

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

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 3, 2021

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: 2nd, 3rd & 4th Friday – 7:00 p.m.

St. Teresa School

Principal: Mr. Brian Goodyear

Secretary: Mary Lavigne

519-743-2131

Friday, January 1, 2021: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, World Day of Prayer for Peace

Today, as so many in the world celebrate the beginning of a new year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Mother of God. It is the oldest of all Marian feasts in our liturgy. It is also a feast uniquely appropriate to those of us concerned with new beginnings, with new resolutions, and renewed hopes.

The gospel we have heard today is almost an exact repeat of what was read at the Dawn Mass on Christmas. It is worth noting that in this gospel the shepherds, considered among the marginalized, the poor, the outsider, are those first informed of Christ's birth, and who first visit the infant Jesus. In Luke, Mary represents the ideal believer, for she hears the good news and ponders it in her heart, and fully responds to it. Her heart becomes the place of discovering Jesus, and who He truly is. Mary's entire life, and the Church's entire life, is centred on that process of pondering who that child now born to us really is. Mary in contemplating her son becomes the Church reflecting on the Incarnation. It is this aspect of Mary's motherhood that is most important for our new year, a year in which we continue our own journey of the heart towards God.

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

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, 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?**

Diocese of Hamilton
Prayer Calendar 2021

January 4 – Rev. David Avila
January 5 – Rev. Tony O'Dell, O.M.I.
January 6 – Diocesan Priests
January 7 – Rev. Kiwook Kim
January 8 – Rev. Michal Kruszewski, C.R.
January 9 – Rev. Krzysztof Szkubera, C.R.
January 10 – **Baptism of the Lord**

Vocations

Epiphany of the Lord January 3, 2021

The Son of God was first manifested to the world through the visit of the magi. Today, God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church.

If you think that God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton, 905-528-7988 ext. 2246.

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

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.

Parish Office

Due to the Province-wide lockdown which came into effect on December 26, 2020, the Parish Office at 44 Leonard St. will be closed until January 23, 2021.

Mary will be working from home and therefore, you can continue to reach our Parish Office at st.teresa@stteresakit.ca or telephone 519-743-4525.

Statistics from 2020

New Parishioners – 14 Families (32 individuals)
 Baptisms – 2
 Funerals – 7
 1st Communion – 11
 Confirmation (Dec. 8, 2019) - 13

2021 Offertory Envelopes – The 2021 Offertory Envelopes are now ready for pick up. At this time, we would ask that you please call the Parish Office and arrangements will be made for you to obtain your envelopes. For those who have signed up for Pre-Authorized Giving, please ensure that you also pick up your box of envelopes for 2021.

2020/2021 Sunday Missals - The Sunday Missal is still available. The missal is \$5 and can be purchased by calling the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions for 2021 – In order to provide an equal opportunity to all members of our parish, who would like to request Mass intentions in 2021, I would propose the following: Each family may reserve 1 Saturday Mass and 1 weekday Mass. This is based on the number of registered families. Please make your requests over the next several weeks. After January 22, 2021, we will accommodate any available request, for as many Mass intentions as you wish. In 2020, I introduced a Mass with Multiple Intentions, in order to respond to the needs of our parishioners. These will continue on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Thank you.



Catholic Women's League Bursary 2020 – St. Teresa's CWL offers a bursary of \$200 to a graduating student from our parish who has attended a Catholic Secondary School in Kitchener-Waterloo and who is an active member of our Parish. If you are a 2020 graduate or know a graduate who you think deserves the 2020 bursary please put his/her name in a sealed envelope marked CWL and drop it off at the Parish Office or email to stteresacwl@gmail.com. All parishioners are invited to nominate a worthy candidate.

Mass Intentions

Mass will be celebrated privately for the following intentions:

January 4, 2021 – January 10, 2021

Tuesday, January 5, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

Group Mass Intentions

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

+**Vincent Zettel** – *The Zister Family*

Thursday, January 7, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

Memorial of St. André Bessette

Special Intentions of Monica O'Hagin – *Marion*

Jagelewski

Friday, January 8, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

+**Greg Diebolt** – *Sue Weber Bell*

Saturday, January 9, 2021

9:00 a.m. – **Special Intentions of Marion Jagelewski** –

Jean Giles

7:00 p.m. – +**David Tschirhart** – *Marie Miller*

Sunday, January 10, 2021 – **10:00 a.m.** – **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** – Year B – **Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

Live-streaming on Zoom

The **Masses** will be **live-streamed**, Tuesday to Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 9:00 a.m., Saturday Vigil in anticipation of Sunday at 7 p.m., and on Sunday at 10:00 a.m., on Zoom. Join Father by clicking on the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/5887658626>
The Password is: 274733 **The Divine Mercy Chaplet** will also be **live-streamed**, Tuesday to Friday at 3 p.m.

Pre-Authorized Giving We're ACTIVE

For those of you who have signed up for the Pre-Authorized Giving option for Stewardship here at St. Teresa Parish, we are please to tell you that we are now **ACTIVE**. The first withdrawal will be for **January 2021** and the deductions will continue to be processed on the **28th day of each month**.

We thank you for your patience, in getting this started. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office.

We are very grateful for your contributions and would encourage those who have not signed up for this option to prayerfully consider Pre-Authorized Giving, particularly in these times of uncertainty.

Thank you!

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). For your convenience, we are also including the form as an attachment with today's Message from Father. 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 mailed to: St Teresa of Avila Parish, 44 Leonard St., Kitchener, ON N2H 6C8

Stewardship Report – December 25, 2020

Envelopes	\$1463.00
Loose	\$ 104.25
Building and Maintenance	\$ 85.00
Christmas	\$2950.00
2020/21 Sunday Missals	\$ 25.00

Stewardship Report

Once again, we are not able to gather to worship as a Parish Community, in the church. We would ask you to continue to keep our parish in your prayers and prayerfully consider continuing your donations. Thank you to those who continue to remember the parish through financial donations - We appreciate your continued support!

To support our parish via **credit card**, please visit the special **Parish Offertory Fund: COVID-19** page at the Diocese of Hamilton:

[COVID-19 Parish Fund - Diocese of Hamilton](#)

Once you are on the Parish Offertory Fund: COVID-19 page, there are 4 sections on the form to complete. They are as follows:

- DONATION DETAILS
- DONOR & TAX RECEIPT INFORMATION
- PAYMENT INFORMATION
- IF YOU HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOUR PARISH, PLEASE SHARE IT HERE:

To ensure the funds get directed to our parish, it is imperative that you select **St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Kitchener** in the drop box in the **FUND** box of the Donation Details section.

Once you have completed the form, click on **COMPLETE DONATION NOW**. This method of giving will provide you with an **electronic tax receipt** immediately upon making your gift.

If you choose the above option, it would be greatly appreciated if you could email the parish office at st.teresa@stteresakit.ca to advise us of your donation.

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.

Continuing support of our parish is an act of generosity and faith. We are very grateful for any contributions you may be able to make at this time.



An Epiphany House Blessing 2021

During our liturgy the chalk will be blessed. Using the blessed chalk write above the home's entrance, **20 + C + M + B + 21**. 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 **2021** is the year.



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), decorated around the church with beautiful flowers and cleaned the church (sacristy, sanctuary, altar, and 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!!!

As we come to the end of 2020, we thank God for the many graces we have received this past year and pray for God's blessing upon each day of 2021.

Happy New Year!