

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

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PARISH STAFF

Father K. Cull, Pastor

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Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary

Mr. Dino Arsenault, Maintenance

Mrs. Theresa Scholz, Parish Nurse

Christmas



the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:10

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Date	Time	Holy Mass	Parish Meetings
CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY, December 25	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish (Isaiah 62.1-5; Acts 13.16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1.1-25) <i>Please note there is no 12:00 noon Mass today.</i>	
MONDAY, December 26 <i>St. Stephen, First Martyr</i>	6:30 p.m.		9am Choir Rehearsal - <u>CANCELLED</u>
TUESDAY, December 27 <i>St. John, Apostle, Evangelist</i>	6:00 p.m.	Holy Hour - <u>CANCELLED</u>	
	6 - 6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - <u>CANCELLED</u>	
	7:00 p.m.	Daily Mass - <u>CANCELLED</u>	
	7:00 p.m.		Family Skate at MoldMasters Arena
WEDNESDAY December 28 <i>Holy Innocents</i>	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (1 John 1.5 - 2.2; Matthew 2.13-18) † Albano Fernandes	
	7:00 p.m.		5pm Choir Rehearsal - St. Cecilia Rm
THURSDAY, December 29	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (1 John 2.3-11; Luke 2.22-35) † Domenica Casati	
	7:00 p.m.		10:30am Choir Rehearsal - St. Cecilia
FRIDAY, December 30 <i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14; Matt. 2.13-15, 19-23) † Danny Carter † Margie Fitzgerald † Marcia Crossman	
SATURDAY, December 31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	4 - 4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - Mary, the Holy Mother of God (I) Holy Cross Parish	This week's Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of Marcantonio Albanese.

A Christmas Message from Father Cull

"Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord." Later this week we will enter into the joyful celebration of our Saviour's birth! We gather as a parish family to marvel at the humility of our God who came to us in poverty and simplicity. As we recall the events of that first Christmas, we too experience the joy of the shepherds and make our way to the manger where the miracle has taken place: God has become man and lives among us.

It is my heartfelt prayer that you will feel welcome and loved at Holy Cross Parish. What a blessing it is to pray together and enter into the heart of the Father's everlasting love at Holy Mass. May the peace of the holy and joyous season of Christmas remain with you and your loved ones.

Over the Christmas holidays and further along the winter months, please know that I would be delighted to join you for some hockey, if you have a backyard rink, pond (preferably one that is frozen over!) or other area where you will be gathering to play. Feel free to contact me at the parish office if you or your family are planning some outdoor fun.

With my love and prayers,

Father Cull

YOUTH GROUP

The youth group ended the calendar year with live music supplied by Jeff, Dino, Pierre, Joseph and Simon. The live music continued while the youth ate a meal together and then worked together to fill shoeboxes with toys, clothing, candy and toiletries. All the shoeboxes will be sent to children in Haiti. Youth group activities will continue in January and new members are always welcome! If you are interested in joining please send an email to hcgeorgetownyouth@gmail.com Watch for further events in the bulletin. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all youth in the parish.

CHRISTMAS BREAK FAMILY FUN SKATE

Please plan to join us on Tuesday, December 27th for skating and hot chocolate, coffee and Timbits. We have rented a rink at MoldMasters from 7:00 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. and we would love to see you there! For information or to purchase tickets (\$5.00 per family) contact Jane at 905-877-7226 or Marie at 905-873-9480.

ALPHA - REGISTRATION

The Alpha course begins at Holy Cross Parish on Thursday, January 26th! We are now ready to accept registrations. Alpha is for people who do not have a relationship with God, or for people who have been away from church for an extended period of time, or for people who have had little or no experience of the Christian faith. If you, your spouse, family member, co-worker or friend would benefit from this course, please inform them about Alpha and provide them with the URL below. Each Alpha session begins with food (a meal), followed by a 30-minute video and then small group discussions. The discussions are an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas without being corrected or judged (in a loving, accepting and non-judgmental atmosphere.) For more information about the program, to register, to view videos or to send an email for more information, enter the following URL into your Internet browser: <https://goo.gl/YkpZ7R> or visit the parish website at www.holycrossrc.com For people who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, plans are in place to introduce a similar program next year.

TELEVISED CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend D. Douglas Crosby, OMI, DD Bishop of Hamilton will preside at the celebration of Christmas Midnight Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. The Carol service begins at 11:30 p.m. and Midnight Mass at 12:00 a.m. This year the lead broadcast partner will be Salt+Light Media with Father Thomas Rosica as commentator. CHCH TV will also broadcast Midnight

Mass. We welcome Salt+Light and Father Rosica. The Carols and Mass will also be live streamed on their website www.saltandlighttv.org

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, 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 on:

New Year's Eve (Saturday, December 31st):

5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day (Sunday, January 1st):

9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 Noon

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2017

Boxed sets of 2017 envelopes will be available for pick up this weekend and on December 31/January 1. If you are not currently an envelope user and would like to start please contact the parish office. Also, *pre-authorized giving* forms for 2017 should be returned by **Sunday, January 8**. If you would like to learn more about this way of supporting the parish - please contact the office.

CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTES

During the Christmas Season, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes express our faith in Christ's promise of eternal life and help to beautify the church. Forms are available in the narthex for all who wish to make a donation. Envelope users may simply use the special envelope provided in their box. The names of all the deceased will be placed near the altar in a gift-wrapped box and your loved ones will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas Season.

GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL & SICK VISITS

Father Cull and our hospital visitors make regular visits to the sick in the Georgetown Hospital. Kindly be sure to identify yourself as a Catholic so that your name can be given to us when we visit. Please note that the *Sacrament of the Sick* can be received at any time of serious illness or before surgery. If you, or a family member, are homebound due to illness please inform the parish office. Arrangements can be made for the reception of Holy Communion, home visits and the assistance of our parish nurse.

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