

Epiphany of the Lord

Parish Events

We celebrate today the second of four great manifestations of God in our midst. The word ‘epiphany’ comes from Greek and it means a ‘showing’ or ‘manifestation’. We call today’s feast the Epiphany of our Lord. The first of these four manifestations we already celebrated on December 25, when God revealed, manifested himself to us in the form of a helpless, newly-born infant. He is presented as born homeless and in poverty and surrounded by the poor and outcasts (that is what the shepherds represented).

In today’s feast, we see the same recently born baby in similar circumstances but the material and social surroundings are hardly touched on. The emphasis here, as we shall see, is different. Here are strangers, foreigners, total outsiders coming to give royal homage to this tiny child. Who were these “wise men” and where did they come from? In the Greek text they are called magoi (magoi) which is usually rendered in English as “Magi”. We are not told what their names were or how many of them there were. Tradition settled on three, presumably because there were three kinds of gifts. And they were also given names – Caspar, Balthasar, and Melchior. We are told, too, that they came “from the east”. This could be Persia, East Syria or Arabia – or indeed any distant place. **We might ask ourselves, what are the stars in my life?** The wise men saw the star and followed it. The people in Jerusalem did not. How and to what is God calling me at this time? **Where does he want me to find him, to serve and follow him?**

An Epiphany House Blessing 2020

During our liturgy the chalk will be blessed. Using the blessed chalk write above the home’s entrance, **20 + C + M + B + 20**. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words Christus mansionem benedicat, “May Christ bless the house.” The “+” signs represent the cross and 2020 is the year.

Let us live in such a way as not to be afraid to die.
St. Teresa of Avila

Vocations - The Epiphany of the Lord - January 5, 2020

“On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ’s name? If God is calling you to be a priest, contact: Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

First Holy Communion & Confirmation

Offertory Procession: Confirmandi & First Communion candidates will bring the offertory gifts to the altar on the following Sundays:
Sunday, January 5, 2020 – 10:00 a.m. – Oliver Zenger & his family.

January 12th at 10: 00 a.m. Baptism of the Lord

I would like to invite all First Communion children and our Confirmandi (students who received confirmation) and their parents for a solemn renewal of our Baptismal promises.

January 23, 2020 at 7:00p.m. Meeting with Confirmandi and their parents. Catechetical Session 3: “Eucharist – the gift of God’s Love”.

February 2, 2020 at 10.00 a.m. Holy Mass with First Communion children and blessing their medallions...

February 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Meeting with First Communion children and their parents: Catechetical Session 3: “Discovering the gift of the Eucharist”.

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

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.

One Heart, One Soul - Parish Capital Campaign

After a process of discernment and consultation the Hamilton Diocese invited parishes to enter the Parish Capital Campaign. It is an effort to raise money, within three to five years, to pay for significant projects, build up an endowment and or heritage fund for future use. During the next couple of weeks our team will provide more details concerning this project. Our parish community is invited to learn more about this program and discern the future projects for our capital campaign.

January 7 - 12, 2020

Tuesday, January 7 – 7:00 p.m.
+Sabina & Ted Lis – *Grace Gajkowski*

Wednesday, January 8 – 8:30 a.m.
+Sabina & Ted Lis – *Grace Gajkowski*

Thursday, January 9 – 8:30 a.m.
+Sabina & Ted Lis – *Grace Gajkowski*

Friday, January 10 – 8:30 a.m.
+Sabina & Ted Lis – *Grace Gajkowski*

Saturday, January 11 – 9:00 a.m.
Blessings for the Gasior Family – *Ladia Gasior*

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
Intention of Roman Gajkowski – *Grace Gajkowski*

Sunday, January 12 – 10:00 a.m.
Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2019

Monday, January 6 – Rev. Piotr Golinski
Tuesday, January 7 – Rev. Andrew Czarny
Wednesday, January 8 – Sisters of St. John the Baptist
Thursday, January 9 – Rev. John Redmond
Friday, January 10 – Rev. Phillip Cook
Saturday, January 11 – Very Rev. Lukasz Kopaniak
Sunday, January 12 – Baptism of the Lord

Prayer for Families

Mary, Mother of God, you held God’s plans for you with wonder and awe. May we walk in your example, storing up God’s promises like treasures, especially when we do not yet understand. Amen.

Visiting the Sick and Shut-Ins – Before Christmas I had the privilege to visit many of our home bound parishioners, who no longer attend mass at our parish, but still feel part of our community. I’d like to thank in a special way Mary Alice Zister and Jean Giles for making calls, arranging the visits and accompanying me. Thank you so much for all your help! I also want to thank CWL who visit our sick parishioners on a regular basis. You are truly angels!

Thank You to all Volunteers! We are so thankful to all the volunteers who helped prepare our church for Christmas. They decorated the Christmas trees, the nativity scene inside and outside, the decorations around the church with beautiful flowers and cleaned the church (sacristy, sanctuary, and altar, made altar cloths), before Christmas. There has been so much work done by our volunteers that we don’t see and may take for granted. I want to thank them for their dedication and efforts!!!

Stewardship Report December 22, 2019

Envelopes.....	\$3,008.00
Loose.....	580.35
Building and Maintenance.....	190.00
Christmas Offering.....	600.00
Christmas Flower Donation.....	115.00
Votives.....	45.30
Christmas Turkey Dinner.....	1,423.00
Sue’s Calorie Club – Hall Rental.....	100.00


NEW WASHROOM at the back of the church – after a few months of completing all the legal documents and hard work of several trade workers, we would like to officially inform our parish community, that this project was completed before Christmas. I would like to recognize and thank GA Masonry and the George Family for sponsoring and building this washroom, which was a dream of our community for many years. Their generosity will be recognized by a special event which will take place in the near future and will be remembered by our community for the years to come. Special words of thanks we would like to offer to Mr. Lito Navaleza for designing this washroom and for obtaining all the legal documents from the City of Kitchener.

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.

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.

Attention to all Parishioners

We would like to 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.

 **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.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who dedicate their time each month to raise money for our parish. Every year they raise about \$15,000.00, which is a great financial help to our community. Without their involvement and dedication, we would not be able to undertake many important projects. **Thank you!!!**