

St. Joseph Parish

Parish Dedicated June 24, 1894

Served by the Congregation of the Resurrection since 1933

260 Herkimer Street, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2H9

Telephone: (905) 528-0019 Fax: (905) 525-0134

stjosephsparish@cogeco.ca

www.stjosephsparish.ca

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



Parish Staff

Father James Link, C.R. - Pastor

frjimlinkcr@gmail.com

Father Toby Collins, C.R. - Associate Pastor

frtobycr@gmail.com

Maria Ennett - Office Administrator

Stillman Matheson - Director of Music

stillman.matheson@stjosephsparish.ca

Sunday Eucharist

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Weekday Eucharist

Please see schedule inside.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please make arrangements for Baptismal Preparation two months in advance. All baptisms are celebrated on the following dates:

Jan 9/10	May 22/23	Oct 23/24
Feb 13/14	June 26/27	Nov 13/14
No March Baptisms	Aug 14/15	Dec 11/12
April 17/18	Sept 18/19	

Sacrament of Marriage

Call office one year prior to desired wedding date. A marriage preparation course and appointments required.

Children's Liturgies (September to June)

Children from J/K to grade 2 (pre First Eucharist age). Children's Liturgy takes place in the Parish Hall during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist.

Pastoral Council

Chairperson	Rochelle Martin	905-522-4355
Vice Chair	Harry Douglass	905-632-5258
Ilidia Botelho		905-522-2380
Bill DiFrancesco		905-528-0885
Lee Hillman		905-520-6311
Margaret Moran		905-308-9433
Linda Pandzich		905-528-8470
Michael Scozzaro		905-318-3470
Gerry Shea		289-260-3299

C.W.L. Rep.	Daniela Conz	905-521-1064
Youth Group Rep.	Peter Gauthier	905-526-9395
School Rep.	Elin Paxton	905-521-1737

Vocational Information

If you wish to pursue the possibility of a Religious or Priestly vocation, please feel free to speak with any member of the parish staff or call:

Father Bob Liddy, C.R.
519-885-0331 ext 312
Sister Mary McIntyre, C.S.J.
905-528-0138

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LAY MINISTERS for DECEMBER 11 / 12

	5:00 p.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Lectors	Julie Bellini Linda Pandzich Julia Lossing	Christine Weir Patrick O'Reilly Mary Tompkins	Adriana Rerecich Confirmandi
Eucharistic Ministers	Sister Maureen Sweeney Jeannie Milani Patty Foley David O'Connor	Maria Ennett Lynne Adams Keltie Law Roberta Weiss	Jacqueline Horn Ann Elizabeth Beattie Aniko Ivanyi Bernice Clark Helen Anderson
Servers	Bernadette Francisci Dori Haines Maria Consulta	Ben Kukucska Sylvia Kukucska Kiera OSullivan Shea	Claire DePaul Julian Mulroney Rachel Sampson

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED
THE BAZAAR THIS YEAR.
IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS.**

The report is in this week's bulletin.
Congratulations to our Main Draw prize winners:
Joy and Gary Warner, Diane and Danny Shea
and Jean and Paul Kennedy.

All 140 Penny Sale prize winners have been notified by phone.

C.W.L. NEWS

Thank you to everyone who attended our Evening of Reflection. It was a delight to hear Deacon Bill and Molly Callaghan's story of life with the First Nations Community of Sandy Lake in Northern Ontario.

All women age 16 and older are invited to join or renew your membership with our Catholic Women's League. To join or renew your membership, submit the \$15 fee in the collection basket during Mass using the envelope in your Offertory envelope box or sign up to renew your membership annually on your direct debit form. Additional information and membership envelopes can be found on the C.W.L. bulletin board near the doors of the tower entrance.

Advent Breakfasts will be offered once again to all children after the morning Mass on Tuesdays and Fridays during Advent. Registrations forms are available from the school.

ENTERTAINMENT 2011 COUPON BOOKS ARE ON SALE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR JUST A FEW MORE WEEKS. Get yours today. The 2010 books are now expired.

CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS – DELIVERY REMINDERS

Thank you to everyone who has offered to provide a food hamper to assist people in our community. Please bring your hamper to the Parish Rectory - Room 3 on Wednesday, Dec. 8 between 3 pm and 7 pm OR Thursday, Dec. 9 between 10 am and 3 pm. Park near the rectory door and assistance will be provided, if required. If you still wish to make a cash or food voucher donation, please use the pink "Our Neighbours in Need" envelopes in you box or use a plain envelope and write your name and address on it to ensure you receive and income tax receipt. Thank you.

Second Sunday of Advent

FOR CHILDREN WHO DO NOT ATTEND CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

The Religion Home Study Program is a parent-run program that provides religious instruction to Catholic children (Grades 1 to 8) who attend public, private, or home-based schools. For more information please contact Shirley (905-528-6549; shirley.rodriques@sympatico.ca) or Mary Louise Pigott (905-524-2423; mlpigott@cogeco.ca). Correspondence Courses are also available. For information, please call the parish office.

Social Justice Christmas Shopping: In this season of secular shopping frenzy, many of you may be looking for an opportunity to give meaningful gifts; gifts that connect us to solutions to the many serious problems we are grappling with in the world today. St. Joseph's Social Justice Committee will provide you with an opportunity to do just that on the weekend of Dec. 18-19. We will be selling Fair Trade coffee, tea, and chocolate products, as well as our custom-made, Water Bottle Free Zone water bottles after each Mass. We also hope to have a selection of gift items from Ten Thousand Villages. Come and experience the difference Justice makes!

