

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

44 Leonard St., Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 6C8 Phone: 519-743-4525

E-mail: st.teresa@stteresakit.ca

www.stteresakit.ca

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 18, 2020

St. Teresa of Avila

“To have courage for whatever comes in life - everything lies in that.”



Parish Staff & Organizations

Pastor: Fr. Marian Gil, OMI

Parish Secretary: Mary Steffler

Business Administrator: David Agnew

Facilities Manager: Jim Weber

Volunteer Gardeners:

Baptism Preparation Team:

CWL President: Mary Alice Zister

Lector Co-ordinator: Mary Alice Zister

Eucharistic Minister Co-ordinator:

Kim Voelzing

Prayer Group:

Mila Navaleza - 519-579-8276

Finance Council Chair:

Don Pickett, Jr.

Pastoral Council Chair:

Barbara Daly

St. Vincent de Paul:

Bernie & Rosemary Pickett

519-749-1501

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday – Office Closed

Weekday Schedule

Please check inside for weekly schedule

Saturday Liturgy:

9:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Liturgy:

10:00 a.m.

Confession: 30 min. before Mass; Sat., 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.

St. Teresa School

Principal: Mr. Brian Goodyear

Secretary: Mary Lavigne

519-743-2131

Healing Mass: First Friday of each month – 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting: 2nd, 3rd & 4th Friday – 7:00 p.m.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap Him exposes the guile of His questioners. From His first words to them, Jesus shows that He is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to Him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes His response one step further. He asks that His questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honor that we owe to God?

World Mission Sunday – October 18, 2020
Here am I, send me (Is 6:8)

In this year marked by the suffering and challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord's question: "Whom shall I send?" (ibid.). This invitation from God's merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis. "Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. (...)

We are indeed frightened, disoriented and afraid. Pain and death make us experience our human frailty, but at the same time remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbour presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us from fear and introspection to a renewed realization that we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others. (...) **Mission is a free and conscious response to God's call. Yet we discern this call only when we have a personal relationship of love with Jesus present in His Church.** Let us ask ourselves: are we prepared to welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to listen to the call to mission, whether in our life as married couples or as consecrated persons or those called to the ordained ministry, and in all the everyday events of life?

Pope Francis, Excerpts, Message for World Mission Sunday 2020

Diocese of Hamilton
Prayer Calendar 2020

October 19 – Rev. Aleksander Mazur, S.A.C.

October 20 – Rev. George Stortz

October 21 – Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood (R.P.B.)

October 22 – Rev. Msgr. Earl Talbot

October 23 – Rev. Rafal Tomon

October 24 – Rev. Edwin Lapinski, C.R.

October 25 – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vocations

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 18, 2020

"Give ... to God the things that are God's." That includes you! Is God calling you to service as a priest? Contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com
www.hamiltondiocese.com

Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations

O God, You have constituted Your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of Your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of His mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. Amen.



Whoever has God lacks
nothing; God alone suffices.
St. Teresa of Avila

Mass Intentions – There are weekday Mass intentions available for the deceased, sick or any special intention for family and friends. Please call our Parish Office, if you would like to request a Mass.

Group Mass Intentions – In order to assist in the availability of offering Masses, multiple Mass intentions will be offered on the following dates to the end of 2020: **October 27th; November 10th & 24th; December 8th & 22nd**. Beginning in 2021, the Mass at 7 p.m., on the First and Third Tuesday, will be available for multiple Mass intentions.

ROSARY – Month of October – We invite families to pray at least one decade of the Rosary, at home, each day, and if you are available, to join us in praying the Rosary, 30 minutes before each Mass. If you or your organization would like to lead the Rosary, on a particular day, please call the Parish Office. During this time of pandemic and in the challenges that we face as a society and entire world, we need this prayer now, more than ever. As we join together in prayer, we will also pray for the success of our One Heart One Soul Campaign – that we build a strong and vibrant parish community.

