

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

14400 Argyll Road, Georgetown, ON L7G 5S6
905-873-1887 www.holycrossrc.com

PARISH STAFF

Father David Walter, Pastor email: dwalter@hamiltondiocese.com

Twitter: @HCParish Facebook: @HCParishGeorgetown

Father Hayden Starczala, Associate Pastor email: hstarczala@hamiltondiocese.com

Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary

ADVENT



prepare the way...

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Date	Time	Holy Mass	Parish Meetings
SUNDAY, December 20 Advent 4	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish (2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38) <i>(ON LINE at 6:00 a.m.)</i>	
MONDAY, December 21	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (Zephaniah 3.14-18a; Luke 1.39-45) † Deceased members of the Deguara family	
TUESDAY, December 22	6:00 p.m.	Holy Hour	
	6 - 6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	Cote Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Daily Mass (1 Samuel 1.24-28; Luke 1.46-56) † Marie Simpson	
WEDNESDAY, December 23	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (Malachi 3.1-4, 4.5-6; Luke 1.57-66) † Clarence & Madeline Varey	
<i>CHRISTMAS EVE</i> THURSDAY, December 24	4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm, 12 midnight	Christmas Eve Mass (Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-16)	SOLD OUT
<i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i> FRIDAY, December 25	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon	Christmas Day Mass (Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-16)	SOLD OUT
SATURDAY, December 26	4 - 4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	Cote Hall
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph <i>Offered for the Intentions of the Deceased Faithful:</i> Barb Egan; Ed Dwyer; Verna Rici; Joe Oliveira Costa. Intentions of Anthony & Monica Gonsalves (35 th Anniv.)	This week's Sanctuary Lamp is for the deceased members of the Everard family.

From the Pastor's Desk

To everyone in our Holy Cross family, I wish you a very Merry Christmas! This year of 2020 will certainly not be soon forgotten. As we celebrate Christmas this year in a very different way – small gatherings; unable to travel; perhaps limited to Mass online rather than in person – let us not lose sight of the central reason for the season – that Jesus Christ is born! Commemoration of the infant born in Bethlehem continues to give us great *hope* through our faith. It gives us great hope as Christmas is a constant reminder of the Divine Love – a love beyond our comprehension that the Creator would become the Created – to become human just like you and I - coming into our world to bring light into the darkness, to spread the Good News and free us from our sins.

And in this great hope that we have in Christ may we always have recourse in Him. He has promised to be with us always – in the good times and the bad – he is there to offer peace for our souls. Let us be willing to open ourselves up to our Lord, that he may bring that hope and peace to all of us as we navigate through these uncertain times. There is light at the end of this tunnel. Let us entrust everything to the Prince of Peace that he may give us the consolations he so desires to offer in order to accompany us on our way forward. May God abundantly bless you and your families, and once again, Merry Christmas! – Fr. Dave

A Big Thank You!

Since reopening in June following the spring lockdown, we have had a dedicated 'army' of volunteers helping to make it happen! To all of our ushers, cleaners, liturgical ministers and musicians – THANK YOU! We simply couldn't have remained open without your help. You don't get enough recognition for your efforts, so may this message be a small token of the parish's gratitude. If you're at Mass over Christmas, be sure to thank an usher, a cleaner or our liturgical ministers – they deserve it!

Christmas Masses – Registration Information

You will find Christmas Mass information at holycrossrc.com/Christmas. Due to COVID capacity restrictions we require advance registration in order to attend a Christmas Mass this year. If you have not already registered – we're sorry – but you won't be able to attend as we are 'sold out'. We have a growing waiting list for tickets, but since we haven't received many cancellations we're sorry to say that the odds are not great of getting a last-minute ticket. We invite you instead to join us in worship online this year. The online Service schedule is listed below in the bulletin.

