

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

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 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 - 519-574-8534 or
519-900-0250

Finance Council Chair:
Don Pickett, Jr.

Pastoral Council Chair:
Barbara Daly

St. Vincent de Paul:
Bernie & Rosemary Pickett
519-749-1501

St. Teresa School
Principal: Mr. Brian Goodyear
Secretary: Mary Lavigne
519-743-2131

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.

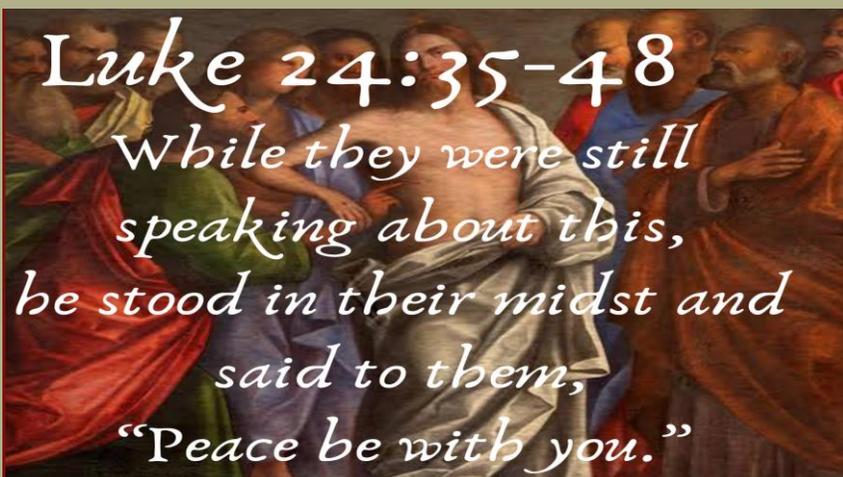
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

On the third Sunday of Easter, we continue to hear Gospel accounts of Jesus' appearances to His disciples following His Resurrection. Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to His disciples on the road to Emmaus. As today's Gospel opens, the disciples, gathered in the room, are hearing the account of the two disciples who have just returned from Emmaus after a powerful experience of meeting the Risen Jesus. All of a sudden there is Jesus among them. He gives them the conventional greeting, "Peace to you!" (Shalom!).

Consistently in the reports of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances, He greets His disciples with the words, "**Peace be with you.**" This is a most appropriate greeting. The disciples have witnessed the death of someone they loved, and they now fear for their own lives as well. Peace is what they need more than anything else. **Jesus often connects this greeting of peace with another gift—forgiveness.** In today's Gospel, this connection is made in the final verses.

Now their feelings turn to inexpressible joy. As they look on Him with a mixture of happiness and wonder, He pushes them a bit further and asks for food to eat. Ghosts don't eat. Jesus is truly risen; He is still fully in our world and part of it although in a very different way from before Good Friday.

As further proof of His identity and of His resurrected body, Jesus eats with His disciples. The disciples have known Jesus best through the meals that He has shared with them. Descriptions of these meals are a defining element of Luke's Gospel. By eating with His disciples after His Resurrection, Jesus recalls all these meals, and most importantly, He recalls the Last Supper.



Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2021

April 19 – Rev. Christopher Tracey
 April 20 – Rev. Mark Morley
 April 21 – Jesuit Fathers (S.J.)
 April 22 – Rev. George Nowak, C.R.
 April 23 – Rev. Ireneusz Koziak, S.A.C.
 April 24 – Rev. Charles Galea
 April 25 – **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Vocations

Third Sunday of Easter April 18, 2021

What could convince someone to turn to God? The story that God became human? The story that Jesus cured the sick? The story that Jesus forgave sin? The story that Jesus rose from the dead? Or, perhaps, the story of the witness of your own life! If you have the continuing inclination that God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Most Reverend Wayne Lobsinger, VG, EV, Auxiliary Bishop & Vocations Director, Diocese of Hamilton at (905) 528-7988 x2222.

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

Serra Prayer for Vocations

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of labourers for Your Church, fellow labourers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever.

Amen.

ATTENTION - This week, starting on Monday, April 19, 2021 through to Friday, April 23, 2021, the main entrance of the church will be blocked off due to renovations to the floor. For daily Mass we will use the side entrance, on the school side of the church. As you enter, please follow the safety guidelines. Confession will take place in the confessional. At the same time, please note that the narthex will not be available for prayer during the day. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Parish Office – Important Information!

