St. Louis Catholic Church

53 Allen Street East, Waterloo ON N2J 1J3 Tel: 519-743-4101 Email: stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com Web site: www.saintlouisparish.ca Served by the Congregation of the Resurrection since 1890.

Pastor: Father Phil Reilly, C.R. preilly@hamiltondiocese.com
Associate: Fr. Michal Kruszewski, C.R. fr.michal.cr@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Anna Malton stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com
Coordinator of Youth and Children's Ministries: Kelly Krause kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com
Custodian: Michael Ehrlich

prepare the way...



ADVENT

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 21 Tuesday, December 22

9:00 am † Dianne Detzler – Barbara Detzler

Wednesday, December 23

9:00 am Beatification of Bogdan Janski, Founder of the Congregation of the Resurrection

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

5:00 pm For Children of St. Louis Parish 10:00 pm For People of St. Louis Parish

12:00 am For Past and Present Pastors of St. Louis Church

Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day
10:00 am For Benefactors of St. Louis Church

Saturday, December 26 - St. Stephen, The First Martyr

Sunday liturgy – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

† Casimiro Ricasata - Family

† Debbie Higgins –Kaye & Peter Hartman

Sunday, December 27 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

9:30 am † John Foster – Marilyn & Family

† John Lansky – Anna Lansky & Family † Alex MacKinnon – Esther & Family

† Anni Liebig – Andreas Schwarz & Elizabeth

11:30 am People of St. Louis Parish

For Fourth Sunday of Advent:

In today's Gospel reading, Mary hurries to Elizabeth, not only to minister to her older cousin, but also to bask in the miracle that confirms to Mary the Angel's promise that "nothing will be impossible with God."

In Mary's greeting, Elizabeth hears more than the sound of her cousin. Filled with the Holus Spirit, she senses the arrival of "her Lord," a title that, in this Gospel, Jesus receives even before his birth. Mary's salutation even rouses the child in Elizabeth's womb who seems to leap with joy, establishing an early and intimate link between these cousins, whose destinies will remain closely aligned. The same Spirit leads Elizabeth to name her cousin and the child she carries "blessed." Most importantly, she names Mary a believer and in the process tells us why she is blessed. If we were to wonder why Zachariah was struck dumb for asking the Angel essentially the same question as Mary, the answer would be that Mary never doubted when she asked "How can this be?" She trusts utterly, and is interested to know how these things will come to pass. For that faith she is forever blessed.



Upcoming Events					
Monday, December 21					
10:00 am	Church decorating	Church			
4:00 pm	Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	St. Agnes			
	Levels I & II & III	Church			
Sunday, December 27					

Gym

OOTC Community Supper

Mass	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. Dec 26	1 Stephen Filipowicz	1 Marilyn Foster
5:00 pm	2 Fran Ruetz	2 Joan Sichewski
	C Debbie Delattre	3 Guy Tremblay
Sun. Dec 27	1 Peter Erb	1 Mary Smith
9:30 am	2 Benita-Ann Galina	2 Rob Hinsperger
	C John Klein	3 Anne M. Webster
11:30 am	1 Natalie Ferrier	1 Pegg LeRoux
	2 Ioanna Malton	2 Anna Malton
	C Donna Herbstreit	3 Rory Ferrier

For Christmas:

5:00 pm

Unlike modern Western culture, people in the biblical world did not think in terms of human growth and development; what a person was at birth represented what he or she would be throughout life. Thus infancy narratives served to depict a person's character and role in the world; accuracy of historical detail was not the primary concern.

Luke is the only evangelist to place Jesus on the world stage of his time, locating the Saviour's birth in the reign of Ceasar Augustus and naming Quirinius, the Syrian governor.

Luke includes several details that underscore Jesus' outreach to the poor, as well as his true identity as Saviour, and the one who brings peace. The infant is laid in a feeding trough for animals. This foreshadows Jesus' giving his own body and blood as a nourishment for all humankind.

The first to receive the good news of dawning salvation is a group of shepherds, generally despised and avoided as unclean sinners. The angelic proclamation contradicts the imperial cult, which proclaimed Ceasar Augustus as divine Lord, Saviour of the people, and bringer of peaceful order in the entire world. Luke presents a different scenario; not the Roman emperor, but the infant lying in a feed trough is the true Saviour and royal Son of God who establishes peace on earth.

O Antiphones - A distinctive feature of the Liturgy of the Hours from Dec 17^{th} to the 23^{rd} , the week preceding the Christmas vigil, is the antiphon sung at Vespers (evening prayer) before and after the recitation of the Magnificat.