Minister of the Word Workshop: In light of COVID-19, the Liturgy Office will replace the one-day workshop with a virtual (on-line) workshop in a series of three Monday evenings, to be held October 19th, 26th and November 2nd, from 7 to 9 pm with a thirty-minute break. Participants are asked to attend all three workshops. For more information and to register, please ask interested Ministers of the Word to contact Deacon John Moss at the Liturgy Office. jmoss@hamiltondiocese.com More information to follow.

Mass Intentions – October 20 - 25, 2020

Tuesday, October 20 – **7 p.m.**

+**Gerard Meekes & for his Wife & his Family** – *Annie Baak & Family*

Wednesday, October 21 – **8:30 a.m.**

+**Luchi Masbad** – *Corazon Reyes*

Thursday, October 22 – **8:30 a.m.**

+**Lucien Duchesne** – *Sue's Calorie Club*

Friday, October 23 – **8:30 a.m.**

+**Mercedes Perez** – *Corazon Reyes*

Saturday, October 24

9 a.m. – +**Franz Novak** – *Helene Meier*

5 p.m. – +**Bert & Leota Miller** – *Miller Family*

Sunday, October 25– **10 a.m. – 30th Sunday, Year A**
Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

Welcome Home! – Guidelines to attending Mass

If you haven't already come to Mass, you will notice there are a few changes from the usual way in which we celebrate the Eucharist. Please visit the parish website: www.stteresakit.ca for more details. You are required to wear masks/shields, while in the church. We ask that you follow these guidelines to provide for the well-being and safety of all. **Please also see Bishop Crosby's up-dated letter to Parishioners.**

Parish Records/New Parishioners – If you are new to the parish – Welcome! Please call the office and we would be pleased to forward a Parish Registration form to you. If you are a parishioner, it would be greatly appreciated if you could notify the office of any changes.

Facilities Manager - St. Teresa of Avila Parish, in Kitchener requires a part-time Facilities Manager (20-25 hours per week). Reporting to the Parish Pastor, this position offers a competitive rate of pay and requires a commitment to work flexible hours. Please go to <https://hamiltondiocese.com/job-opportunities.php> for more details. We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

“40 Days for Life” – The campaign runs from Wed., Sept. 23rd thru to Sun., Nov.1, 2020. All are invited to consider signing up for one hour per week at: www.40daysforlife.com/kitchener or call 519-589-2919. There are a number of hours still available.

Struggling After an Abortion? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is available to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis, with a trained counsellor, and find hope and healing. **Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.**

Friday Knight Fish Fry – Waterloo Knights of Columbus, 145 Dearborn Place, Waterloo. Please call Derek, at 226-748-8378. Orders must be placed by 4:15 p.m. Pick-ups start at 4:30 p.m. and end at 5:55 p.m.

Stewardship Report

As a parish community, we are celebrating Mass in the church, with reduced capacity. At this time, I would ask you to continue to keep our parish in your prayers and prayerfully consider continuing your donations. For those attending Mass, in person, a box will be provided for you to drop off your donation, on your way out of the church.

Pre-Authorized Giving is now available for our parishioners. A digital copy of the form may be found on our website under Bulletins for 2020 (August). Simply print the form and complete it. For those unable to print the digital copy, please contact the Parish Office. This brochure will hopefully answer any questions you may have about this exciting new option for Stewardship, here at St. Teresa Parish. Completed forms can be returned to the Parish Office via the slot in the Parish Office door or can be left in the Collection Basket after the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses.

We would like to thank those who have responded to this program. In order for Pre-Authorized Giving to work effectively in our parish, we will need a certain number of parishioners to sign up for this program. At the present time, we are not yet ready to activate the program and will advise parishioners of a start date as soon as this becomes available.

You may also **send a gift directly** to our parish through the mail: **St. Teresa of Avila Parish, 44 Leonard St., Kitchener, ON N2H 6C8** or you may drop off **cash or cheque**, securely, at the Parish Office, through the mail slot in the wooden door, behind the white storm door. Please be sure to include your name, address and phone number or use your donation envelope.

We are very grateful for any contributions you may be able to make at this time.