The parish office is open. Admittance to the Parish Office, however, is **by appointment only**. To book an appointment, please call 519-743-4525 or email: st.teresa@stteresakit.ca. **Please help us keep everyone safe by adhering to the safety guidelines.**

The Reel Justice Film Festival is back for another year! A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the *Reel Justice Film Festival* shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustice. Films are screened once a month and provide an opportunity for community discussion about ways we can all support actions for change. Details and the full schedule can be found at: reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com. This year the festival is going virtual! All of the films will be available online. The next film: **LIFE ON OUR PLANET: Thursday April 22 at 7 pm**. Celebrate Earth Day with this beautiful film.



We are currently accepting applications for the following opportunities: **Registered Early Childhood Educators**. Please visit our website for job details and application criteria: www.wedbs.ca



The Lectures in Catholic Experience invites you to meet St. Jerome's University's new

President and Vice Chancellor, **Dr. Peter Meehan**.

April 23, 2021–7:30 p.m. - Online. Find out more [here](#).

COME RETREAT WITH LOYOLA HOUSE VIRTUALLY!

Are you looking to break away and spend some time in silence? Interested in learning something new? See our website at loyolahouse.com (under "Events") for more information on upcoming retreats & programs. **NEW! Check out our Multi-faith retreat series** in exploring contemplation and self-knowledge through the lenses of other traditions.

These virtual retreats may include video links and/or Zoom (or telephone) gatherings, and optional individual meetings with your spiritual director where indicated.

Register online at loyolahouse.com or contact registration@ignatiusguelph.ca or by calling 519-824-1250 ext 266

**Mass Intentions
April 19, 2021 – April 25, 2021**

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

Group Mass Intentions

+**Corry Klaver** – *Sandra & Roland Levesque*

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

Intention of Thomas Proyam – *Marion Jagelewski*

Thursday, April 22, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

Intentions of Gloria Argueta – *Ken & Betty*

Friday, April 23, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

+**Della & Wayne Skinner** – *Ken & Betty*

Saturday, April 24, 2021 –

9:00 a.m. – +**Ron McGladrey** – *Carol*

Wilhelm & Family

5:00 p.m. – +**Ludwig Ceh** – *Theresa Ceh &*

Family

Sunday, April 25, 2021 – **10:00 a.m.** – **Fourth**

Sunday of Easter (World Day of Prayer for Vocations) – Year B – **Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

Live-streaming on Zoom

The **Sunday Mass**, at **10 a.m.** will be **live-streamed** on Zoom. If you are not attending this Mass, and you wish to join Father online, please click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/5887658626>

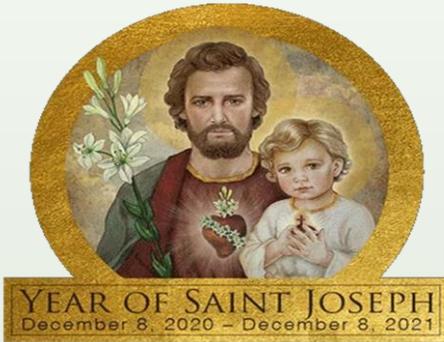
The Password is: 274733

Daily Readings:

Lectors may find daily readings at this link:

<https://readings.livingwithchrist.ca>

Stewardship Report



Prayer to St. Joseph

Remember, O St. Joseph,
 loving and powerful protector,
 that according to the testimony
 of your faithful servant, great St.
 Teresa,
 no one who is truly devoted to you
 has seen his petition rejected.
 Filled with confidence and hope
 I come to you, worthy spouse
 of Mary Immaculate.
 Do not close your ears to my
 prayer,
 you who have the glorious title
 of father of Jesus,
 but graciously hear and intercede
 for me.
 Amen.

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 basket will be provided for you to drop off your donation, on your way out of the church.

Pre-Authorized Giving

Pre-Authorized Giving is now available for our parishioners. A digital copy of the form may be found on our website under Bulletins for 2021. Simply print the form and complete it. For those unable to print the digital copy, please contact the Parish Office. 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

E-Transfer

Exciting news – We are now able to provide E-Transfer to our parishioners. For E-Transfers, please use the following email account: stteresakitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

CanadaHelps

To support our parish via **credit card** or **PayPal** please visit canadahelps.org You can access our parish directly by following this link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450RR0053-st-teresas-parish/>

For those who do not get the bulletin electronically, go to canadahelps.org and then follow the instructions below:

Once you are on the homepage, you can access St. Teresa of Avila Parish by going to the Donate tab and clicking on Find a Charity. Click on the blue box that says Pick a category that is close to your heart. Now click on religion. Once you have done this you will have another tab appear that says All Locations. Click on this tab and change region to Ontario and city to Kitchener. You will now be able to scroll down until you find **STTERESAS** (Kitchener, ON appears below). Click on this link and you can then proceed with your donation.

Please note that donations made through the CanadaHelps website, will receive a tax receipt directly from CanadaHelps, via email.

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.

