

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Parish Event

It is a time when we can reflect on the quality of our own family life in the light of the Church’s ‘First Family’.

The family had gone to Jerusalem, according to their regular custom, to celebrate the Passover with thousands of other pilgrims. As the caravan of pilgrims was on its way home, Mary and Joseph suddenly realise that the Jesus is not with them. They went back to the Temple and were amazed to find their boy calmly sitting with the religious teachers and discussing with them. And he was impressing them with his intelligence and the answers he was giving to their questions.

Mary, however, was not quite so appreciative. *“My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.” “Why were you looking for me?”* Jesus replied. *“Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father’s affairs?”* What did he mean talking like that? Mary had mentioned Jesus’ ‘father’ but Jesus had spoken about ‘my Father’. They did not yet fully grasp what he was talking about. Their Son had a very special mission which went far beyond the life in Nazareth. Only later would the Mother understand. For now, she stored the memories in her heart. From now on, Jesus would belong to a new family, the family of the world and especially of those who were committed to follow his Way.

Prayer of John Paul II for Families

Lord God, from You every family in Heaven and on earth takes its name. Father, You are love and life. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, born of woman, and through the Holy Spirit, the fountain of divine charity, grant that every family on earth may become for each successive generation a true shrine of life and love.

Grant that Your grace may guide the thoughts and actions of husbands and wives for the good of their families and of all the families in the world.

Grant that the young may find in the family solid support for their human dignity and for their growth in truth and love.

Grant that love, strengthened by the grace of the sacrament of marriage, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass.

Through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that the Church may fruitfully carry out her worldwide mission in the family and through the family. We ask this of You, who is life, truth and love with the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In this house all must be friends, all must be loved, all must be held dear, all must be helped!

St. Teresa of Avila

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - The Eucharist is the center and origin of the life of the Church. Therefore, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in our church (Divine Mercy Chapel) is taking place from Monday to Friday from 9:00 am – 9:00 pm. We would like to invite our parishioners to sign up for adoration and dedicate at least one hour a week to be with Jesus and nourish our spiritual life. **“If you are passing before a Church, enter to greet our Lord. Could you pass the door of a friend without saying hello?”** St. J. Vianney

Prayer Network: For those not on the internet there is an envelope on the bulletin board at the main entrance marked ‘PRAYER NETWORK’. Please take a copy of the prayer intentions inside this envelope and pray for fellow parishioners

Healing Mass is held on every first Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Nocturnal Adoration is held every first Saturday of the month from **4:00 – 5:00 p.m. here at St. Teresa Parish.** Please join us and spread the word.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word - All children are called to Children’s Liturgy of the Word at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, from September through May. After the opening prayer, children (ages 4 – 9) who wish to attend are invited to our Parish Centre to hear the Gospel reading in simple, relatable language. Readings are accompanied by interactive dialogue, and other activities. Children return before the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Please share this message with other families.

Prayer Shawl - If you would like a prayer shawl as a Christmas gift contact the parish office and we can make arrangements to pick them up. All have been prayed over and blessed by our pastor.

Mass Intentions: There are weekday Mass intentions available for deceased, sick or any special intention for family and friends. Please call or visit office if you would like to request a Mass.

Statistics from 2019

New Parishioners – 20	Baptisms – 10
Funerals – 8	1st Communion – 17
Confirmation (Feb.) - 12	Confirmation (Dec.) - 13

December 31, 2019 – January 5, 2020

Tuesday, December 31 – 5:00 p.m.
Healing my Son from Addiction and helping Families suffering from addictions - *Mother*

Wednesday, January 1 – 10:00 a.m.
+Gilles Lemieux – Stella Lemieux

Thursday, January 2 – 10:00 a.m.
Intentions of Sister Catherina Greene OCD – Ewa Dabrowska

Friday, January 3 – 8:30 a.m.
+Ken Sangster – Ken & Betty

Saturday, January 4 – 9:00 a.m.

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
+Bill Scherrer – Schummer Family

Sunday, January 5 – 10:00 a.m.
Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2019

Monday, December 30 – Rev. Mark Morley
Tuesday, December 31– Rev. Jason Kuntz
Wednesday, January 1 – Diocesan Priests
Thursday, January 2 - Rev. Mark Sullivan
Friday, January 3 – Very Rev. Wayne Lobsinger
Saturday, January 4 – Rev. Gregory Merkley
Sunday, January 5 – Epiphany of the Lord

2020 Contribution Envelopes will be at the back of the church this weekend (they will be in alphabetical order). If your address has changed in 2019, please let the office know.

Attention to all Parishioners

We would like ask our Parishioners to inform our office of any changes to your address. If you know of any older parishioners who are no longer able to come to Mass and have not been visited by the Pastor, please let us know so we can provide pastoral care to those who are sick and home bound. Thank you for your co-operation.

Catholic Women's League Elections: We are looking for a new president and executive for St. Teresa's Catholic Women's League. To be eligible to stand for office you must be a paid up member. There will be postings on the bulletin board and nomination forms available in the next few weeks. Please give this your prayerful consideration. Contact numbers will be made available at a later date.

Vocations – Christmas - The Birth of Our Lord

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest: **contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com**

Vocations - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – December 29, 2019

By Baptism we are God's holy family today. Pray for the grace to live faithfully your vocation. If God is calling you, **Contact: Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com**

CWL Meeting - Tuesday, January 7th at 7:30 p.m. We will do our annual report, discuss elections and plan for the Twilight Retreat. Please plan to be there.



Bingo

Matinee on **Saturday, January 18, 2020** from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Charities Bingo Hall, 510 Krug Street, Kitchener. To assist with this fundraiser for our parish, please call the office: 519-743-4525.

The Parish Office Hours during Holy Week

We will be closed from December 24, 2019 through to January 2, 2020.

All Parishioners

As we come to the end of 2019 we thank God for many graces we have received this past year and pray for God’s blessing upon each day of 2020. Happy New Year!

Father Marian Gil