Stewardship Report – October 13, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 2,116.00
Loose	\$ 169.95
Building and Maintenance	\$ 788.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 5.00
Candles	\$ 205.15
Diocese – On-line Giving Donations - (September 2020) -	\$ 19.30

St. Teresa of Avila - Parish Feast Celebrations



In a very special way, I would like to invite all our parishioners, and students and parents from St. Teresa School, to join me for our patronal celebration, this Sunday, October 18th, at the 10 a.m. Mass.

This year our celebrations of St. Teresa of Avila will have a bit of a different format, due to COVID-19, nevertheless, we have had the great privilege of welcoming the relics of St. John Paul II and St. Faustina Kowalska, as well as having catechesis on the life of St. Teresa of Avila.

In order to be inspired by our wonderful patroness, we have a great opportunity to read a very good article on the stages of prayer, based on the spiritual writings of St. Teresa of Avila, included in today's bulletin. We can also reminisce on our celebration from last year, as we look at these pictures and artwork.

If you wish to purchase books (The Interior Castle, The Way to Perfection) on our patroness, to help you grow in the spiritual life, they are available in our parish office.

We are also including with this week's message and bulletin, a picture of St. Teresa, for children to colour. We ask

children to bring their completed pictures to church, on Sunday, and post them on the display panel, that will be provided.

St. Teresa of Jesus, wholehearted servant of love, teach us to walk with determined fidelity along the path of interior prayer, attentive to the presence of the Blessed Trinity, God dwelling deep within us.

Share with us your intense apostolic love for the Church. May Jesus be our joy, our hope and our energy, an unquenchable Fountain and our most intimate Friend. Teach us to make your prayer our own: "I am Yours; I was born for You; What is Your will for me?" Amen.



Our Parish Feast Celebrations in 2019



Church Decorations Prepared by Children



Wisdom from St. Teresa of Ávila about Prayer Drawing God's Grace into Your Heart



We like to place people in categories, don't we? Is this person a thinker or a doer? A dreamer or a realist? Friendly or reserved? Even spiritually, we wonder if someone is a "Martha," full of energy and drive to accomplish as much as possible, or a "Mary," a contemplative soul who delights in quiet prayer and recollection.

St. Teresa of Ávila had the great distinction of combining the hardworking personality of Martha with the quiet prayerfulness of Mary. Like Martha, she labored tirelessly toward the goal of reforming the Carmelite order and the Church as a whole. And yet for all her hard work, she is most remembered and revered for the deep spiritual insights she received as she sat with the Lord in prayer. In her greatest works, *The Life*, *The Way of Perfection*, and *Interior Castle*, Teresa spent the majority of her time teaching people how to come into God's presence and experience the same intimacy with Him that she had known.

According to Teresa, if we want this kind of relationship with God, the first thing we need to learn is how to place ourselves in the flow of His grace. We need to learn how to make ourselves available to God so that He can begin to sweep us off our feet. Since many of the nuns in her

communities were illiterate, Teresa knew she couldn't just tell them to read a book or study the Scriptures. She had to follow Jesus' example and use illustrations and parables. So she used lively, memorable images that would fire their imaginations. She spoke of castles and diamonds and tar, of buckets and rivers and rain.

Of all these illustrations, one of Teresa's favorites was that of a garden needing to be watered. She first used this analogy in her autobiography, then continued to refine it in her later writings. A methodical, careful thinker, Teresa spoke of a growth process in the spiritual life in which we learn how to increase the flow of God's grace (the water) into our hearts (the garden). Let's take a close look at this image and see how we can apply it to our own lives.

A Bucket and a Well

Teresa described the beginning of our spiritual journey with the concept of watering a garden with a bucket drawn from a well. As you can imagine, it's hard work to lift a bucket filled with water from the bottom of a deep well and then lug it to a garden. It's also painfully slow! It's something we have to do again and again until every flower has been watered.

In this stage, Teresa called for a dedicated, structured time of prayer that involved first focusing our minds on the Lord, then singing some hymns, and then imagining ourselves at a biblical scene with Jesus. We could picture ourselves with the woman at the well (one of Teresa's favorite stories) or at the Last Supper with the apostles or at the wedding of Cana with Mary and Jesus. The purpose of this structured approach to prayer was to help us replace all our worldly thoughts and concerns with thoughts about Jesus, his love, and eternal life. Teresa felt that the more we think about Jesus, the more water we are able to pour on our garden.