The seven titles attributed to Jesus in the antiphons are: Wisdom (*Sapientia* in Latin), Ruler of the House of Israel (*Adonai*), Root of Jesse (*Radix*), Key of David (*Clavis*), Rising Dawn (*Oriens*), King of the Gentiles (*Rex*) and Emmanuel. In Latin the initials of the titles make an acrostic which, when read backwards means: "Tomorrow I will be there" ("**Ero cras**"). To the medieval mind this was clearly a reference to the approaching Christmas vigil.



TOMORROW I WILL BE THERE

MAY THE WONDERS OF HIS BIRTH FILL YOU WITH

JOY...

THANKFULNESS...

PRAISE!

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS NOW AND IN THE NEW YEAR!

FROM FR. PHIL, FR. MICHAL, KELLY, ANNA, MICHAEL AND JOHN

First Communion: Anyone in grade 2 wishing to have their Sacrament here at St. Louis parish is asked to register with Kelly Krause at the parish office. Classes will begin Wednesday, January 20th, 6pm-7:30pm in the Nursery.

The Symbolon (Part 2) – Living the Faith - 10 sessions resume in on Monday January 11, 2016 at 7:30 pm. Returning and new participants are very welcome.

Longest Night Service - At this time of year the darkness of grief can be overwhelming. Join us at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 49 Blueridge Ave. Kit., on Mon. Dec. 21 at 7 pm for an evening of prayerful reflection in solidarity with our loved ones who have passed away, and those who grieve their loss. A reception will follow. Open to all.



ST. LOUIS PARISH HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Thu	Dec. 24	5 pm, 10 pm, Midnight	Christmas Eve Masses
Fri	Dec. 25	10 am	Christmas Day Mass
Sat	Dec. 26	5 pm	Sunday Vigil Mass — Feast of the Holy Family
Sun	Dec. 27	9:30 am 11:30 am	Sunday Masses — Feast of the Holy Family
Thu	Dec. 31	5 pm	New Year's Eve — Vigil Mass For New Year's Day — Feast of Mary Mother of God
Fri	Jan 1	10 am	New Year's Day — Feast of Mary Mother of God
Sat	Jan 2	5 pm	Sunday Vigil Mass — Feast of the Epiphany
Sun	Jan 3	8:30 am	Sunday Mass (without music)
	Jan 3	10:30 am	Feast of the Epiphany — 125 th Jubilee Closing Mass with Bishop Crosby

Reconciliation Service this week in the area Tuesday, December 22nd

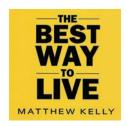
9 am – noon & 1 -7 pm St. Joseph's Church, Kitchener 2 pm St. Ambrose, Cambridge

Annual Carmelite Christmas Bazaar at the Carmel of St. Joseph, 1127 Carmel-Koch Rd, St. Agatha. Nov. 29th to Dec. 23rd, 8 am to 8 pm. Homemade Jams, Jellies, Honey, Loaves, Christmas cards, crafts. All are welcome to visit our Chapel.

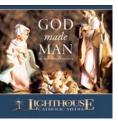
Mercy: A Study in Scripture - A Workshop Series - 7 Wednesdays, starting Jan. 6, 1:30- 3:30pm at Notre Dame Convent in Waterdown. By exploring the theme of Mercy in the Old Testament we hope to understand better why Pope Francis is calling us to the virtue of Mercy. This course will be facilitated by Sister Mary Heather MacKinnon SSND & David Dayler. The cost of \$75 includes the textbook & other resources. Register by Dec.18. For further info contact Monica at mverin@hamiltondiocese.com or 905-528 7988 ext. 2238.

Holiday Office Hours					
Monday	December 21	9 am-noon and 1 pm-4 pm			
Tuesday	December 22	9 am-noon and 1 pm-4 pm			
Wednesday	December 23	9 am-noon and 1 pm-4 pm			
Thursday	December 24	9 am - noon			
Friday	December 25	Closed			
Monday	December 28	Closed			
Tuesday	December 29	9 am-noon and 1 pm-4 pm			
Wednesday	December 30	9 am-noon and 1 pm-4 pm			
Thursday	December 31	9 am - noon			
Friday	January 1	Closed			

Last minute gift ideas – Lighthouse Media CDs (5 for \$20, or \$5 each)







Collection: December 12 & 13, 2015

Sunday envelopes: \$ 6771.25 Loose donations: \$ 436.35

Thank you for your generosity & continuous support!

PLEASE NOTE: Last day to make a donation to be included in the 2014 tax year is Monday December 29th.

Please note: This bulletin was submitted to be printed on Dec. 14th – as per Liturgical Publications requirements.



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