

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel (John 1:35-42) recounts the call of the first disciples of Jesus. The first words ascribed to Jesus are a question: **'What do you want?'** In the prologue John has already told us of the divine origin of Jesus. Now He introduces Jesus on the stage of life. He asks us what do we want? How will we answer Him? **What do we want for others, for the parish, for the country and for the Church?** Many of us have no problem in asking on behalf of others but are slow to ask anything for ourselves. What is striking in the manner in which John recounts the call of the first disciples is the way they come to Jesus. Some like Philip are called directly by Jesus but then there are others who are brought to Jesus by their relatives and friends who have met Jesus. **Jesus had touched their hearts so much, that they had to tell their friends about Him and insist that they too go and meet Him.**

People go in search of Jesus when their hearts are dissatisfied with the life they are leading, and they want to find a different answer to their problems and to their yearning for happiness. Many begin to seek Christ when idols such as money, sex, and power have disappointed them. Let us ask ourselves: **what was I looking for when I became a Christian? What attracted me to Christ?**

The second sentence that Jesus speaks in today's Gospel is His invitation, "Come and see."

Do you know what you want in life? Do you have clear targets? Do you know where your life is going? Who sets your values? Whose voice leads you? The Lord invites us to come to Him. Come to where He lives. Come to sit at His feet pondering His word.

If God had not called us, we would not exist, we would not be members of a community of faith, and we would not have any purpose to our lives. And it's not just to the big things that God calls us. Every little intervention of God in our lives, every blessing that we receive, every danger, great or small that God averts from us is part of God's calling.

Vocations

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 14, 2024

A good vocation prayer to say every day from the time we are young until we are in our golden years is found in today's first Scripture reading: "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening". Just try it with sincerity, starting today and, if you think God is calling you to be a priest, religio us, or permanent deacon, call:

Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations
905-528-7988; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar
January 18-25 Prayer for Christian Unity

January 15 – Rev. Philip Cook
 January 16 – Rev. Luc Payette
 January 17 – Youth Ministers
 January 18 – Rev. David Weise
 January 19 – Rev. Tom Moisan
 January 20 – Rev. Louis Lenssen, C.R.S.P
 January 21 – **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
(Bible Sunday)

Mass Intentions
January 15, 2024 – January 21, 2024

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – **7:00 p.m.**
Group Intentions

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 – **8:30 a.m.**
Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot
 + **John Szierer** – *Sandra Nakluski*

Thursday, January 18, 2024 – **10:00 a.m.**
(School and Parish Mass)
 + **Murray Brockman** – *Ken & Betty*

Friday, January 19, 2024 – **8:30 a.m.**
Intentions of Rev. Marian Gil – *Ken & Betty*

Saturday, January 20, 2024 –
9:00 a.m. – Intentions of Rev. Stefano Lee – *Ken & Betty*
5:00 p.m. – + Brenda Haskins – *Lee Binkle*

Sunday, January 21, 2024 – **10:00 a.m.**
Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee Sunday

Join our fellow parishioners and friends for refreshments and treats after the 10 a.m. Mass this **Sunday, January 14th**. Start the New Year by meeting and making a new friend in the parish.

Flower Donations

Flower donation envelopes are at the back of the church. Any donation towards the cost of the flowers in the sanctuary would be greatly appreciated!

Parish Calendars

Parish Calendars are still available for purchase. They are \$15 each and can be purchased through the parish office.

Happy 100th to Lee Binkle

Lee Binkle, a member of our parish, will celebrate his 100th birthday on January 18th. Please join us as we wish him a happy birthday!

School and Parish Mass

On Thursday, January 18th, there will be a 10 a.m. Mass with St. Teresa of Avila School. All are welcome to join. Please note that there will be no 8:30 a.m. Mass on January 18th.

Sunday Children's Liturgy Resumes This Sunday

This is a continuation of the liturgy for children in Grades 1-4, celebrated at the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass. The children will continue in prayer with the Liturgy of the Word geared to their age level and led by parish volunteers.

CWL Membership

Catholic Women's League Membership dues - Membership is \$35 for 2024. We would like to send our dues to National by the end of January. Please put your membership (cash or cheque) in an envelope marked CWL with your name, phone number and if possible, email address. Put it in the collection at weekend Mass or drop it off at the rectory. All women 16 years and older are invited to join the League.

To learn more about the Catholic Women's League of Canada, please visit: Catholic Women's League in the Hamilton Diocese, cwl.ca and CWL.on.ca.

Stewardship Report	
January 1st & 7th, 2024	
Sunday Offerings	\$2,809.20
Special Donation	\$1,100.00
Votive Candles	\$ 34.00
Calendar Fundraising	\$ 20.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 20.00

We are most appreciative of your ongoing prayerful and financial support.

Donations to the parish can be made through the use of Sunday Offertory envelopes, Pre-Authorized Giving, CanadaHelps and Interac e-Transfer.

Pre-Authorized Giving – A digital copy of the form can be found on our parish website or call the parish office. Simply print the form, complete it and return it to the Parish Office.

E-Transfer – To donate through E-Transfer, 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/>

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

If you require any further information, please contact the parish office.

Young Adults Night
Saturday, February 3rd - Waterloo

Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night begins with Holy Hour at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 3rd at St. Michael's Catholic Church (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Please see our church bulletin board for more details.

33 Days to Morning Glory - Marian Consecration
St. Louis Parish, Waterloo

Are you ready to learn the quickest, surest, and easiest way to holiness? Want to start the New Year in a way that will transform your life? On January 24th begins a 33-day preparation for Marian Consecration. For six weeks, we'll individually read about and reflect on four great Marian giants: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Mother Teresa, and Blessed John Paul II. They'll teach us the secrets to drawing closer to the Heart of Jesus through the Heart of Mary. In our weekly meetings, (Tuesday mornings after the 9 AM Mass - from 9:30 - 10:30 AM at St. Louis Church Hall, 53 Allen Street East in Waterloo) we'll share our insights within our small group and then watch a short video by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. These videos will bring our individual reflections and group experience into a clear and live-able focus. The proposed date for the Marian Consecration will be March 25th - Feast of the Annunciation. If you already consecrated yourself to Mary, this might be a great refresher retreat for you. For more info. and to order your copy of the book (\$25) contact St. Louis parish office at 519-743-4101 or stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com.

WISDOM OF THE SAINTS

"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle."

– *St. Francis of Assisi*

"Those whose hearts are pure are temples of the Holy Spirit."

– *St. Lucy*

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention – January 2024

Please join Pope Francis in praying for the gift of diversity in the Church during the month of January.