The Aqueduct

In the second phase of prayer, we learn how to make more progress with less hard work: "By turning the crank of a waterwheel and by aqueducts, the gardener obtains more water with less labor; and he can rest without having to work constantly." Teresa called this the "prayer of quiet." She called the first phase—the bucket—"ascetical," because it is focused on the work we have to do in order to lay hold of God's grace. The aqueduct, on the other



hand, is “mystical.” We learn how to receive the grace that flows from God with less labor.

It’s at this phase of prayer that the “eyes of our hearts” are opened, and we are able to sense Jesus’ presence more clearly (Ephesians 1:18). Like the aged Simeon in the Temple, we see Jesus as more than just a good person. We see Him as our salvation. We see Him as Someone who loves us deeply and who has the power to release us from sin and lift our hearts to heaven. Seeing Jesus in this way fills us with peace and joy.

One of the best opportunities we have to experience this prayer of quiet is when we receive Communion. Very little work is required here. Jesus comes to us in the form of bread and wine, offering us His grace and His love. Receiving Him humbly, our hearts can be ignited with His love. If only for a second, we may forget about the people around us and the challenges of our lives. We are focused only on honoring Jesus and thanking Him for His love.

According to Teresa, entering into this prayer of quiet is more likely to happen to us after we have been using the “bucket” to draw water for a while. The first phase is much more effective in leading us to the second. For instance, we likely won’t experience this second phase if we receive Communion mainly out of routine and without expectation. We likely won’t experience it if we haven’t been doing the “work” of staying faithful to a structured time of prayer and Scripture reading.

Rivers, Rain, and the Third Heaven

Teresa described the third stage of prayer by talking about a garden that is watered not by a well but by a river or spring. “The Lord so desires to help the gardener here that He Himself becomes practically the gardener and the One who does everything.” Then comes the fourth stage, which she compares to a garden being soaked with a constant rainfall. She speaks of it as a “heavenly water that in its abundance soaks and saturates the entire garden.” Hardly any effort is required, and the garden flourishes.

These two phases have a lot in common. Both have a steady flow of water that comes freely from God and moves us to go out and give this gift away to those who are spiritually dry. The primary difference between the river and the rain is that people who are experiencing heavenly rain are more fully drenched with God’s presence and more fully detached from the world—even to the point of occasionally having out-of-body experiences. At this point, Teresa described her own mystical experiences as well.

If this sounds a bit too eccentric, recall St. Paul’s words to the believers in Corinth: “I know someone in Christ who, fourteen years ago (whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows), was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this person...was caught up into Paradise and heard ineffable things.” (2 Corinthians 12:2-4) Imagine what it must have been like for Teresa or Paul. They were so filled with the Lord’s presence that it felt as if they were in heaven. They even “heard” and “saw” spiritual truths that they struggled to put into words. These must have been glorious experiences!

Wouldn’t it be a blessing if we could have a similar experience? But neither Paul nor Teresa would say that this is the point of our prayer. We shouldn’t go looking for grand mystical experiences. Rather, all we should be concerned about is drawing closer to God. If we devote ourselves to seeking Him out by drawing water with a bucket, we’ll find the garden of our hearts flourishing. As we become more faithful in carrying that bucket to our garden, he will gradually bring us to the stages of the aqueduct, the river, and the rain. But the most important thing is to keep our eyes fixed on Him and not on the experiences we hope to have.

Don't Give Up!

So keep using your bucket. Keep drawing from the well of God's grace in your daily prayer time. Don't try to force yourself to move from one phase to another. Instead, stay faithful to whatever is helping you now. Take heart in the knowledge that you are drawing divine grace into your heart, and that grace is constantly at work within you. Over time, you'll find that prayer takes less and less effort as you build your own aqueduct and as the aqueduct gives way to a river, which then transforms into a constant, gentle rain.

