A Catholic-Christian Community of Faith in the Diocese of Hamilton since 2012

SAINT BENEDICT ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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Parish Website: www.stbenedictparish.ca

All are to be welcomed as Christ

- Saint Benedict of Nursia -

LORD'S DAY MASSES (all Weekend Masses are held at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School 709 Bolingbroke Drive in Milton L9T 6Z3)

Saturday: 5:00 pm Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Please see inside bulletin for complete schedule and location of weekday Masses.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(CONFESSIONS) Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 pm Anytime by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Celebrated the second Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Contact the parish office to arrange date and to arrange prebaptismal course at least two months before preferred date.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF ADULTS

A period of preparation is necessary and it is imperative that individuals complete the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). Please see Father Jim for more information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Kindly contact the parish office at least a year prior to desired date of marriage. Preparation course is essential. All Weddings arranged through Saint Benedict Parish are celebrated at Holy Rosary Parish in Milton.

CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES

When a death occurs in your family, please contact the parish office before contacting the funeral home, and we will assist you in making liturgical arrangements. All funeral masses are held at Holv Rosarv Church in Milton. The Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Hamilton website is www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca

PARISH STAFF

Father James S. Petrie, Pastor Reverend Mr. Leonard Gallant, Deacon Mrs. Janis Asdrubolini, Parish Secretary Mrs. Alma Paje, Parish Rectory Assistance

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 am - 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Friday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Office is closed on Mondays, weekends and public holidays.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and your family to Saint Benedict Parish! Please introduce yourself to Father Jim. Registration forms are available on the table at the back of the gym.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please contact the parish office if confinement to home or hospitalization, so sacramental care may be provided.

PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

For more information in discerning God's call to Church ministry contact our pastor, Father Jim Petrie or contact Father Michael King, Vocation Director for the Diocese of Hamilton 905-528-7988 or visit the Vocations Services' website: www.hamiltonvocations.com

PARISH SCHOOLS

<u>Guardian Angels Elementary</u> Mrs. Rosanna LoPresti, Principal	905-876-2386
<u>Lumen Christi Elementary</u> Mr. Joe Jurus, Principal	905-636-9692
<u>Our Lady of Fatima Elementary</u> Mrs. Viviana Varano, Principal	905-864-0720
Saint Benedict Elementary Mr. Josey Guerin, Principal	289-851-9353
<u>Saint Scholastica Elementary</u> Mrs. Erin Sweeney-Hurd, Principal	905-864-0344
<u>Jean Vanier Secondary</u> Mr. Gino Montanari, Principal	905-636-8799

Readings	Liturgy	Intention	Please Pray for
Sunday, December 23	Mass – Our Lady of Fatima School	Our Parish Community	
Fourth Sunday of Advent	9:00 a.m.		
Micah 5:2-5	11:00 a.m.		
Hebrews 10:5-10			
Luke 1:39-45			
Monday, December 24	Mass – Our Lady of Fatima School		Rev. Francis Hubilla
Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7	4:00 p.m.	Ints. Of Jay & Zoey Stokl	
Titus 2:11-14	6:00 p.m.	Ints. Of Laura & Joshua Rodriguez	
Luke 2:1-16	9:00 p.m.	Stefana Johnston	
Tuesday, December 25	Mass – Our Lady of Fatima School		Christmas Day
The Nativity of the Lord	9:00 a.m.	Francis Johnston	(The Nativity of the
Isaiah 62:11-12	11:00 a.m.	Our Parish Community	Lord)
Titus 3:4-7			
Luke 2:15-20			
Wednesday, December 26	No Mass		Franciscan Fathers
St. Stephen			(O.F.M.)
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59			
Matthew 10:17-22			
Thursday, December 27	No Mass		Rev. Ronald Voisin
St. John			
1 John 1:1-4			
John 20:2-8			
Friday, December 28	No Mass		Rev. Duy Van Nguyen
The Holy Innocents			
1 John 1:5 – 2:2			
Matthew 2:13-18			
Saturday, December 29	Mass – Our Lady of Fatima School	Gilda Pinto	Rev. Kevin D'Souza
St. Thomas Becket	5:00 p.m.	Robert Callaghan	
1 John 2:3-11			
Luke 2:22-35			

Rectory Office Hours The office will be closed for this week. We will be open again on Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019

If your family member is in the hospital, please contact the parish office. For confidential reasons the hospital will not release names of those who are Catholic. Fr. Jim also offers the Sacrament of the Sick. If we do not know of your relative being in the hospital we cannot attend to their spiritual needs. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

St. Vincent St. Vincent Society Society The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank you for all the generous donations of gift cards and cash. This year we were able to assist 20 families. They were very grateful and appreciative of the donations received.

