

# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

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## PARISH STAFF

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Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary



## The Nativity of the Lord

## NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Date	Time	Holy Mass	Parish Meetings
SUNDAY, December 25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. <i>(No 12 noon Mass today)</i>	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish <i>(ON LINE at 6:00 a.m.)</i>	
MONDAY, December 26		No Mass	
TUESDAY, December 27	6:00 p.m.	<i>Holy Hour - Cancelled</i>	
	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) -Cancelled</i>	
		<i>No Mass</i>	
WEDNESDAY, December 28		<i>No Mass</i>	
THURSDAY, December 29	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Joe & Ana Rice	
FRIDAY, December 30 <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</i>	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Pat Hayes † Mary McLean † Theresa Lundrigan (I) Sofia Tabsin	
New Years' Eve SATURDAY, December 31	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God	This week's Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of the dec. members of the Everard Family.

### **From the Pastor's Desk**

Merry Christmas! As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we also take time to step back and think about what that means – that the God of the universe sent his Son to be born into a human family, into human history, to be one like us. This is an incredible reality and is the reason for such great celebration! Let's take time to contemplate the Lord's birth into our world. It's a sign of God's great love for us, and an invitation to follow him completely. Let's give thanks for all of our blessings, and give thanks for the greatest gift of all at Christmas, the gift of God's only Son.

### **Sunday Smile (Christmas Pun Edition!)**

What does Mrs. Claus say to Santa when it's cloudy? It looks like rain, deer!

What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary alphabet? The Christmas alphabet has No-el! Why didn't Rudolf get a good report card? He went down in history...

What do you call a blind reindeer? I have no eye deer.

### **Office Closed Week of December 26-30.**

Please note that the office will be closed the week of Dec 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Masses the Week of December 26<sup>th</sup>**

Please note that Fr. Dave will be taking a few days off after Christmas to spend time with his family. Therefore there will be no Masses on Mon, Dec 26, Tue, Dec 27, or Wed, Dec 28<sup>th</sup>. Weekday Masses will resume as usual on Thu, Dec 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am as we return to our regular schedule.

### **Thank you!**

I would like to offer a big thank you to all of our parish volunteers who have helped at Christmas and all year long! There are so many of you involved in so many ways to keep the parish running smoothly, and words of appreciation can never be fully expressed! To all of our Eucharistic ministers, lectors, altar servers, ushers, choir members, CWL, Knights of Columbus, HELPS members, homebound visitors, and for anyone I have missed who helps in any way – THANK YOU! May God continue to bless you abundantly!

### **The Retrouvaille Program is for Married Couples Struggling in their Relationship**

The primary goal is to provide help for couples who live with disappointment and pain in their marriage. The Retrouvaille weekend provides a safe setting where couples learn to communicate in a respectful manner. It helps couples rebuild

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their marriage and restore a loving relationship. You will find courage and strength in the realization that you are not alone in your struggle. You will not be asked to share your problems with anyone else. However, you will be encouraged to put the past behind you, to look beyond the hurt and pain and rediscover each other in a new positive way. The next weekend program will be held in Mississauga on January 13-15. Please go to [www.torontoretrouvaille.com](http://www.torontoretrouvaille.com) for more information.

### **Medical Assistance In Dying (MAID): Did You Know?**

As Catholics we acknowledge the giftedness of life as an inalienable right not to be taken away by others, the importance of compassion for the ill and the dying, as well as our responsibility to protect the most vulnerable among us. With the passing of bill C 7

- natural death no longer needs to be “reasonably foreseeable.” This includes people with disabilities or chronic but not fatal illnesses.
- the 10 day waiting period was removed for those whose death is “reasonably foreseeable.” This makes it possible to apply and receive euthanasia on the same day. For those whose death is not reasonably foreseeable, the waiting period is 90 days.
- allows for advanced directives, making it possible for a medical practitioner to proceed with euthanasia after a patient is no longer able to give consent.
- permits euthanasia for reasons of mental illness alone, beginning in 2023

Let us pray for an end to euthanasia, which is expanding, and advocate for greater access to palliative care in our country!

### **Have You Moved Recently?**

If you have moved or changed telephone numbers in the past few months, kindly let us know at the parish office so we can update our records.

### **Sunday (Novalis) Missals**

2023 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.

### **Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2023**

Boxed sets of 2023 envelopes are available for pick in the Narthex. If you are not currently an envelope user and would like to start please contact the parish office. Also, *pre-authorized giving* forms for 2023 were mailed last week - please return them promptly. If you would like to learn more about this way of supporting the parish please contact the office.

### **Year End Donations**

CRA regulations prevent us from accepting 2022 donations in 2023. If you would like to make a “year end donation” please do so before or by December 31, 2022. Donations received or dated after December 31 must be credited for 2023. Thank you.

### **Cancer Assistance Service of Halton Hills (CASHh) - Volunteers**

Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills (CASHh) is looking for Volunteer Drivers to help drive our clients to and from their cancer treatments and appointments. Our clients travel to different hospitals and clinics within the GTA and outside of the GTA (Toronto, Oakville, Mississauga, Hamilton, Brampton). We are in particular need for drivers willing to drive to downtown Toronto. Drivers are compensated for their mileage by CASHh. If you are interested in joining our wonderful organization and help make a someone's cancer journey just that little bit easier, please contact Wendy Molnar, our Transportation Coordinator at [transportation@cancerassistance.org](mailto:transportation@cancerassistance.org) or phone 905-702-8886.

### **2023 Weddings**

Couples planning to marry in 2023 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 marriages outside the Diocese of Hamilton.


### **Evenings with His Excellency**

Auxiliary Bishop Wayne Lobsinger invites everyone to join him for “Evenings with His Excellency.” An opportunity to learn more about our Catholic Faith based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Class is the second Friday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at St. Ann Parish in Ancaster. It is also available on St. Ann's YouTube channel. No cost, no homework, just an opportunity to learn about our faith. All are welcome.

### **The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass is Back!**

Are you celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the 2023? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, April 16, 2023 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 p.m. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if you require assistance). Registration will be available in early January at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

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