2011 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES The Offertory envelopes for the new year are now available. **We ask that you update all personal information for our records. Please fill out a new registration card and mark 'UPDATE' on the top of it. We need you to advise us of any name or address change before we process the new envelopes.**

Save time with the St. Joseph Parish Weekly Offertory Pre-Authorized Payment Plan.

Enrolling is Easy! Payments are convenient. Enrolment forms are available at all of the doors of the church or from the Parish Office. For more information, if you wish to update your donations, or add to the list of donations so that you no longer need to use a box of Offertory envelopes, please pick up a new form and drop it into the collection basket once you have filled it out.

THE GIVING TREE is in support of Birthright Hamilton. Please take and angel and replace it with the item indicated. If you wish you can place an ornament from your tree and decorate the Giving tree. You can help make this Christmas bright for a young mother and her child.



The OFFERTORY Collection
for **NOVEMBER 27 / 28** was **\$7,185.63**.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

LITURGIES AT ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:00 Betty Pacenti Diana O'Donnell

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:00 Brian Fitzsimmons
Patrice Graham, Paula & Mike Linger & Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00 Walter Dowrie Sharon Dowrie Lord

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:00 Thomas Armes Daniela & Renzo Conz
MaryClare Hanley Ann Foley

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00 Grazia & Francesco Bruccoleri
The Bruccoleri Family
Gennaro Felice Lori Balogh

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

5:00 Theresa DeRosa Phyllis DeRosa Koetting
Norma Doyle Susa Harper

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

9:30 Helen Crofton Patricia Muise
Bernice Santi Judy Santi DeRubeis

11:30 For all the people of St Joseph's Parish

if not for the paschal mystery and, obviously, none of that would have happened unless he had been born in time and history. None of these events are ever disconnect even if they are observed or reflected on separately.

For us today, the season of Advent invites us to ask whether or not there is room within us for Christ to come in and live. In the gospel of Matthew, this question is presented to us by John the Baptist who sets us before an angry God who will be our judge. If there is any obstacle to God coming into our lives, we need to let go of it — or suffer the consequences. John calls us to conversion.

The Hebrew word for "conversion" signifies that someone has taken the wrong path and returns to God with a desire for salvation. This is not just a simple "I'm sorry" but a concrete and positive commitment to the way shown by God. It is a response to God's Word and an encounter between two free agents. The choice is ours.

In our Eucharist we see another face of God, not an angry judge, but the forgiving, reconciling face of Jesus who has spilled his very blood and given his life to prove to us that we can turn to God without reprisal and be embraced in love. Once again, the choice is ours to make. With God's help, when Jesus comes knocking at our door, may there be plenty of room.

MORNING MASS SCHEDULE On January 31 and during the month of February there will not be a morning Mass on Mondays due to the fact that Father Jim will be away recuperating after his surgery.

BIBLES AND SUNDAY MISSALS A limited number of Bibles are available for \$15.00 each. An additional order of Sunday Missals has arrived. Copies are available at the back of the church after Mass.

WE EXTEND OUR PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY to Mary and Paul Levesley and family on the death of Mary's father Jose DaSilva.

WE ALSO EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to David Farrell and Family on the death of Marjorie Farrell. May the Lord console the Levesley and DaSilva families and the Farrell family and may our prayers be a support to them during their time of grief.

CHOIR NEWS... *Magnum Mysterium*, the Parish Choir's compact disc recording of Christmas music (and still the perfect gift), is available for \$15. from Stillman Matheson, any member of the Parish Choir, and at the Parish Office during the week

Youth Ministry Members of the Youth Ministry (youth, ages 10 - 17) will be meeting in the school gym this week (Locke Street door). Come out to enjoy a fun night of alternate soccer and other games. Feel free to invite a friend!

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER INTENTIONS This week we ask that you keep the following people and intentions in your prayers: Fr. Adrian Lee, Fr. George Nowak, The Oblates of Mary Immaculate (O.M.I.), Fr. Jackek Mikulski, (S.A.C.) Fr. David Lewis and Fr. Robert Hetu.

Desk Scribbles . . . 2nd Sun Advent . . . Dec 5, 2010 . . .
Jim Link, C.R.

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

I was reading today about some cultures who celebrate the tradition of the "Las Posadas" during the Advent season in preparation for Christmas. The word means "the inns" and the practice is to imitate Joseph and the pregnant Mary as they searched for a place in Bethlehem to give birth to their child. From December 16th to December 24th, neighboring families go from house to house singing carols, holding candles and statues and until they arrive at the designated home for that evening and are welcomed in. Once in the home they kneel at a Nativity scene and say prayers or the rosary.

In many ways this custom picks on the very essence of the spirit of Advent as we prepare to celebrate the coming of the Messiah into our world and to accept him as he seeks to come into our lives. Acknowledging the arrival of the God into our world is one thing; letting him actually come in to our "house" and our lives is quite another — yet that is the invitation and the challenge set before us.

It may seem strange that the figure of John the Baptist appears in the season of Advent when, on one level, we are preparing for the birth of a child and John's focus was the ministry, life and death of Jesus. But the incarnation, from the biblical perspective, is the whole "Christ-event," the total summation of the coming of the Son of God in flesh, including his nativity, his ministry, his death, resurrection and ascension. The birth of Jesus means little

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