

# *St. Mary of the Visitation Parish*

116 Cooper Street, Cambridge (Hespeler), Ontario N3C 2N2

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Rev. Robert Love, Pastor

Sister Marie Therese Slade, Parish Catechist

Mrs. Rosanne Nusca, Administrative Assistant

*"We are connected to our past, committed to our future and compassionately focussed on being a Family of Faith with something for everyone"*



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



### 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.

### PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK

**Tuesday, December 31**

5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 1**

10:00 a.m.

**Thursday, January 2 at 8 a.m.**

+ Maria Freitas

**Friday, January 3 at 8 a.m.**

+ Jean Gillespie

**Saturday, January 4 at 5 p.m.**

+ Joao Da Silva

### CHAPEL OF ADORATION

"O, come let us adore Him!" Our Adoration Chapel is open for all to make a quiet visit any time. To find out more about Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration please call: Sheila Mauser (519) 658-9414

### DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday	Rev. Mark Morley
Tuesday	Rev. Jason Kuntz
Wednesday	Diocesan Priests
Thursday	Rev. Mark Sullivan
Friday	Very Rev. Wayne Lobsinger
Saturday	Rev. Gregory Merkley

### PARISH OFFERINGS

**Pre-Authorized Giving** for Month of **December**

Monthly Offerings: \$4,335.00

Building Fund: \$1,180.00

*Please note that the collection amounts for December 21/22 and December 24/25 will be reported in the following bulletin.*

### Liturgical Ministries Schedule

**January 4/5 – TEAM B**

*Children's Ministry resumes on Jan 5<sup>th</sup>.*

### A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM SR. MARIE THERESE:

*Dear Friends of St. Mary's,*

*It is always hard to say goodbye, and over the last few weeks I have had mixed emotions. I am sad to leave this place, but also am trying to look forward to the future with hope. I wanted, first of all, to say thank you to all of you who have made my time at St. Mary's very special. In the very first week I felt right at home and appreciated your warm reception. It has been a privilege and a true honour to be here and minister among you as I followed in the footsteps of Sr. Bernadette and Mother Elizabeth Marie. Thank you to Fr. Love, Rosanne, Owen, Tyler, and Anton for their generosity, understanding and assistance in the apostolate that we share.*

*St. Mary's really is a blessed parish and I am equally grateful to all those who have or who still are ministering in our extensive Children's Ministry programs, First Holy Communion preparation, R.C.I.A., Plugged-In, Special Friends, and Atrium programs. We are blessed to have dozens of extremely dedicated and talented people in this parish; I wouldn't have been able to get very far without you! I pray for all the best in 2020 for a new chapter in the parish life of St. Mary's. Don't forget to keep supporting your parish family and help Fr. Love build up this community in Christ. Farewell especially to all the children who have been my special friends during my time here. Stay close to Jesus!*

*One in Christ,*

*Sr. Marie Therese Slade, S.O.L.I.*

**CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTES:** Thank you for your floral contributions in memory of your loved ones. The floral tribute sheets have been placed near the altar and your loved ones will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.



### ANNUAL RED STOCKING CAMPAIGN:

*WOW! What a wonderful response! A huge thank you for your generous donations to the Red Stocking Campaign! Hundreds of stockings were*

*filled with much needed items in support of Canadian Food for Children. A special thank you to the staff and students of our schools for their participation: St. Elizabeth, St. Gabriel, Our Lady of Fatima, and St. Benedict. Amazing!! Our stockings have been delivered to the CFFC warehouse and will be shipped to children living in countries that are greatly in need of our donations. Thank you!!*



**SAVE THE DATE!**

We will be having a special farewell for Sister Marie Therese after Masses on **January 11 & 12.** We look forward to seeing you there!

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS & YEAR END GIVING**

The Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday, December 31 – Thursday, January 2 and re-open on Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30a.m. We are currently updating information in our parish records for year end. Please notify the parish office of any changes in contact information.

Please remember that only donations made prior to December 31st, 2019, can be applied for income tax credit for this year. **We ask that any donations to the Parish are submitted by Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you.

**CONFIRMATION RETREAT REMINDER:**

All those preparing for Confirmation will gather together at St. Mary of the Visitation Parish for a retreat in preparation for Confirmation on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 for those attending St. Elizabeth School OR Wednesday, January 8, 2020 for those attending Our Lady of Fatima and St. Gabriel School. A letter was distributed to the schools and can be found on our website under Confirmation.

**AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME DESK**

**Sunday missals:** Missals for the new liturgical year. \$5/missal

**Calendars:** 2020 Catholic Art Calendars. \$3

**Memorial Candles:** Small - \$5, Large - \$8

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, Cambridge, is looking for a part-time Catechist. Please see the job posting on the Diocesan Website: [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

**HEY HIGH SCHOOLERS!** Do you have questions about your faith? Do you want to meet other youth with similar values? Come to our monthly Da Crew meetup! Each month we'll learn more about our faith, eat snacks, play games, and have fun. The setup is an open forum where we discuss topics that are relevant to you and answer any questions you may have. We meet on the first Thursday of every month from 6:30-8pm! **Our next meeting is Thursday, January 9, 2020.** Bring your friends!

**LOST AND FOUND TABLE:** There are many items to be claimed! Please see the table in the hallway to the parking lot. Unclaimed items will be donated next week.

**A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR**

*Dear Lord,*

*We pray that this New Year will bring us closer to You.*

*May we take the time to get to know You.*

*Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us and use them to serve You and spread*

*Your word,*

*May we also see and love you in all the people we meet, so that in turn, they can see You in us.*

*We know that all human relations take time if they are to grow and deepen.*

*This is also true of our relations with You, the Father and the Holy Spirit, which must grow over the course of our lives.*

*In this new year,*

*let us realize that every action of ours no matter how great or small enables us to be in touch with You.*

*Let us accept You in our lives,*

*in the way it pleases You,*

*as Truth, to be spoken,*

*as Life, to be lived,*

*as Light, to be lighted,*

*as Love, to be followed,*

*as Joy, to be given,*

*as Peace, to be spread about,*

*as Sacrifice, to be offered among our relatives, friends, neighbours and all people.*

**Amen.**

**PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY 2020**

If you did not have a chance to have your photo taken, we would still love to have you in the directory. We will be accepting photos until January 6, 2020. 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.)

We are also looking for pictures from events and gatherings for our collage pages. Please submit these to the parish office. Thank you!

**HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

By Baptism we are God's holy family today. Pray for the grace to live faithfully your vocation. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)



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