

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

Parish Secretary: Anna Malton stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com

Coordinator of Youth and Children's Ministries: Kelly Krause kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com

Custodian: Doug Lichty



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT – CHRISTMAS

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 21 – No Mass

Tuesday, December 22

9:00 AM To Bring Our Loved Ones Home to the Church – Monday
Lunch & Learn Group

Wednesday, December 23

9:00 AM † Jane Goll – Cecilia Beechey

Thursday, December 24

Eve of the Nativity of the Lord

5:00 PM For Children of St. Louis Parish

8:00 PM For People of St. Louis Parish

Friday, December 25 – Nativity of the Lord

9:30 AM For Past and Present Pastors of St. Louis Parish

11:30 AM For Benefactors of St. Louis Parish

**Saturday, December 26 – St. Stephen, First Martyr
Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

5:00 PM † Brian Zmija – Brenda Zmija

† Albert & Katie Ruetz – Family

† Daphne & Norbert Coelho – Noronha Family

† Elsie Taylor – Janet & Grant Ertel

**Sunday, December 29 – The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph**

9:30 AM Deceased Members of the Gies Family – Rob Hinsperger

† Frank Kraemer – Joanne Kraemer

Intentions of Pat Nairn – Cecilia Beechey

† Igor Ivkovic – Malton Family

11:30 AM People of St. Louis Parish

Reflections from the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word on the

First Reading from Isaiah 62:1-5 (Christmas Vigil Mass)

For the four weeks of Advent passages from the Scripture have been chosen that instill in us attitudes of patient waiting and hopeful joy. During this time when light of the day seems to be thwarted by the darkness of night, we have been striving to renew our hope in the Light of the World. We believe that this Light dawned upon the world historically in the person of Jesus and continues to burn brightly, leading us on to the day of God's triumphant victory, when all things will be gathered into one in Him.

Gospel Luke 2:1-16 (Christmas Mass During the Night)

These verses in Luke's Gospel are composed in such a way as to announce the birth of Jesus between two contrasting bookends of sorts. Preceding the account of Jesus' birth is the description of the plan of human authority over the "all the world", namely the census of Quirinius, a Roman official, to gain control over the people. After the description of the birth of Mary's child, a second bookend details the shepherds receiving the message of an Angel. Shepherds watch over and guide their flocks. Thus both bookends are about establishing control.

Luke wants us to understand that the power of political officials pales in comparison to the might of God, a might which comes in the form of a precious child. The Hebrew people thought that the Messiah would come as a royal figure, with the power to overturn worldly regimes and restore God's promise of a land flowing with milk and honey. But such is not the way of the God of surprises, who delights the shepherds with the song of the Angels: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom He favours!" Through the message of the Angels, the epiphany of God's love for the world is made manifest. He may be wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger, but our eyes are meant to see the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

Fourth Week of Advent

What has come into being in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness... (John 1:3-5)

It's here! In a matter of days, salvation will be here! In a matter of days, the darkness will be scattered! In a matter of days, a brighter new morning for God's people will arrive! Just as the beginning of this season gave us reason to reflect on the Word spoke by God, now the very sound of it reaches our ears!

How can we possibly make sense of the idea that this child, born in abject poverty, is the same one that spun the planets off His fingertips in creation? How can we make sense of the idea that the one who set the endless galaxies in motion now dwells at this particular moment in time and space in a tiny cave in Bethlehem? The answer is: we can't. Instead, we are invited to wait for the fullness of the mystery to be revealed in joyful expectation.

Lord Jesus, I look forward to your coming! Let me finish this season with confidence in your great mercy! Amen.
(From "And the Word was God" by Henri J. M. Nouwen and Christopher Klofft)

First Communion Preparation classes - If you have a child in Gr. 2 and would like them to receive their Sacrament of First Communion here at St. Louis parish please register for our classes. They will begin Tuesday, January 26th from 6pm-7pm. It will have to be determined in the New Year whether we will be able to meet face to face or if the classes will be online. The First Communion will take place on Sunday, May 16th. If you would like to register for this class please contact Kelly Krause at the parish office.

Sunday School & Liturgy of the Word will resume (on-line) January 10th. Would like to get involved? Email Kelly (kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com) to get the link to our virtual Sunday school. Join us to learn more about your faith!



St. Louis Youth Group (Gr. 6 – 12) will resume the on-line twice a month meetings on January 26th. Contact Kelly for more information.



Journey through Advent – video series created by CCCB as an introduction to the season of Advent with reflections on the Gospel readings for each of the four Sundays. The Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.,

Bishop of Hamilton and the Most Reverend Pierre Goudreault, Bishop of Saint-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, provide spiritual and pastoral guidance on the readings that illustrate the true meaning of Christmas. The short videos will be available on the CCCB website each Monday in advance of the upcoming Sunday celebration. Video link: cccb.ca/liturgysacraments/resources-in-english/liturgical-calendar/video-reflections/

Office Hours:

Dec. 21 – 23: Office open: 9 AM – NOON & 1 – 4 PM

Dec. 24 – 28: Office closed.

