



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

14400 Argyll Road
Georgetown, Ontario L7G 5S6
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*Established as a Parish in the
Diocese of Hamilton in 1956*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

PARISH STAFF

Father David Walter, Pastor
email: dwalter@hamiltondiocese.com
Twitter: @HCParish
Facebook: @HCParishGeorgetown
Father Carlos Diaz, Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang, Permanent Deacon
Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary
Mrs. Jennifer Cauchi, Pastoral Assistant

SUNDAY MASSES
(Saturday) 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
& 12:00 noon**
(**12:00 noon September to June)

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)
Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Saturdays 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Saturday 9:00 a.m.
(Bulletin has weekly schedule of Masses)

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome! New parishioners are encouraged to register with the parish by completing a *parish registration form*, available in the Narthex or the Parish Office. You may wish to consider offering financial support to the parish by using *Sunday Offering Envelopes* or *pre-authorized withdrawals*. For more information contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Baptism - Infants and young children of parishioners are baptized on Sunday afternoons, except during the Season of Lent. Adults requesting baptism, or the other sacraments of initiation should inquire about the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Marriage - Weddings for parishioners are generally celebrated on Saturday afternoons. Kindly contact the Pastor a minimum of one year before the desired date of marriage. Preparation is provided in the Parish.

Sacrament of the Sick - Visits to the sick, either at home or in hospital, can be made by contacting the Parish Office. Arrangements can be made for the *Sacrament of the Sick* and for *Holy Communion*. If you are admitted to the Georgetown Hospital please be sure to identify yourself as a "Catholic" at the time of admission.

Priesthood & Religious Life - Visit the Diocesan Vocations website www.HamiltonVocations.com

Catholic Women's League
Marleen Cushing, President
(647) 223-2461

Prayer Network
Katie 416-433-4324

Saint Francis School
905-877-6928

Knights of Columbus
Joe Crane, Grand Knight
647-232-6630
jwcrane@hotmail.ca

Christ the King Secondary
905-702-8838

Saint Brigid School
905-877-1779

Holy Cross School
905-877-4451

Saint Catherine School
905-702-8001

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Date	Time	Holy Mass	Parish Meetings
SUNDAY, December 10 Advent 2	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish <i>(ON LINE at 6:00 a.m.)</i>	
MONDAY, December 11	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (I) Leslie Rutherford	
TUESDAY, December 12	6:00 p.m.	Holy Hour	
	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	7:00 p.m.	Daily Mass † Carlos Domingos	
WEDNESDAY, December 13	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Christa Williams	
THURSDAY, December 14	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (I) Leslie Rutherford	
FRIDAY, December 15	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Maria Filomena Aguiar † Kieran Rogers (I) Marilaura Wall (I) Sherilu	<i>followed by Adoration until 12:00 p.m.</i>
SATURDAY, December 16	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Margaret Michelin	
	9:30 am - 4:30 p.m.	<i>Advent Day of Reconciliation - Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</i>	
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - the Third Sunday of Advent <i>Offered for the Intentions of the Deceased Faithful:</i> Maria & Frank Vieira; Ilda & Jose DeMelo; Joseph Francis D'Souza; Ricardo Medeiros; Eileen Fava; Joyce Stone; Josey Anthony.	This week's Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of Christa Williams.

From the Pastor's Desk

The gospel this Sunday introduces us to John the Baptist as one crying out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord." His main message? It's one of repentance. To prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord is to seek out his mercy which he wants nothing more than to give us. During Advent, the greatest preparation we can have is to open our hearts to him, confess our sins and receive his forgiveness so that we can receive his birth most fully into our hearts this Christmas. Next Saturday, December 16th will be our Advent Day of Reconciliation. Come anytime between 9:30am – 4:30pm and there will be a priest available to hear your confession. Experience in a concrete way our Lord's love and mercy this Advent by preparing your hearts with the greatest gift we've been given – the gift of mercy and forgiveness!

Quote of the Week

"Let us throw ourselves into the ocean of his goodness, where every failing will be cancelled, and anxiety turned into love." — *St. Paul of the Cross*

Sunday Smile

Elevators terrify me. I'm taking steps to avoid them.

Concert – Advent & the Sounds of Christmas – Thu, Dec 14th at 7:00pm

On Thu, Dec 14th we will be hosting an Advent concert by John B. Miller and Friends, an evening you won't want to miss! They are group of professional musicians that tour area churches each year with a memorable evening of Advent and Christmas music. They have played at Holy Cross in past years and have always been well received by those attending! Admission is free, but a \$20 free-will offering is suggested. To learn more about John B. Miller and Friends, you can visit their website at: www.johnbmiller.ca

Looking Ahead to Christmas!

