

# St. Mary of the Visitation Parish



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Rev. Robert Love, Pastor

Sister Marie Therese Slade, Parish Catechist

Mrs. Rosanne Nusca, Administrative Assistant

*St Mary of the Visitation Parish exists to be a light on the hill and offer every person in our community a life-changing encounter with Jesus*

## SCHEDULE OF LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

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

A Children's Ministry for those aged 2 until Grade 4 is offered at the 9:00am and 11:00am Mass.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Wednesday to Friday: 8:00 a.m.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

(Located in the lower level of the church)

Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Fatima School 519-658-4041

St. Elizabeth School 519-651-0400

St Gabriel School 519-658-2008

St. Benedict Secondary School 519-621-4050

## PARISH ADORATION CHAPEL

Our Chapel is always available for a time of quiet, personal prayer. Please enter by the west side of the church, off the lower parking lot.

## PARISH BOOK OF PRAYER

Our Parish Book of Prayer is located in our Adoration Chapel (lower level of the Church). You are welcome to write your intentions on its pages. These are remembered at Mass.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to make an appointment to begin the process of preparing your child and family for this Sacrament.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office before setting a date of marriage in order to begin preparations.



## PASTORAL CARE TO SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Ministers of Communion to the Sick bring communion to those who are sick or confined at home, in nursing homes or hospital each Sunday. To ensure a visit when hospitalized, please make sure to indicate at registration that you are a Roman Catholic and a member of St Mary Parish.

## IF GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE REQUIRED

About 10 minutes before Mass begins, please visit the Sacristy and ask Sacristan to reserve a gluten-free host for you.

## DON'T GET LOST IN THE CROWD - SMALL GROUPS

We are blessed with a variety of small groups - couples groups, men's groups, ladies groups, mother's groups, faith sharing groups - check our display in the Parish Centre - join us.

## PARISH BEQUESTS

Keep your love for your parish alive. Remember St. Mary of the Visitation Parish in your will and when recommending expressions of sympathy.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

519-658-6511



**WELCOME TO ST. MARY PARISH**  
A special welcome to all new members and visitors! We are really glad you're here! Please introduce yourself to our Pastor, Fr. Robert Love, or stop by our Welcome Desk for details on our parish life and ways of connecting.



*Mass Intentions*

**Tuesday, December 10 at 7 p.m.**  
Mass of Thanksgiving

**Wednesday, December 11 at 8 a.m.**  
+ Joey Woods & Alavine Tourout  
+ Marjorie Young

**Thursday, December 12 at 8 a.m.**  
+ Percy Miranda  
7 p.m. Advent Penitential Service

**Friday, December 13 at 8 a.m.**  
+ Eric Walter

**Saturday, December 14 at 5 p.m.**  
Intentions of Seamus Ward  
Intentions of Annie Boyle

**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR**

Monday	Very Rev. Con O'Mahony
Tuesday	Rev. Felix Nwatu
Wednesday	Sisters of St. John the Baptist
Thursday	Rev. Czeslaw Kolasa, S.A.C.
Friday	Rev. Ranjan D'Sa, O.C.D.
Saturday	Rev. Louis Lenssen, C.R.S.P.

**PARISH OFFERINGS**

Nov 30/Dec 1, 2019

Envelope Offerings:	\$2,639.00
Loose Offerings:	\$ 279.65
Building Fund:	\$ 635.00

*Thank you for your continued generosity.*

**SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2020**

Please pick up your 2020 envelopes, located in the hallway along the parking lot, sorted by last name. Those not currently using envelopes but who are interested in obtaining Offering Envelopes, may contact the office or leave their contact information at the Welcome Desk. All are invited to consider Pre-Authorized Giving as a method to support our parish family. Forms are available at Welcome Desk

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE:** There will be an Advent Penitential Service on **Thursday, December 12 at 7 p.m.** Several priests will be available for Confession at this service.

**ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES:** Fr. Love will be available for confession following the morning Mass on Thursday, Dec. 19 and Friday, Dec. 20. Confession on Saturday, December 21 will begin at 3:30 p.m.



**CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTES:** During the holy season of Christmas, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes for placement in the Church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. The floral tribute sheets will be placed near the altar and your loved ones will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season. *Please pick up your tribute sheet at the entrances of the church.*



**ANNUAL RED STOCKING CAMPAIGN:** Join us in our Advent tradition of helping those in need in third world countries. We will be filling red stockings with school supplies, small toys, and toiletries.

Our donations will be brought to Canadian Food for Children to be shipped to areas in need. Red stockings are available for pickup in the church narthex. We ask that you **return your filled stocking by December 18.** Thank you for participating!

**DAILY NEEDS DRIVE:** Thank you very much to the parishioners of St. Mary's for your generous donations to the Daily Needs Drive. These items were delivered to Family and Children's Services on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 and have been gratefully received. They will be used all year long for families in our community who need a little help. Thank you again for your generosity. *Merry Christmas!*



**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** At the 5:00p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, children of the parish (aged 4 to 12) will act out a simple narrative of the first Christmas. If your child is interested in taking part, please pick up a pink permission form at the Welcome Desk, complete and return it through the collection basket no later than December 8th. There will be **one rehearsal in the Church on Thursday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.** Attendance is required.



**NEXT CATHOLIC CAFÉ:**

Join your fellow parishioners for a special Christmas Café after Masses on **December 21 & 22**. We look forward to seeing you there!

**ADVENT DEVOTION BOOKLETS:** Devotion booklets for the Advent season are available in the Parish Narthex (\$2/each). "Let the Heavens be Glad" and "Wonders of His Love – Family Devotions and Activities for Advent". A great resource to prepare for Christmas!



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** The collection from the poor box for Nov 23/24th and additional donations throughout the month totaled \$2253.55! Thank you for your generosity, especially during this time of the year.

**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS BUTTONS:** The Knights of Columbus Council 4916 will be distributing 'Keep Christ in Christmas' buttons again this year at the Masses on **December 7 & 8**. These have a new design this year and donations go to Knights of Columbus Charities.

**SUNDAY MISSALS AND 2020 CALENDARS:** Sunday Missals for the new liturgical year and 2020 Catholic Art Calendars are available for purchase at the Welcome Desk. Missals are \$5.00 each. Calendars are \$3.00 each

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS:** Please note the deadlines for submitting bulletin announcements to the office: December 22<sup>nd</sup> bulletin – submit by Monday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., December 29<sup>th</sup> bulletin – submit by Thursday Dec 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, January 5<sup>th</sup> bulletin – submit by Monday Dec 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

**PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY 2020**

Thank you to everyone for your participation! If you did not have a chance to have your photo taken, we would still love to have you in the directory. Please submit your own photo to the office. (Digital photos should be vertical and a minimum of 1MB. Printed photos must be vertical and no larger than a 4" x 6" photo.)

**Liturgical Ministries Schedule  
December 14/15 – TEAM C**

Please **sign up** to serve for the Christmas and New Year's Masses.  
Sign-up sheets located in the sacristy.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Eve – December 24<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 p.m.

*Family Mass with Pageant*

7:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day – December 25<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 a.m.

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God – December 31<sup>st</sup>**

5:00 p.m.

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God – January 1<sup>st</sup>**

10:00 a.m.

**Please note:** A shuttle bus will be running from St. Gabriel School to our parish on December 24<sup>th</sup>

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**ST. MARY'S CEMETERY:** New burial plots are now available for sale at St. Mary's Cemetery. Please contact Allison Hogle at the Cemeteries Administration Office, located at Parklawn Cemetery, at 519-740-4681 ext. 4299.

**BEREAVED FAMILIES OF ONTARIO:** When you're grieving the death of a loved one, the holiday season can seem Anything But Merry. It can be a time of overwhelming emotions, new challenges and unrealistic expectations from family and friends. *Anything But Merry* is a community information session where we acknowledge the difficulties the holiday season can bring, and share coping strategies to help you through. For more information and to register, [www.bfomidwest.org](http://www.bfomidwest.org)  
Cambridge Location: **December 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm**, Idea Exchange, Old Post Office Location

**VOCATIONS:** "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." Could God be calling you to be a priest in order to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the Lord"? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

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 Msgr Paul J. Meyer  
 Council 4916

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