Dec. 29 – 31: Office open: 9 AM – 1 PM

Jan. 1 – 3: Office closed.

The bulletins are posted on-line only.



HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE:
RESERVATION REQUIRED
FOR DEC. 24 & 25.

THU.	DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE: 5 PM (95 % FULL) 8 PM (85% FULL)
FRI.	DEC. 25	CHRISTMAS DAY: 9:30 AM (85% FULL) & 11:30 AM (85% FULL)
SAT.	DEC. 26	VIGIL OF HOLY FAMILY (BOXING DAY): 5 PM
SUN.	DEC. 27	HOLY FAMILY: 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM
MON.	DEC. 28	NO MASS
TUE.	DEC. 29	9 AM
WED.	DEC. 30	9 AM
THU.	DEC. 31	VIGIL OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S EVE): 5 PM
FRI.	JAN. 1	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY) : 9:30 AM ONLY
SAT.	JAN. 2	VIGIL OF EPIPHANY: 5 PM
SUN.	JAN. 3	EPIPHANY: 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Please fill out a reservation slip for Christmas Masses and return it to the parish office, or email the office at stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com with the following information: your name, number of people in your group, Mass date/time choice, your phone number and email address.

"Do not be afraid. Listen; I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people.

*The Saviour has been born to you;
 He is Christ, the Lord."*



*Let us praise and glorify the Lord!
 May the wonders of His birth fill you with
 Joy, Thankfulness and Praise!
 Christmas blessings now and in the New Year!*

From Fr. Phil,

Kelly, Anna and Doug.

(Adoration of the Shepherds (ca. 1640) by Guido Reni)



From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!"...and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If God is calling you, to the priesthood, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com), 905-528-7988, or Fr. Toby Collins, CR, Vocation Director, at [crvocations@gmail.com](mailto: crvocations@gmail.com), or Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha at 519-884-6700.



St. Louis Parish the One Heart One Soul fund raising campaign continues. If you wish to contribute, you may do so by contacting oneheartonesoul.ca. All of the money donated goes to St. Louis and to chaplaincy programs at the hospitals, universities, and prisons, as well as to some small country parishes who are struggling financially. So far, we have received \$323,901.00 about 83% of our goal of \$390,000. This amount came from 160 gifts (40% of participation). Thank You to all who have contributed or pledged so far. If you haven't sent yours in, it's not too late. If you need more information, please call the parish office. Thank you for your generosity.



Fish Fry at Waterloo K of C on Fridays will restart again on Jan. 8th, 2021.

Wednesday Spaghetti Dinner Program at Waterloo K of C. will resume on Jan. 13th, 2021.



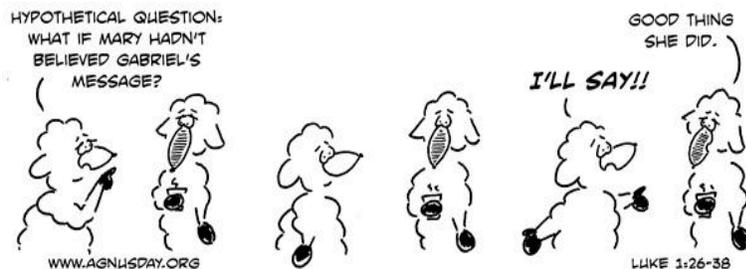
Diocese of Hamilton prepared resources to help families everywhere pray and celebrate the experience of Christmas in a meaningful way this year, to draw families together for a time of quiet prayer, reflection and thanksgiving – especially those who may not feel comfortable attending Christmas Masses in the Parish. It includes His Excellency, Bishop Crosby's proclamation of the Christmas Day Gospel and sharing a reflection from the heart. Go to hamiltondiocese.com/christmas2020 or via link on our parish website.



The Christmas Mass on TV/computer - For those who cannot make it to church, please join the Catholic Community this Christmas. Watch the Daily TV Mass:

Christmas Eve: from 4:30 pm on dailytvmass.com
 Christmas Day: 8 am & noon on VisionTV
 11 am on Salt + Light

You can also watch on the web at www.dailytvmass.com



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

Last weeks' donations - Thank you!

Date	Sunday	Mainten	Diocesan collections	Loose	Pre-Author.
Dec 13	\$ 2770.00	\$70.00	\$150.00	\$ 52.35	\$2739.00

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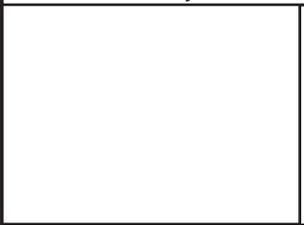
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