Believe it or not, Christmas is only a few weeks away! For those who have been asking, our Christmas Mass Schedule will be: **Christmas Eve** - 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 12midnight. **Christmas Day** - 9am, 10:30am.

Christmas and the Sunday Obligation

If you've looked forward on the calendar you have probably noticed that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday! So, what does a Catholic do? Our Sunday obligation (an obligation of love for our Lord!) remains to attend Mass on Sunday *and* for Christmas. This can mean a morning Mass on Sun, Dec 24th and

a Christmas Eve Mass that same day, or it could mean any other combination of ONE Sunday Mass on Dec 23/24 and ONE Christmas Mass on Dec 24/25. You have many options, but for those who have asked, yes, we are still to participate in one Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent, and one Mass for Christmas! (We will find ourselves in the same situation for New Years as we celebrate the Feast of Mary, Mother of God – same rules apply!)

Advent Day of Reconciliation – Sat, Dec 16th

On Saturday, Dec 16th from 9:30am – 4:30pm we will be hosting our annual Advent Day of Reconciliation. Priests will be available at any time during that window to hear your confession and receive God's beautiful gift of mercy and forgiveness. Don't miss the opportunity to receive this sacrament before Christmas! In addition to Fr. Dave and Fr. Carlos who will be hearing confessions throughout the day when there is 'high demand', the visiting priests available will be:

9:30am – 11:30am – Fr. Jonas Ahouansou (English/French)

9:30am – 11:30am – Fr. John Ha (English/Vietnamese)

11:30am – 1:30pm – Fr. John Van Hees (English)

11:30am – 1:30pm – Fr. Patrick Ohl (English/Polish)

1:30pm – 3:30pm – Fr. Mark Sullivan (English)

3:30pm – 4:30pm – Fr. Carlos Diaz (English/Spanish)

3:30pm – 4:30pm – Fr. David Walter (English)

Bambinelli Sunday – Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurines

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed both the people and their Baby Jesus figurine from their family nativity set in St. Peter's Square. The blessing takes place on Gaudette Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. Our parish will celebrate Bambinelli Sunday on December 16/17 at all Masses. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figure from your home to Mass that day to be blessed. After the blessing we suggest you take your "bambinelli" home and place it in a gift box, wrap it, and open it as the first gift at Christmas, placing your Baby Jesus figure in the crib.

Knights of Columbus

Again this year the Knights of Columbus will be collecting "Toonies for Turkeys" in support of our local food bank to provide Christmas dinner needs for local families. Collections will be held after Masses on the weekends of December 9th and 16th.

Sunday (Novalis) Missals

2024 Sunday Missals will be available for purchase after all Masses this weekend. The Knights of Columbus sell the Missals for \$5 each. The Sunday Missal is useful for reflecting on the Scripture readings before Mass. Your 2023 Missals can be left with the Knights for disposal.

HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Impaired Driving Awareness

With celebrations associated with Christmas and New Year's, the holidays also bring a higher risk for impaired driving. The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of educating Canadians about the consequences of impaired driving due to alcohol, drugs, fatigue, or distraction which destroys the lives and health of thousands of Canadians. Impaired driving doesn't just apply to cars – it also applies to motorcycles, boats, ATVs, snowmobiles, etc. Vehicle accidents involving alcohol and/or drugs are a leading preventable cause of death. Even one drink of alcohol can reduce reaction time, cause blurred or double vision, impair reflexes, and alter one's attention span. For more information visit

www.canada.ca/en/services/policing/community-safety-policing/impaired-driving.html

Register Your Child for Kindergarten at HCDSB!

Kindergarten registration at the Haltopn Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) for the 2024-2025 school year is now open! Parents and guardians who are interested in registering their child for Kindergarten are invited to visit the HCDSB website for more information: <https://hcdsb.info/KindergartenRegistration>

Rosary Repairs

Do you have a broken rosary lying around that you're not sure what to do with? Well, there's good news! We have a parishioner that has the skills and tools to repair rosaries, and is more than happy to do so for you! There is a box in the narthex titled 'Rosary Repairs' – simply take an envelope from the box to insert the broken rosary, write your name and contact information on it and we will let you know when it's fixed and ready to pick up.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

There is sometimes confusion over what the Sacrament of the Sick is. Anyone experiencing serious illness may receive the sacrament, not just those who are close to death. In fact, it is preferable to receive the sacrament early in an illness when the person in ill health can benefit from the healing graces available as they battle their sickness. It is also the case that one can receive the Sacrament more than once during a time of serious illness, so there is no need to wait until the 'last minute' to call the priest. 'Last Rites', as the sacrament is often referred to, is actually the receiving of three sacraments if the person is able – *Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Communion*. If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with a serious illness, contact the office to set up a time to receive the sacrament. If it is a hospital emergency (at any hospital, not just Georgetown), the nurses will have the contact information of local on-call priests which you can request.

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