Stewardship Report April 11, 2021

Envelopes	\$1612.00
Loose	\$ 80.00
Building Fund	\$ 335.00
Share Lent	\$ 15.00
Easter	\$ 325.00
Needs of the Church in the Holy Land (Good Friday)	\$ 45.00

Testimony to the "Ocean of Graces"

It was Divine Mercy Sunday in 1996 and I will forever be grateful to Our Lord. I had been away from the Church and regular Sunday Mass attendance for about 25 years when in 1993, after having been shown my sins and the destruction I had left in my life during an encounter with Jesus that lasted about 2 hours, I returned immediately to the Catholic Church and I was led to purchase the diary of St. Faustina for future reading.

When I finally picked up the diary, after about 3 years, and cracked it open, and realized that Jesus had been speaking to me, I couldn't put it down. At this point, I had still not gone to Confession, even after being shown my sins, 3

When I read, in Faustina's "Divine Mercy in My Soul", about Jesus' promise of the Feast of Mercy in the Church and the promise for the forgiveness of all sins and punishment, I took advantage of it; it was so



St. Faustina, I point, in my re-Confession, even years prior.

diary "Divine Mercy requesting that a Feast of Mercy be established in the Church and the promise for the total forgiveness just had to take advantage of it. It was so appealing to me.

If you can imagine, I had already been back to the Church for about 3 years, had become an Extra-ordinary Minister of Holy Communion, but I had not yet been to Confession since I had originally fallen-away from the Church, about 28 years before.

I guess that I thought, like many people do nowadays, that I didn't have to confess my sins. I guess that it was the overwhelmingly convincing truth of Jesus' words in the diary that motivated me to prepare for the celebration of the Feast of Mercy. Not only that, but it was what Jesus said about Himself, waiting for us in the Confessional, that really gave me the courage, and took my fear away about approaching a priest again in Confession.

About halfway through Lent I called my pastor to ask if our parish could celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy that year. He responded by saying "Not this year, but maybe next year". I pleaded with him 2 more times but was told the same thing. At this point, I realized that he didn't "have to" celebrate the feast, because the Church hadn't made it quite official at this point, in 1996, but it was the words of Jesus saying that the loss of each soul plunges Him into mortal sadness, that kept me motivated to urge its celebration.

Well, like anyone who has read the diary, I was thinking of the poor souls that would not hear about the promise of Jesus and die in the state of mortal sin before next year. I was thinking "how can we put off not telling everyone about this feast?"

So, what I did was I started telling people about Jesus' promise on my own. When I took Holy Communion to the homebound, I would tell them about it and provide them with booklets and leaflets so that they could also prepare. I urged them all to go to Confession in preparation to receive Jesus on the Feast of Mercy.

It was then the Saturday before the feast and I finally made my Confession in the late afternoon. For some reason, which I didn't understand yet, I was inspired by the Holy Spirit to constantly remain in prayer so that I would not fall back into sin - in thought, word, or deed. I kept praying the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy until I fell asleep.

On the following day, which was the Feast of Divine Mercy (now known as Divine Mercy Sunday), I remained in prayer until I got to Mass. After Mass I made it a point to take Holy Communion to all of my homebound because I wanted them to get a chance to receive communion right on the feast itself, as Jesus said. The normal routine was to deliver Holy Communion just on Fridays.

When I finished bringing Holy Communion to the homebound, I went home, gave my two handicapped parents, I was taking care of, Holy Communion and made them our breakfast. After we had finished breakfast, I was in the kitchen cleaning off the counters, when all of a sudden it felt as though someone had come up from behind me and was pouring, what felt like, **"a bucket of liquid peace all over me"**.

I thought that I had peace already, but this peace, that was being poured over me, was unbelievable. It actually felt as though liquid peace was being poured all over me. As I was experiencing this, I heard Jesus very clearly speak these words to me, **"When I say something, I mean it"**. Our Lord Jesus was showing me that His words, about His mercy, in Faustina's diary, were absolutely true.

The next time that I cracked open the diary, these words of Jesus, about His promises for His Feast of Mercy, just jumped right out at me from the page - **"I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy"** (Diary 699). It was then that I realized why Jesus had given me that sensation of "liquid peace being poured all over me." Needless to say, when I read those words, I felt the Holy Spirit come all over me, reminding me of what happened, and the hair on my arms stood straight up!

Jesus was reminding me that it just wasn't about the total forgiveness of sins and punishment, on that day - that was just the enticement to participate. The big thing on the Feast of Mercy, was the outpouring of a whole ocean of graces. That day was set apart from any other day. On that day, all the Divine Floodgates through which graces flow were open! It was then that I realized what Jesus wanted of me.

Ever since receiving those graces, on that day, I just can't keep quiet about that great Feast of His Mercy - "Divine Mercy Sunday".

