"It is better to be a child of God, than king of the whole world!"

St. Aloysius Gonzaga

#### **PRIESTS**

#### **Pastor**

Fr. Melvin Pinto, Ocd pastor@staloysius.on.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Sunil D'Souza, Ocd associate@staloysius.on.ca

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Business and Office Administrator Bridget Andrews

bridget@staloysius.on.ca

**Parish Pantry** ...... 519-893-1220

#### **Catholic Women's League:**

Lorraine Jack

#### Children's Liturgy:

Kim Ansty

#### **Legion of Mary:**

Ruth Ann Gmach

# Knights of Columbus Council 17194

St. Aloysius Parish Pantry:

Kate McDougall

#### **Cursillo Information:**

Dan Brown

#### **Elementary Schools:**

St. Aloysius	519-893-5830
St. Kateri	519-895-1716
St Timothy	519-748-1874

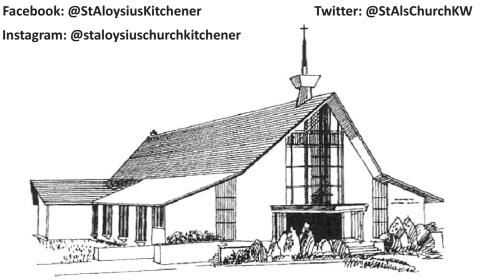
#### **Secondary School:**

St. Mary's ..... 519-745-6891

# St. Aloysius Catholic Church

#### 11 Traynor Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2C 1W1

Phone: 519-893-1220 E-mail: info@staloysius.on.ca Web: staloysius.on.ca



#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

MONDAY: Closed, TUESDAY-THURSDAY: 9am-12pm & 1pm-4:30pm, FRIDAY: 9am-12pm

#### **SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

SATURDAY..... 5:00pm SUNDAY.......9:00am (interpreted for the deaf) ....11:00am .....7:00pm

#### **WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

MONDAY.......8:30am
TUESDAY.....7:00pm
WEDNESDAY....8:30am
THURSDAY.....8:30am
FRIDAY.....8:30am
SATURDAY.....8:30am

**CONFESSIONS** - Tuesday: 6 - 6:45pm, Saturday: 3:45 - 4:30pm, or by appointment.

**BAPTISM** - Please fill out an application form and contact our parish office for more details. Application forms can be found online or in our front foyer.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC** - Please contact our Parish Office for more information.

<u>FUNERALS</u> - When death occurs or is expected in your family, please contact the parish office and we will assist you in making the necessary arrangements. For information on Catholic Funeral Rites, Cremation & Catholic cemetery locations, please visit thecatholiccemeteries.ca or call 1-800-661-5985.

MARRIAGE - Please contact the parish office at least Twelve (12) months in advance.

<u>PARISH RECORDS AND REGISTRATION</u> - New to the parish? You can pick up Registration forms in the Church foyer, in our parish office, or download one from our website. Please help to keep our parish records up-to-date and please inform us if you are moving.

<u>PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK</u> - Please contact the parish office to notify the Priest if a friend or family member is in the hospital or would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

<u>PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE</u> - If you feel called to the Priesthood or religious life, please speak with one of our Priests for more information.

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Dec 18 - Dec 24, 2023

<u>Monday</u>

8:30 am + Leslie Stumpf

(ferial)

+ Francelina Viana

<u>Tuesday</u> (ferial)

7:00 pm + Leonard DeSouza

+ Arminda Pacheco

Wednesday (ferial)

8:30 am + Mary Black

+ Margo Solomon

Thursday (ferial)

8:30 am + Violet Altman

+ Cancio and Mercedes Jimenez

<u>Friday</u> (ferial)

8:30 am + Nicolino Pacheco

+ Flynn Reaume

<u>Saturday</u> (ferial)

8:30 am + Francelina Viana

+ Patrick Murphy

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5:00 pm + Violet Altman

+ Zigmond and Evelyn Coulas

**Sunday 9:00 am** - Int. of our Parishioners

11:00 am + All Souls in Purgatory

#### **Christmas Eve Masses:**

**Sunday 4:30 pm** (Mass Includes Christmas Play) - Int. of Children/Youth of St. Aloysius Parish

Sunday 7:00 pm - Int. of all Priests in the Diocese of Hamilton

Sunday 9:00 pm - Memorial Mass

#### **Christmas Day Masses:**

Midnight Mass - Monday 12:00 am - Memorial Mass

Monday 9:00 am - Memorial Mass

Monday 11:00am - Memorial Mass

Schedule Events Dec 18 - Dec 24, 2023
Monday
Children's Liturgy practice in Hall 6:00 pm
<u>Tuesday</u>
• St. Kateri School – Christmas Mass
• St. Timothy School – Christmas Mass1:00 pm
Stained Glass Guild
Confessions, Adoration and Mass 6:00 pm
Prayer Group following Mass
<u>Wednesday</u>
• St. Aloysius School Christmas Mass
Briarfield Gardens Mass/Communion Service10:00 am
Children's Liturgy Practice in Hall 6:00 pm
<u>Thursday</u>
Doon Village Christmas Mass
<u>Friday</u>
Trinity Village Christmas Mass
Children's Liturgy Rehearsal in Church

