

# 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](mailto:st.teresa@stteresakit.ca) [www.stteresakit.ca](http://www.stteresakit.ca)

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 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:** Jack Pigeau

**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**

### Saturday Liturgy:

9:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

### Weekday Schedule

Please check inside for weekly schedule

### Sunday Liturgy:

10:00 a.m.

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

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

**Prayer Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday – 7:00 p.m.

### St. Teresa School

Principal: Mr. Brian Goodyear

Secretary: Mary Lavigne

519-743-2131

## Second Sunday of Advent

On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that He would bring to us.

Mark's description (Mark 1:1-8) of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John. He says that he has baptized with water, but that **the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit**. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. As John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, Baptism commissions us to prepare the way of the Lord. The gift of the Holy Spirit leads us to continually renew our lives so that we might lead others to Jesus.

### Family activities:

As you gather together as a family, talk about ways in which the example of others has called you to be a follower of Jesus. Name the people who have been examples to you of Christian discipleship and describe their characteristics that you have tried to emulate. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 1:1-8.

**On December 6<sup>th</sup> in honour of Saint Nicholas**, we will have little treats for the children attending Mass on this Sunday.

### Who Was Saint Nicholas?

Saint Nicholas was a Christian bishop who helped the needy. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew. Saint Nicholas transformed into the legendary character called Santa Claus, who brings Christmas presents to children around the world.

### Early Life

Saint Nicholas was born circa 280 in Patara, Lycia, an area that is part of present-day Turkey. He lost both of his parents as a young man and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick. A devout Christian, he later served as bishop of Myra, a city that is now called Demre. Several sources state Saint Nicholas is believed to have died on December 6, 343. Over the years, stories of his miracles and work for the poor spread to other parts of the world. He became known as the protector of children and sailors and was associated with gift-giving.

## Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2020

December 7– Rev. Adam Wroblewicz, C.R.

December 8 – Rev. Kevin D'Souza

December 9 – Order of Preachers (Dominican) (O.P.)

December 10 – Rev. Peter Ciallella

December 11– Rev. Roshan Loy D'Souza, C.S.C.

December 12 –Rev. Francis Salasiar, C.S.C.

December 13 – Third Sunday of Advent

## Vocations

## Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2020

John the Baptist is sent by God to prepare the way for His Son. In our present time God sends priests, religious and deacons to prepare the people to receive His Son. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Father Michael King, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton, 905-528-7988 ext. 2246.

[vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

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### Serra 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 that they have received. Amen.



**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](http://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, on our parish website.

**First Holy Communion 2021** - The Rite of Enrollment for those children who have registered for catechetical classes will take place this Sunday, December 6, 2020 at the 10 a.m. Mass.

**Advent with Children** - This year, prepare for Christmas in a different way. Join our parish for Advent with Children. This will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, dedicate 5-10 minutes to prayer, meditation and some activities. We mailed out about 50 packages with the Advent Program to families with children. **Thank you** to all the children who responded to our Advent with Children program and brought your First Week of Advent Activity to church last weekend. We would like to encourage all our children to take advantage of this program, to bring your artwork and be present at Mass on Sunday. If you did not receive the package, please contact our parish office. On the Fourth Sunday of Advent we will have a special gift for you. Do not miss your chance to get your gift and get ready for Christmas!

**Spread the "Advent Virus"** – I would like to encourage our parishioners to display the Nativity Scene in front of your homes (or if you are living in an apartment and this is not a possibility, some other Christian symbol), so that during this Season of Advent, we can give witness to Christian faith and values.

### Mass Intentions

**December 7 – December 13, 2020**

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 – 7 p.m.

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Group Mass Intentions:**

**Living and Deceased Members of CWL – CWL**

+**Tom Hennebry** – *Chris Hennebry & Family*

+**Jerome Bastian** – *Helen Bastian & Family*

+**Lorne Grubb** – *Helen Bastian & Family*

**Birthday blessings for Christian Anthony** –  
*Montalban Family*

**Birthday blessings for Angelo Michael** –  
*Montalban Family*

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 – 8:30 a.m.

+**John Diebold** – *Mary Alice & Bill Zister*

Thursday, December 10, 2020 – 8:30 a.m.

+**Frantz & Anna Stil** – *Ted & Lynne Stil*

Friday, December 11, 2020 – 8:30 a.m.

+**John Daly** – *Paula & Adam Roser*

Saturday, December 12, 2020

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**9 a.m. – For special graces for Artur Miciula &  
Family** – *Ewa*

**5 p.m. – +Leona Grobe** – *Peter Grobe*

Sunday, December 13, 2020 – 10 a.m. –

**Third Sunday of Advent – Year B  
- Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

**Bambinelli Sunday** - For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday.

The blessing of the 'Bambinelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on **Sunday, Dec. 13th at the 10:00a.m.** Mass to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas.

Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas Day - as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.



**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.

**Christmas Cleaning Crew** – We are looking for volunteers to help clean the church on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> following the morning Mass. We would welcome you to help us, as we clean the church to prepare for Christmas. Hope to see you here!

