earl Talbot  
Saturday, April 6 – Rev. Robert Stainsby  
Sunday, April 7 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Coffee Sunday

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

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

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 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!

**Prayer Vigil & Adoration for Life - Thursday April 4th**, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil in front of Freeport Hospital for babies being aborted. At 11-11:40 a.m. at St. Mary Our Lady of Seven Sorrows RC Church, 56 Duke St. W., Kitchener will be the Adoration for Life. 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.

**Good Friday Fish Fry**, April 19th, Waterloo Knights of Columbus, 145 Dearborn Place, Waterloo. Sittings at 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. Take outs available from 1:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tickets available at Bar, 1 pc fish dinner \$13.00, 2 pc fish dinners \$15.50(all taxes in). Price includes Coffee or Tea and Dessert.

**Lecture in Catholic Experience** at St. Jerome’s University, **Friday, April 5th**, 7:30 p.m. entitled “Architecture for Social Transformation.” LGA Architectural Partner, Janna Levitt, believes that architecture is an essential tool for creating living and learning environments. Held in the Vanstone Lecture Hall, Academic Centre, 7:30 p.m. | Doors open at 6:45 p.m. No tickets needed. Please register at: [www.sju.ca/lce](http://www.sju.ca/lce).

**Marriage Tip** - Time may be one of the most difficult entities to manage! Quality and quantity matter when it comes to any relationship, including marriage. The more time a couple spend together, in close physical proximity, the better the levels of intimacy they share. So, take the time to spend time together and you will reap the benefits.



Items to Collect to Support Charities

Support local charities and organizations by collecting pop tabs, eye glasses, yarn, glass bottles (200 ml or smaller) canning jars, Campbell soup labels, milk bags, candles, religious items (rosaries, books, etc.), books (children and young adults), new and used religious cards, sheets and towels. The drop-off bin is at the back of the Church, outside the Adoration Chapel. For more information call Chris at: 519-745-2819.