

# 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)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

## St. Teresa of Ávila

“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:** Jim Weber,  
Stella Lemieux, Fatima Pacheco,  
Magie Navaleza, Betty Skinner  
**Baptism Preparation Team:**  
**CWL President:** Mary Alice Zister  
**Lector Co-ordinator:** Mary Steffler  
**Eucharistic Minister Co-ordinator:**  
Kim Voelzing

**Adoration Chapel Co-ordinators:**  
Herb Altman – 519-893-4793 or  
Rosemary Mussar – 519-743-5656

**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. (except in August)  
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  
(September – June) – 7:00 p.m.

**Prayer Meeting:** Temporarily suspended

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today is the last Sunday before Christmas. Are you getting excited? I am! What are some of the things that you look forward to at Christmas? What are some of the family traditions your family has?

Our Gospel (Lk 1:39-45) reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Elizabeth gave a glad cry and said to Mary: *"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?"* Lk 1:43)

That is amazing! Before Mary even said a word about having a child, Elizabeth knew it and she knew that the child was going to be a very special child! "Why am I so blessed that the mother of my Lord would visit me?" Elizabeth said. *"You are a blessed woman because you have believed that the Lord would do what He said."*

If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favour upon the people of Israel.

Heavenly Father, we are thankful for this time of joyful preparation for the birth of our Saviour. We pray that we will be ready to honour You and welcome You into our hearts and families. Come Lord Jesus! Amen.



**Advent with Children** - On the Fourth Sunday of Advent we invite all children to join us at Mass (Saturday or Sunday) and bring their Advent Activity Calendar decorated with good deeds. Every child who did at least one good deed will receive - a special gift - little Baby Jesus and a Christmas bookmark. **Do not miss your chance to get your gift and get ready for Christmas!**

**"The important thing is not to think much but to love much ..."**

St. Teresa of Ávila

Diocese of Hamilton  
Prayer Calendar 2021

### Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar

December 20 – Rev. Pawel Stankiewicz  
December 21 – Rev. Ronald Voisin  
December 22 – Voluntas Dei Institute (i.v.Dei.)  
December 23 – Rev. Meskel Abib Aibu, O.F.M.  
December 24 – Rev. Miro Grubisic, O.F.M.  
December 25 – **Christmas Day (The Nativity of the Lord)**  
December 26 – Feast of the Holy Family

### Vocations

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest, deacon or religious to carry the Good News of God's great Love?

#### Nativity of the Lord December 25, 2021

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon.

If God is calling you, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton, (905-528-7988).

[vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)  
<https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

#### 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 they have received. Amen.

**Christmas Season – Mass Registration** – Due to ongoing Covid protocols, we are requesting that you register for the Christmas Masses. Please call the parish office or click on the following link: [http://stteresakit.ca/?page\\_id=2434](http://stteresakit.ca/?page_id=2434)

### PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION

#### Confirmation –

**Jan. 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** – Holy Mass – The Baptism of the Lord

**Jan. 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** – Catechetical Session 2: “Reconciliation the gift of God’s Mercy”.

#### First Reconciliation and First Communion –

**December 19, 2021** – Holy Mass: “Actions speak louder than words” (presentation of projects that FC candidates selected as a way of building relationship with the parish).

**Jan. 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** – Catechetical Session 2: “Discovering the gift of the Eucharist” – Part I.

**The Divine Mercy Chapel** is open for Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, **Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.** Please see the Chapel Guidelines as you enter the chapel. To sign up, please call the parish office - 519-743-4525.

#### Stewardship Report December 12, 2021

Envelopes .....	\$ 3133.00
Loose .....	\$ 184.00
Building and Maintenance .....	\$ 285.00
Christmas .....	\$ 810.00
World Mission Sunday .....	\$ 100.00
Flowers .....	\$ 145.00
November Pre-Authorized Giving .....	\$ 1867.00

Thank you to those who continue to remember the parish through financial donations!

**Donations for the year 2021** – As we approach year end, we wish to remind you that the diocesan bookkeeping policy requires that parish books close on December 31, 2021. Donations from individual parishioners or businesses that would like to receive an income tax receipt for 2021 must be received at the parish office by December 31, 2021. *Thank you for your support and generosity given to our parish community.*

### Mass Intentions

#### December 20, 2021 – December 26, 2021

Tuesday, December 21, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

#### Group Mass Intentions

+ **Albert Luft** – *Dorothy Luft & Family*

**Healing for McGill Lucien** – *Ken & Betty*

Wednesday, December 22, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

+ **Larry Wismer** – *Joan Wismer*

Thursday, December 23, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

**Intentions of Helene Meier** – *Ken & Betty*

Friday, December 24, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.** – No Mass

*Vigil of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord*

**5:00 p.m.** – Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

Saturday, December 25, 2021 –

*Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*

**10:00 a.m.** – Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

**5:00 p.m.** – No Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 26, 2021 – **10:00 a.m.** –

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph** – Year C – Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

#### Live-streaming on Zoom

The **10 a.m. Sunday Mass** will be live-streamed. To join Father, click on the following link:

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

Password: 274733

#### Daily Readings:

Lectors may find daily readings at this link:

<https://readings.livingwithchrist.ca>

#### Parish Office – Important Up-dated Information

Our Parish Office is open Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Following diocesan protocols, admittance to the parish office is by appointment only and you are required to wear a mask. For an appointment, please call or email the parish office, 519-743-4525 or [st.teresa@stteresakit.ca](mailto:st.teresa@stteresakit.ca)

**Christmas Flowers** – Envelopes are available at the back of the church for those wishing to make a contribution to assist with the cost of the flowers and trees. Thank you for your generosity.