**Christmas Lights** - If you have any outdoor Christmas lights (LED lights in good condition) and you don't need them, we would request that you please bring them to the Parish Office. We will use them to decorate the Nativity Scene and the surrounding area of the church. Thank you!

**Special Collection** – Several Special Collections were missed during the COVID-19 Shutdown. The Special Collection Envelopes were distributed last weekend, **November 28-29, 2020**. Please remember to return your envelope this weekend, **December 5-6, 2020**. It can be dropped in the collection basket as you leave the church. This Collection includes: Share Lent, Pope's Pastoral Works, Holy Land (Good Friday), Cura Pastorum Association, Needs of the Church in Canada and World Mission Sunday. The funds received from this Special Collection will be divided according to percentages established by the results of last year's Special Collections. We encourage you to be as generous as possible, to this collection, which will benefit so many important causes.

**OBLATE FEAST DAY** - on December 8th, 2020 about 4,000 Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate around the world will celebrate their patronal Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This religious community was founded by St. Eugene de Mazenod in 1816 in France. The first Oblate missionaries came to Canada in 1841. At this moment, they work in 68 countries including Canada where they have three Provinces and about 500 members working in different ministries. **Please pray for our religious congregation and for vocations to the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.**

**The Sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph** will pray for you during the Novena to Infant Jesus, December 16th to December 25th, 2020 Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support? You can participate in the Novena to Infant Jesus. Send your prayer intention slip with your name and address to: Carmel of Saint Joseph, 1127 Carmel-Koch Road, R.R. #1, St. Agatha, ON N0B 2L0

## 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 – November 29, 2020

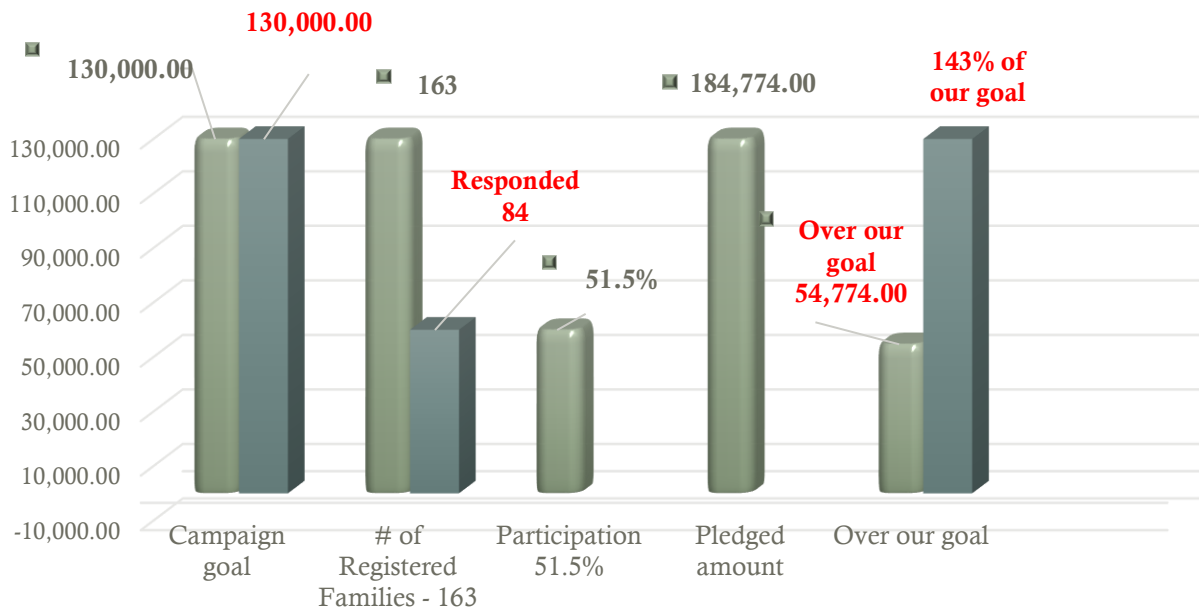
Envelopes .....	\$3532.27
Loose .....	\$ 246.00
Building and Maintenance .....	\$ 75.00
Combined Special Collection .....	\$ 20.00



**Thank you** again to all who have participated and donated to our One Heart One Soul Campaign. Father Marian wishes to acknowledge and thank you for your pledge.

We have been sending out thank you notes to all who have made pledges/donations to the One Heart One Soul Campaign and would kindly ask that you contact the Parish Office if you have not received a thank you within 2 weeks of sending in your pledge, so that we can investigate further and ensure your pledge/donation is acknowledged. **Thank you!**

### Progress of One Heart One Soul Campaign



## First Communion 2019/20

We would like to congratulate **Kaitlyn Evans, Mia Nowak, Eileen Nuhn and Jacob Schippling** and their families, as on November 29th, 2020 during the 10:00 a.m. Mass they received for the first time, the Eucharistic Jesus, into their hearts. Congratulations!

