



Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Parish, Waterloo

Mass Times

Saturday: 7:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet 20 minutes before Mass

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday & Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Rosary 20 minutes before Mass

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Confession Times

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,
20 minutes before weekday Masses.

Sacraments

For baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, marriages, please contact parish office.

Blessing of Expectant Parents

Last Sunday of each month after all Masses.

Anointing of the Sick / Hospital Visitation

If you or someone you know is in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the parish office or see Father after Mass. Please advise the office of the hospital admissions to request anointing or pastoral visit.

St. Vincent de Paul

Church door collections - last Sunday of each month. For information on food distribution call 519-886-0342 ext 2.

Welcome New Members

Welcome! We're glad you want to join our parish! Please fill out a form from the church lobby or website, drop it in the collection basket or at the parish office. Please call if you would like Father to bless your home.

Offertory Envelopes / Pre-Authorized Debit

To receive an annual tax receipt for your donations you are encouraged to use offertory envelopes and/or to enroll in our monthly debit plan. Offertory envelopes can be requested by filling out a parish registration form, or if you are already registered, simply call the office to request a box. Debit plan enrollment forms are available in the church lobby.

PARISH TEAM

Pastor: Rev. Rafal Tomon

lourdeswaterloochurch@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Patrycja Wiecek

lourdeswaterloochurch@gmail.com

Music Director: Mr. Bruce Cameron

brucecameron57@gmail.com

Organist: Mrs. April Philpotts aaphilpotts@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Parish Bequests

Keep your love for your parish alive.

Remember ***Our Lady of Lourdes Parish*** in your will and when recommending expressions of sympathy.



CONTACT US

173 Lourdes Street

Waterloo, ON N2L 1N5

519-886-0342

lourdeswaterloochurch@gmail.com

<https://www.ourladyoflourdeschurchwaterloo.com>

 www.facebook.com/OLOLWaterloo

 http://twitter.com/our_parish



DEC 5 to DEC 10



Our Lady of Lourdes Christmas Cookies Project

It's cookie time again! We would like to deliver and share with others a can filled with a variety of homemade cookies. Since this is the season for baking, we are asking you to share some of your homemade cookies with others. How special it will be for someone when they receive a tin of homemade Christmas cookies from Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners! Thank you for embracing the joy of this holy season by remembering others at this special time of giving.

To continue to do this, **WE NEED MORE COOKIES!** When you do your Christmas baking, please consider baking an extra dozen for the parish. Thank you for your support.

TUESDAY	7:00 p.m.	+ Deceased Maley Family – Raymond Maley
WEDNESDAY	8:30 a.m.	+Patrick Logel – Bernie & Wanda Logel
THURSDAY	7:00 p.m.	+ Clare Castelin – Rita & Horace Coelho
FRIDAY	8:30 a.m.	+Lena Latchana – Maureen Schaus & Family
SATURDAY	7:00 p.m.	+ Ina Martin – Krystyna O’Meara & Laura Gies
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our parish Special Intention

Monthly Budget Review as of Nov 26, 2023

Weekly contributions year to date	\$163,492.88	
E-transfer	\$3,111.23	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date)	\$129,936.92	\$293,541.03
Building fund		\$8,146.10

please join us

Our Lady of Lourdes Café

When: Sun. Dec 10, 2023

Where: Parish Hall

Time: 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.



MENU: Coffee, tea \$1 and Cake & desserts \$2
BAKERS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Nov 12, 2023, funds \$205.70

All proceeds from OLOL Café support our parish ministries

Please be a part of something extraordinary.

Please call the parish office if you can help as we hope to have the Café open 2nd Sunday of the Month.

ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATIONS - WATERLOO CHURCHES:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to restore our hurt or broken relationship with God, the Church, one another and with ourselves. Everyone is encouraged to make frequent use of this Sacrament of Healing. Advent, a time of preparation in the Church, is not a penitential season like Lent, but is still an appropriate time for us to celebrate this sacrament. Each of the four churches in Waterloo will offer a Penitential Service during Advent. Everyone is strongly encouraged to attend one of these.

Tuesday, December 5, 6:00 p.m	Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Wed, Dec 20, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	St. Michael Church

	Your cookies should be brought to the <u>parish office</u> on Monday, Dec 11 between 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec 12 between 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
	When you drop off your cookies, be sure to pick up a Christmas ornament, a small token of appreciation for your kindness.
	Volunteers will be needed to arrange the cookies on Wednesday, Dec 13 at 9:00 am. In the parish hall. If you can help, please call the parish office.
	Volunteers will be needed to deliver these tins of cookies on Friday, Dec 15 at 12:00 p.m. If you can help, please call the parish office.
	Volunteers will be needed to prepare the cookie tins, on Friday, Dec 8 at 9:00 a.m. If you can help, please call the parish office.

Volunteers needed!

Things to sign up for during this Christmas season.