If there's one thing Teresa insisted on, it's that God doesn't want our prayer to be laborious. He doesn't want it to be drudgery. So even if you are just beginning to draw water from the well, you can be sure that He will reward you with glimmers of His love and His peace. As Teresa herself taught, "Contemplating Jesus is nothing else than a close sharing between friends." So all we have to do is be sure we are "taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us."



ST. TERESA OF AVILA,
PRAY FOR US!

WORD
on FIRE

Christ has no body now,
but yours.

No hands, no feet on earth,
but yours.

Yours are the eyes through
which Christ looks
compassion into the world.

Yours are the feet
with which Christ walks
to do good.

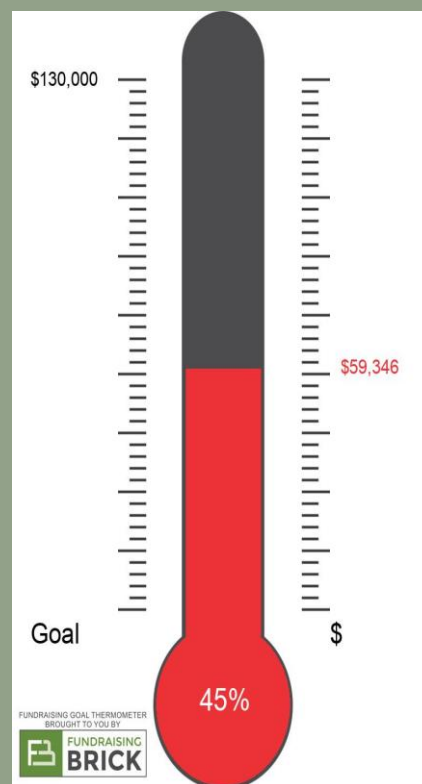
Yours are the hands
with which Christ
blesses the world.

St. Teresa of Avila



GOD BLESS OUR CAMPAIGN, AND OUR PARISH

By now, you should have received your *One Heart, One Soul* Campaign packet in the mail. If you have any questions once you've read the material, or have not received the packet, feel free to contact the Parish Office at 519-743-4525. We ask you to continue to pray for the success of the campaign, and we will be grateful for any gift you can make! For more information about our Campaign, visit the following links:



One Heart, One Soul Our Parish Capital Campaign: <https://www.oneheartonesoul.ca/stteresakitchener>

Capital Campaign Prayer: <https://www.oneheartonesoul.ca/prayer>

One heart One Soul Capital Campaign Video: <https://www.oneheartonesoul.ca>

Do you have any questions about this campaign? Please follow this link:

<https://www.oneheartonesoul.ca/faq>

Campaign Newsletter: <https://www.oneheartonesoul.ca>

One Heart One Soul Kickoff Celebration Video -

https://zoom.us/rec/share/EDlBhtzpGDqlBIGbpoAlF0un2GxO8_YdFIY_OfBixByzXPILukR7aFap99boHQYF.pykjrOFI8B5me7_i Please watch our Kickoff weekend Celebration Video, which allows all of us,

especially those who did not have the chance to join us, to view it.

For updates and all the latest information, please be sure to check out our website and Facebook pages:

<http://stteresakit.ca/>

<https://www.facebook.com/stteresakit>

Thank you to all of you who have sent in your pledges and made your commitment to this Campaign whether it be through your financial donation or through prayer and sacrificial offerings. We are doing great! Let's keep the spirit alive and moving!



**ONE HEART, ONE SOUL
CAMPAIGN PRAYER**

ALL: Almighty and eternal God,
you alone are the source of every good gift.
We thank you for the blessings you pour out on us,
signs of your infinite goodness, given freely out of love.
Continue to form each of us into faithful stewards
of your abundant blessings.
Help us to cultivate our gifts with care and love,
to share them generously with those in need,
and to return them with increase to you,
our heavenly Father.

LEADER: As you renew all things in Christ,
grant to our parishes and Diocese
a fresh outpouring of your Holy Spirit.
May this community of faith
be of one heart and soul
as we work together in your name.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: Our Lady of the Annunciation,

ALL: Pray for us!