**Christmas Mailing** – On Monday, December 6, 2021, the Christmas program and a letter from the pastor were sent out to all our parishioners. If someone did not receive this letter or recently changed their address, please contact our parish office.

**Sunday Missals – 2021/2022** – The Living with Christ Sunday Missals are available on the table at the back of the church or at the Parish Office. The charge is \$5. Please bring the exact change.

**2022 Offertory Envelopes** – The 2022 Offertory Envelopes are now ready for pick up. Please pick up your envelopes after Mass, this weekend, on the table at the back of the church. For those who have signed up for Pre-Authorized Giving, please ensure that you pick up your box of envelopes for 2022, as well. To ensure our parish records are up-to-date, we ask that you please put your name, address and phone number on the first envelope you use. Thank you for your assistance.

**Mass Intentions for 2022** – In order to provide an equal opportunity to all members of our parish, who would like to request Mass intentions in 2022, 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 21, 2022, 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.

### **CWL Silent Auction Thank You!**

Thank you to all who participated in our first Annual Silent Auction. It was a great success. We raised \$1140. Congratulations to the winning bidders, Heather Finnie, Michael Kelly, Paul Wideman, Suzanne Willems, Laurie Partridge, Mary Alice Zister, Jean Giles, Sonia Elphick, Kathleen Hinton, Barbara Daly. We look forward to running this fundraiser again next year!



**CWL Membership** - the membership fee is \$25 and young ladies 16 and over are eligible to be members. For those who pay their membership by December 15, 2021 we will have a draw for a free membership. We welcome and appreciate the participation of young women.

**CWL - Visiting Retirement/Nursing Homes:** We have been checking in with the homes where we hoped to visit our parishioners but have found that restrictions will prevent us from doing so. We will be contacting them with phone calls and cards. We ask for your understanding, in this.

**Canadian Food for Children Collection** - This year we are collecting hygiene products for Canadian Food for Children. There is a desperate need for toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and hand soap. Bins will be at the main entrance of the church for the next few weeks until Christmas. Please be generous to those who have so, so much less than we do.

**Prayer Shawls Ministry** - If you or anyone you know would like a blessed prayer shawl, hand-made by members of St. Teresa Parish, please contact the office and someone from the Prayer Shawl Ministry will contact you. Our CWL gives knitted and crocheted prayer blankets to newly baptized babies. All prayer shawls and blankets have been blessed by a priest. If you would like to help out by making prayer shawls, or baby blankets, please contact the office.

### ***Christmas Midnight Mass***

***Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton***  
His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, will celebrate Midnight Mass on December 25, 2021. The Mass will be preceded by Carols at 11:30 p.m. on December 24, 2021. The Carols and the Mass will be shown live on Salt+Light Television and CHCH-TV. Admittance to the Cathedral for Midnight Mass is by **ticket only** – a limited number of tickets are still available by contacting the Cathedral at: **(905) 522-5744**.

## Christmas Mass Schedule 2021

St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Kitchener, Ontario  
Tel.: 519-743-4525

**Saturday, December 18, 2021**  
from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Adoration  
of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession

### Christmas Eve

**Friday, December 24, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.**

### Christmas Day

**Saturday, December 25, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.**

(Mass also on Zoom)

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**Saturday, December 25, 2021 - NO Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, December 26, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.**

(Mass also on Zoom)

On the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, there will be a special blessing for families.

### Mary, The Holy Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

**Friday, December 31, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, January 1, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.**

(Mass also on Zoom)

### Epiphany of the Lord

**Saturday, January 1, 2022 – NO Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, January 2, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.**

(Mass also on Zoom)

### Are you planning on attending Mass during Christmas?

Please register on our website: [www.stteresakit.ca](http://www.stteresakit.ca)

If you wish to join us online, please click on the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/5887658626>; Password: 274733

**The Parish Offices will be closed from  
December 24th, 2021 through January 2, 2022.**



### Dear Parishioners & Guests,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful Christmas, filled with many moments you will always remember. May this Christmas be more than just a season; may it become a way of life for us. May the little Child whom we contemplate in the manger, watch over all the children of the world, as well as vulnerable and discarded persons. May all of us receive peace and consolation from the birth of the Saviour, and in the knowledge that we are loved by the one heavenly Father!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fr. Marian Gil OMI  
Pastor



# Advent

*The Season of Hope and Expectation*

## Preparing for Christmas

We would like to thank Bill Zister, Tim Pickett, Don Monastyrski and Jack Pigeau for setting up the Christmas Crib in front of the church and also decorating our trees with Christmas lights. **Thank you for your dedication!**



## New Liturgical Vestments

In order to update our liturgical vestments, we purchased a new set, which will be blessed this Sunday.

