

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
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Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022

## 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

## Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

We come today to the end of the Christmas season. We are brought to the banks of the River Jordan (Luke 3:15-16,21-22) somewhere north of Jerusalem where John the Baptist, a cousin of Jesus, is living out in the desert. In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan, God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us.

### Why baptise Jesus?

We might ask ourselves: Why did Jesus need to be baptised? Most of those coming to John the Baptist were repentant sinners. Our baptism, too, is partly to rescue us from the power of sin by being bathed in the redemptive love of Christ. There are two answers we can give to this question:

- a. By being baptised in the River Jordan with all those self-proclaimed sinners, Jesus shows His total solidarity with us. "The Word was made flesh and lived among us," says John's gospel.
- b. Secondly, something different is happening here beyond an ordinary baptism. It was at this moment that the Spirit of God in the visible form of a dove comes down on Jesus. A voice of the Father, says, "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you." It is clearly a form of "missioning" for Jesus. We could call it His 'Pentecost' experience. It is a clear endorsement from His Father for the work that Jesus is about to begin.

**Reflecting on our own baptism:** today we have an opportunity to reflect on our own baptism. It is not something which happened a long time ago and which "made" us Catholics. It is not just a ceremony lasting a few minutes which produces magical effects; it is the beginning of a lifelong journey. It is the beginning of a process of growing into the Body of Christ as its members. So let us today renew our faith in and our commitment to follow Jesus.

**"The tree that is beside the running water is fresher and gives more fruit."**

St. Teresa of Ávila

Diocese of Hamilton  
Prayer Calendar 2021

### Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar

January 10 – Rev. Francisco Cruz  
 January 11 – Rev. Brian Quigley, M.C.C.J.  
 January 12 – Sisters of St. John the Baptist (C.S.J.B.)  
 January 13 – Rev. Mussie A. Keflezghi, M.C.C.J.  
 January 14 – Rev. Stephen Murrin  
 January 15 – Rev. Toby Collins, C.R.  
 January 16 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Vocations

#### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord January 9, 2022

As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus a voice from heaven said, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased." Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon or religious. If He is, 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/>

#### 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.

**Preparing for Confirmation and First Communion & Reconciliation – *Important Dates:***

**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”* – *Postponed – to be rescheduled in February.*

**First Reconciliation and First Communion –**

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

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

**Children’s Choir** – Our parish is organizing a Children’s Choir. Those who would like to join this group and develop their talents, are asked to please contact our parish office. The deadline for registration is January 31, 2022.

**2022 Offertory Envelopes** – The 2022 Offertory Envelopes are ready for pick up. Please pick up your envelopes after Mass, 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.

**Mass Intentions  
January 10, 2022 – January 16, 2022**

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – **7:00 p.m.**  
**No Mass**

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**Memorial of Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys**  
**No Mass**

Thursday, January 13, 2022 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**No Mass**

Friday, January 14, 2022 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**No Mass**

Saturday, January 15, 2022 –  
**9:00 a.m. – No Mass**  
**5:00 p.m. – + Howie Kavelman – Pat & Dan Weiler & Family**

Sunday, January 16, 2022 – **10:00 a.m.** –  
**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 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](#)

**Please Note:** There will be no Masses Monday to Friday of this week. During this time, I would encourage parishioners to attend other parishes.

**TAX RECEIPTS** – I would like to thank all those who use envelopes and so generously support our parish community. By using envelopes, you can file your contributions along with your personal income tax return. Please make sure that we have your updated address information to mail your 2021 tax receipt. If not, please contact our parish office.

**Stewardship Report December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Envelopes .....	\$ 2168.00
Loose .....	\$ 438.85
Building and Maintenance .....	\$ 1628.00
Christmas .....	\$ 4490.00
Flowers .....	\$ 55.00
Initial Offering .....	\$ 30.00
Candles .....	\$ 330.15

## Christmas Thank You!

I would like to take this opportunity to express my words of thanks to all those who sent Christmas cards and showed in many different ways their kindness and support by sharing their Christmas gifts. I must say that some of the messages I received were so encouraging and sincere that they deeply touched my heart.

**Thank you so much for your prayers, kindness and support. May the good Lord bless you with the wisdom of the Wise Men, the fervent faith of the shepherds and true love of the Holy Family.**



## Christmas Celebrations Thank You!

As we come to the end of the Christmas Season, I would like to express words of thanks to all those who helped prepare the church for the Christmas celebrations and those who assisted at the liturgies.

Thank you to the Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers, Musicians and Choir, those who decorated the church and set up the Christmas Crib and those who put up the lights outside the church.



Thank you also to our Facilities Manager and Parish Secretary, who made themselves available beyond their scheduled time; and to Bill Zister, a special thank you for giving so generously of his time to assist with the snow removal.

*Your dedication and support are exceptional. May God reward you abundantly with countless graces.*



### New Vestments & Altar Cloths for the Liturgical Seasons

In addition to the new vestments we purchased before Christmas, we received 2 additional vestments – one for Marian Feasts and the other for Easter. We also received 4 different altar cloths for the main altar, tabernacle and St. Teresa’s altar. The person that donated these liturgical items has asked to remain anonymous, but on behalf of the parish community, I would like to thank the donor for their incredible generosity and beautifying our liturgical celebrations.