Christmas Mass Ticket Procedure

If you have a ticket for Christmas Mass, please bring a printed version of it to the Mass you're scheduled to attend or be ready to show us the ticket(s) on your phone. An usher will check

your ticket and invite you inside. If you don't have a ticket, unfortunately we can't allow you to attend – we will invite you to join us for our online celebrations this year instead.

Christmas Mass Online Schedule from Holy Cross

Our services will begin streaming at the listed times, but will be available all day long to view at your convenience:

Christmas Eve at 5:00pm – Family Liturgy of the Word (not a Mass)

Christmas Morning at 6:00am – Christmas Mass

You will find us at facebook.com/HCParishGeorgetown, or alternatively on our Holy Cross Georgetown [Youtube](#) channel. You will also find links to both on our parish web page, www.holycrossrc.com/Christmas

Midnight Mass from the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King

Bishop Crosby will once again be offering Midnight Mass at the Cathedral Basilica in Hamilton to be broadcast on CHCH TV as well as Salt + Light TV. The Mass will be preceded by a Carol Service beginning at 11:30 p.m. It will be rebroadcast on Christmas Day at 8:00am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Advent

Advent is a traditional time for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. The last available time to receive the Sacrament before Christmas is: **Tue, Dec 22 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm**. As we get closer to Christmas the priests get very busy, and it's not always possible to schedule a 'last minute' appointment for the Sacrament. If you have not yet made your Advent confession and wish to do so, please plan to come during the Tuesday timeslot listed above.

Sunday Missals for 2021

Sunday Missals for Advent and Sundays of 2021 are available in the church for \$5 each. If you are not able to get to the church, you may contact the Knights of Columbus at fj.stpierre@sympatico.ca to arrange home delivery of your book.

One Heart, One Soul Capital Campaign - Update

The *One Heart, One Soul* Capital campaign for our parish is beginning in phases, and some have already been offered the opportunity to participate. We will be rolling it out fully in the new year and look forward to presenting the projects that we wish to undertake including repairs of our air conditioning system, a lighting retrofit, a new sound system, debt reduction, as well as a fund to make up for lost revenue during COVID, with an eye to bringing on new pastoral staff once we find ourselves back to 'normal.' It's been a tough time for many and we certainly recognize that - we just ask that you prayerfully consider helping us in anyway that you can. If you have any questions or comments you are always welcome to reach out to Fr. Dave by phone or email.

Virtual' Children's Liturgy

We really miss welcoming our little ones each Sunday for Children's Liturgy. Until we are able to safely offer this program again, we have an online option – visit our website to follow our link to 'Children's Liturgy' each week to find some fun information and activities for families!

Year End Donations

CRA regulations prevent us from accepting 2019 donations in 2020. If you would like to make a "year-end donation" please do so before or by December 31, 2019. Donations received or dated after December 31 must be credited for 2020. Thank you.

Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday, December 24th until Monday, January 4th. Messages will be monitored throughout the office closure. If there is a medical emergency requiring the ministry of a priest please call the parish at 905-873-1887 and press ext. 3 to reach Father Dave.

2021 Weddings

Couples planning to marry in 2021 should contact the parish office. Kindly note that we require one year's notice of marriage to allow time for marriage preparation and the completion of the necessary documents. This requirement also applies to couples from Georgetown who are planning marriage outside the Diocese of Hamilton.

Dr. Simone, Canadian Food for Children CLOSED!

Please note that Dr. Simone's Mississauga warehouse is closed until further notice. We will be unable to accept items at the parish until the warehouse re-opens. Please watch the bulletin to find out when we will start accepting items again.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph (Sun, Dec 27th)

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 noon

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

World Day of Prayer for Peace January 1st is a *Holy Day of Obligation* for Catholics in Canada which means that the obligation to attend Mass is the same as if it were a regular Sunday. On this first day of the new year we celebrate Mary under her principal title *Mother of God*. It is also the *World Day of Prayer for Peace*. At Holy Cross our Masses will be celebrated:

NEW YEAR'S EVE (Thurs, December 31st): 5:00 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY (Fri, January 1st): 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

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