

**Third Sunday of Advent**

“Gaudete Sunday” this name is taken from the first word of the Entrance Song in Latin. Gaudete means ‘Rejoice!’. The Mass text and readings today are full of joy, especially the Entrance Song, the Opening Prayer and the First Reading from Isaiah. “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, rejoice!” is the cry of the Entrance Antiphon. Why? Because “the Lord is near”. Today we light the rose candle, and the priest may wear rose vestments, to express our joy in the coming of Jesus, our Saviour. Today’s Gospel tells us that John the Baptist came as a witness to testify to the Light, i.e., Jesus. The coming of Jesus, the Light, into the world is cause for rejoicing as He removes darkness from the world. We should be glad and rejoice also because, like John the Baptist, we, too, are chosen to bear witness to Christ Jesus, the Light of the world. We are to reflect Jesus’ Light in our lives so that we may radiate it and illuminate the dark lives of others around us. The joyful message of today’s liturgy is clear. The salvation we await with rejoicing will liberate both the individual and the community, and its special focus will be the poor and lowly, not the rich and powerful.

**Advent with Children** - 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. On the first Sunday of Advent, we gave each child an Advent package to help them to journey through this special season deepening their relationship with the Holy Family. Children who join this program and attend Mass during this Advent Season will receive, on the Fourth Sunday of Advent - a special gift. **Do not miss your chance to get your gift and get ready for Christmas!**

**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 generally 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 **this** weekend, **December 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>** 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 and as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

**Mass Intentions**  
**December 12, 2022 – December 18, 2022**

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 – **7:00 p.m.**  
*Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr*  
**Living and deceased members of the CWL – CWL**

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 – **8:30 a.m.**  
*Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
**+ Frank and + Rose Lehmann – Lehmann Family**

Thursday, December 15, 2022 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**+ Delmar Ferreira – Citelia Ferreira**

Friday, December 16, 2022 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**Intentions of Krystyna – Magie**

Saturday, December 17, 2022 –  
**9:00 a.m. – Intentions of Olivia Cardosa and sons – Magie**  
**5:00 p.m. – + Leona Grobe – Peter Grobe**

Sunday, December 18, 2022 – **10:00 a.m.** –  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year A – Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

The **10 a.m. Sunday Mass** will be live-streamed. To join us, follow this link: <https://zoom.us/j/5887658626>  
 Password: 274733

**Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar**

December 12 – Rev. Michael Anderson  
 December 13 – Rev. Robert Love  
 December 14 – Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (S.Ss.R.)  
 December 15 – Rev. Robert Kavelj, O.F.M.  
 December 16 – Rev. Marko Puljic, O.F.M.  
 December 17 – Rev. Ilija Petkovic  
 December 18 – **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**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.

**Vocations**

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or consecrated virgin, contact:

**Fr. Mark Morley**, Director of Vocations  
 (905-528-7988); [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)  
 or  
**Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate Vocation Office**  
 71 Indian Trail, Toronto, ON M6R 2A1  
[vocations@omiap.org](mailto:vocations@omiap.org)

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Preparing For Confirmation & First Communion & Reconciliation**

**Gift Bearers:** We welcome our Reconciliation/First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates and their families as they bring the offertory gifts to the altar on the following dates:  
**December 10** – 5 p.m. – Emilia McLean and family  
**December 17** – 5 p.m. – Isabella Putro and family  
**December 18** – 10 a.m. – Kieran Williams and family

**Pierogies Sunday - Fundraiser for our parish**  
**Next Sunday, December 18th** following the 10:00 a.m. Mass we are invited to our parish hall for brunch. We will serve delicious pierogies with red borscht, coffee and sweets. You will also have an opportunity to buy frozen pierogies for Christmas. Please reserve this date and bring other people to celebrate with us and support our parish. We thank Supreme Pierogies (Mr. Joseph Wilk) for donating the pierogies for this fundraiser.

**Christmas Flowers** – Envelopes are available at the back of the church for those wishing to make a contribution to assist with the cost of flowers, trees and decorations. Your donations will help to beautify the church during the Christmas Season and are greatly appreciated! Thank you for your generosity!

**2023 Offertory Envelopes** – The 2023 Offertory Envelopes are now available for pick up. Please pick up your envelopes after Mass, this weekend, on the table at the back of the church. There are boxes for those who have signed up for Pre-Authorized Giving, 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. Many ID/ENV#s have changed for 2023 - please use the envelope for the current year to ensure your donation is processed correctly. Thank you for your assistance.

**Donations for the year 2022** – As we approach year end, we wish to remind you that the diocesan bookkeeping policy requires that parish books close on December 31, 2022. Any donations you wish to make for the 2022 taxation year must be submitted by December 31, 2022. If you have moved in 2022, please inform the parish office so that we can ensure your receipt is sent to the correct address and our parish records are updated. Thank you for your generosity to the parish!

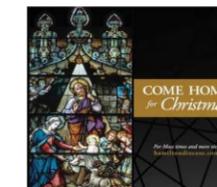
<b>Stewardship Report December 4, 2022</b>	
Envelopes .....	\$ 2148.00
Loose .....	\$ 282.40
Votive Candles .....	\$ 86.70
Flowers .....	\$ 50.00
Building and Maintenance .....	\$ 340.00
Christmas .....	\$ 75.00
<b>Thank you for your support of our parish.</b>	

**Thank You!!**

A big thank you to our Maintenance Committee for putting Christmas lights on the trees in front of the church, setting up the Christmas Nativity and putting up snow barriers on our cedars for protection. A job well done!! Thank you!

**Euchre** – The games are scheduled for every second and fourth Wednesday of the month starting December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and will take place in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room. For information, call Chris - 519-575-1692.

**Canadian Food for Children and Dr. Simone** - CFFC sends the supplies that we collect to poor countries like Haiti, El Salvador, Tanzania, and up to 22 countries around the world where people are suffering from severe malnutrition. It is inspired by the gospel teachings of Jesus at the suggestion of Mother Teresa. **This weekend until December 18<sup>th</sup>** we will be collecting oatmeal, cream of wheat, dry cereals (e.g. cornflakes) along with powdered milk for CFFC. This puts a smile on children's faces! Check out the Canadian Food for Children website.



**COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS**  
 We know that at Christmas our hearts will be full – we want our pews to be full also! Throughout Advent, Parishes across the Diocese are being encouraged to invite all the faithful to *Come Home for Christmas*. We all know people who have fallen away from regular Mass attendance, and Christmas provides a privileged occasion to welcome them home. All parishioners are encouraged to join in this effort to extend a warm invitation to return - for more information, visit <http://hamiltondiocese.com>.

**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. Join us on **December 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** for the holiday classic, *It's a Wonderful Life*, connecting to themes of community, dignity of the person, economic and housing insecurity. The screening will be hosted online. R.S.V.P. and view our full schedule of events at [www.reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com](http://www.reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com).

**THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS IS BACK!** Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2023? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, April 16, 2023 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 p.m. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if you require assistance). Registration beginning in early January at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com).