On behalf of all the members, we would like to wish you a blessed Christmas and the happiest of New Years!



SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASSES

Monday December 24th – Christmas Eve 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm

<u>Tuesday December 25th – Christmas Day</u> <u>Solemnity of the Birth of Jesus Christ</u> 9:00 am and 11:00 am

<u>Feast of the Holy Family</u> Saturday, December 29th 5:00 pm Sunday, December 30th 9:00 and 11:00 am

<u>New Year's Eve – Monday, December 31st</u> 5:00 pm

<u>New Year's Day – Tuesday, January 1st</u> 9:00 and 11:00 am

All Masses take place at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School located at 709 Bolingbroke Drive in Milton.

There are NO AFTERNOON or EVENING MASSES celebrated on Christmas Day anywhere in the Diocese of Hamilton.

All of our Christmas Masses are appropriate for children and families. To avoid large crowds and congested parking, you may wish to consider attending Mass on Christmas morning at 9:00 am or 11:00 am.



From the Pastor's Desk But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great iov for all the people: to you is joy for all the people: to you is

born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

This quote is an appropriate reflection as we celebrate this great feast of the Birthday of Our Lord -Christmas. During this holiday season, we remember that the Lord Jesus entered this world as a small child – a baby. He became a vulnerable person to begin his mission on earth. Jesus came to bring peace to the earth and to create a new society of love. When we look on our earth we see that the presence of Jesus still needs to be brought to many people. We pray for peace on earth. We especially pray for those areas experiencing war and violence at this time. We pray for peaceful solutions in the Middle East, the birthplace of Jesus and Mary. We pray for the people of Afghanistan, Iraq, Ukraine, Syria and Venezuela. We ask that Jesus, the Prince of Peace bless these areas. We also pray for the vulnerable of our society - the poor and the marginalized. We pray for the elderly and unborn. We pray for those who struggle to provide for their families while living in poverty. We pray for those who lives are scarred by abuse and violence, especially women and children. We pray for those who suffer physically and mentally. We pray for migrants seeking a better life for themselves and their children. We pray for those individuals who are rejected by family and society. Jesus' birthday is a reminder that we have much to do in God's Kingdom here on earth.

This season is also about reflecting on the blessings we have received. As pastor of Saint Benedict Parish, I too, have many people that I am thankful for. I wish to publicly thank my staff: Deacon Leonard Gallant and his wife Lorraine, Deacon Joe DiGrado and his wife Cathy, Janis Asdubolini, our parish secretary and Alma Paje who helps in the rectory. These individuals give

much more than is expected of them. I thank them for their hard work in our parish community. I want to thank the liturgical ministers: our lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers and altar servers. Their commitment to the parish is deeply appreciated. I want to thank the Children's Liturgy Leaders who strive to instill a sense of faith in our young people. I want to thank the musicians of our parish. They have made our liturgies more special by their talents. I want to thank our set up crew, who decorate and setup "our Church", not just at Christmas, but every weekend of the year, to ensure that our spiritual home is a place of beauty and reverence for God. I want to thank the service organizations of our parish: the Legion of Mary for the wonderful outreach they provide to ensure that the sick and elderly are part of our parish community. I want to thank the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women's League for their social and financial support of our parish. Finally I want to thank the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of our parish, who all year round provide assistance and compassion to individuals and families in our community. To anyone I may have forgotten, I apologize and I am truly grateful to EVERYONE who gives of their time, talent and treasure to our parish. We truly are the Body of Christ in our community.

Personally, I would like to thank all of you for the cards, goodies and gifts that you have given me for Christmas. I am overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity.

On a different note, we have now started the construction of our new parish church facility. Hopefully we will be in our new church by late winterearly spring of 2020. I am also grateful to those who have contributed financially through our "Build the Light" campaign. If you are interested in contributing, please call the parish office for more information.

It is my prayer that all of you and yours have a truly blessed Christmas and may the prayers of our Mother Mary, and the graces of the Christ-child come upon all of you.

Merry Christmas!