- Christmas Eve Family Choirs (all ages)**
- Pageant (grades 1 to 8)**
- Minister of Hospitality (Usher)**
- Deliverer of Christmas cookies (Dec 15)**
- “Tree of Life” tree-cutters (Dec 16)**
- Church cleaning after tree install (Dec 16)**
- Church Christmas decoration set up (Dec 17)**
- Christmas floral decoration design (Dec 22)**
- Deliverer of Christmas flower (Dec 22)**

Please email our parish office at lourdeswaterlochurch@gmail.com

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Starting Dec 1, we are continuing a parish family Christmas tradition. It will focus on giving and the true meaning of Christmas. **The Giving Manger** will help families shift their focus of Christmas back to giving. You will be asked to place a piece of straw in the manger located at Mary's altar, for each kind deed or act of service performed. On Christmas Day, Baby Jesus will be placed in the Church manger filled with service and love. We ask each family to work together to give gifts of service to one another, and you will find your hearts and home filled with more joy during the holiday season than ever before.



Christmas Pageant

Once again, this year, students from grades one to eight, along with parent volunteers, are invited to become involved in the Christmas pageant which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Registration online by filling out the google form. <https://forms.gle/rbvHtfuqLfnAah37>

Deadline to register for the pageant is **Sunday, December 10.**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS

Tuesday, December 12 & Tuesday, December 19
from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Children and parent volunteers are asked to meet in the church hall on the above dates in preparation for the rehearsal that will take place in the church. *Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words.* - attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Gospel Reading
Mark 13:33-37

Jesus warns his disciples to be watchful so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel—Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples—Peter, James, John, and Andrew—who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face.

Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes. Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

Diocesan Prayer Calendar – This week let us pray for...

Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9
Rev. Pierre Caouette, L. C.	Grandparents & Elderly	Order of Preachers (Dominican, O. P.)	Rev. Donald Sanvido	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Rev. David Perrin

Prayer for Vocations... God, the source of creation and love, you invite each of us to serve you through the life which is your gift. May your grace encourage men and women to heights through service to the Church as priests, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Date	Event	Time
Dec 2	1 st Saturday Mass	8:30 a.m.
Dec 3	Sacramental Mass & meeting	9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Dec 5	Parish Advent Confession	6:00 p.m.
Dec 7	Choir Social	7:00 p.m.
Dec 8	Prepare cookie tins	9:00 a.m.
Dec 9/10	2024 Parish envelope pick-up	Before or after Mass
Dec 10	LOL Café	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Dec 10	Christmas shoe boxes	12:00 p.m.
Dec 11	Cookie drop off	9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Dec 12	Cookie drop off	7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Dec 13	Arranging cookie tins	9:00 a.m.
Dec 15	Deliver cookies	12:00 p.m.
Dec 15	FFF Youth Group meeting	6:00 p.m.
Dec 16	Cutting Tree of Life & Set up	12:45 p.m.
Dec 17	Christmas decoration setup	12:00 p.m.
Dec 22	Deliver white poinsettias	12:00 p.m.
Dec 24	Pageant	5:00 p.m.

BIG THANK YOU to all who helped with our parish Christmas dinner: set-up crew, servers, photographer, live music band, cleanup crew, and especially all those who supported our parish dinner by buying a ticket and or donating to our raffle. Thank you again. It is a great way to build our parish community and strengthen our friendships.

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

We would like to send Christmas shoe boxes to poor children with Canadian Food for Children. If you have empty shoeboxes, leftover Halloween candy, small toys (no batteries please), paper, crayons, markers, rosaries, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, socks, please bring your filled shoeboxes to Mary's altar from **Nov 19 – Dec 10** to send in time for Christmas. Many thanks for anything you can donate.

Empty shoe boxes are available to pick up at our parish office.

PARISH 2024 ENVELOPES PICK UP: on Dec 9 & 10 in the parish hall. Before going to the parish hall, please remember your previous envelope number, as boxes are sorted by number. Preauthorized giving envelopes start with the number 1000. We will have a directory binder where you can look up your envelope number if needed. Please remember that e-transfer is paperless. We thank you for your continued support to our parish.

First Sunday of Advent - December 3, 2023 The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, **contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.** email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

THE POPE'S DECEMBER INTENTIONS FOR 2023

For persons with disabilities
We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.





Thinking of buying or selling? I can HELP! I have a team of professionals who will make the process go as smooth as possible. I have been a member of Our Lady of Lourdes church for 25 yrs and would love the opportunity to help my fellow parishioners with their real estate needs.

Charlene Cardow 519-498-3274 RE/MAX

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Columbus Conference Centre
145 Dearborn Place
Friday Night Fish Fry:
Take out call **Derek 226-748-8378**
Eat in call **Manager 519-884-2060**
Wednesday Spaghetti: Take out/Eat in call
Manager 519-884-2060, place orders by 2:30 pm
Hall Rentals: Stag & Does, Meetings, Parties,
Life Celebrations call **Manager 519-884-2060**