#### OFFERTORY REPORT

Sunday Envelope Collection	\$2100.00	
Sunday Loose Collection	\$894.00	
Total Offertory for Dec 9/10, 2023	\$2994.00	
Pre-Authorized Giving (weekly amount)	\$841.62	
Thank you for your ongoing financial support!		

#### News from the St. Aloysius Children's Liturgy



The St. Aloysius Children's Liturgy program will be hosting a Christmas play at the Christmas Eve Mass on December 24 at 4:30 pm. The practices and rehearsal this week are as follows:

Mon Dec 18 at 6pm practice in the Parish Hall Wed Dec 20 at 6pm practice in the Parish Hall Fri Dec 22 at 6pm rehearsal in the Church

We look forward to another joyous Christmas play.



The St. Aloysius Catholic Women's League will be holding elections in January for several positions. They ask that you pray on this calling to serve God and the CWL. Elections packages

are available at the back of the church.

Want to know more about the Catholic Women's League? Visit; <a href="https://catholicwomenunite.ca/">https://catholicwomenunite.ca/</a>. For questions, email; StAloysiusCWL@gmail.com.



#### **ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES 2023**

Tues Dec 19 at 7pm – St. Anne's - Kitchener
Wed Dec 20 8:30 am - 8:30pm – St. Michael's - Waterloo
Wed Dec 20 at 6pm – St. Teresa of Avila – Elmira
Wed Dec 20 at 7pm – St. Anthony Daniel – Kitchener
Thurs Dec 21 at 11am – St. Mary's - Kitchener
Thurs Dec 21 at 7pm – Blessed Sacrament – Kitchener

\* Please confirm with individual Church prior to attending in case of schedule changes



Flower Donations and Memorial

Masses - If you have lost a loved one
and would like them to be
remembered during one of our
Christmas Day Masses, consider
making a Christmas flower memorial

donation. Please take an envelope from our lobby and bring it back next week with your donation to help with the cost of our Christmas flowers. Remember to include a piece of paper with the names in whose memory the donations are made.

Advent Resource for Teens - The Diocese of Hamilton's Office of Youth Ministry has developed the 2023 Advent Resource, 'Shine Your Light' for youth ages 13-16. The resource inspires prayerful reflection on the Sunday Gospels during the Advent Season. Special links and videos are included to help teens meditate on the weekly themes. Click here; https://tinyurl.com/2s3h2ejs.

Grief Support – Diocese of Hamilton Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? Are you wondering if your feelings are normal? You are not alone! The Diocese of Hamilton will offer a six week grief program starting January 17, 2024. The sessions are held from 1:30-3:00pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or by zoom. To register go to hamiltondiocese.com and look for the start date under upcoming events.

#### ALPHA 2024 at St. Mark's Parish, Kitchener

Join them Thursday evenings, February 22 to May 2 at St. Mark's Parish Hall (55 Driftwood Drive). Alpha is an 11-week program that brings adults together for conversations about life, faith and Jesus. Plan to join them – all are welcome! To learn more, contact Denise Case at stmarkalpha@gmail.com.

#### Vocations Mass and Young Adults Night - Jan 5, Hamilton

The Serra Club of Hamilton and the Hamilton Diocese Vocations Office are co-sponsoring a Mass for vocations Jan 5 at 6pm at the Annunciation of our Lord Parish (280 Limeridge Rd. W. in Hamilton). Following the Mass, Fr. Mark Morley invites young adults to attend a night of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in celebration of the Christmas Season. For more details, email; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

#### Hamilton, Halton and K-W Serra Club's 'Vocation Seeds' -

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through his person all people might believe. Is it possible God could be calling your name to witness to the Light of Christ in our day? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, Vocations Director with Hamilton Diocese at 905-528-7988, by email; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

Gospel Reflection – Third Sunday of Advent - The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the prologue to John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Following this prologue, John reports on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet. In John's denials, we hear echoes of the kind of messianic expectations that were common in first-century Palestine.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. From the Loyola Press E-Bulletin



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