

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

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PARISH STAFF

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Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary



**Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.**

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

| Date | Time | Holy Mass | Parish Meetings |
|--|--|---|---|
| SUNDAY, January 3 Epiphany of the Lord | 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon | <i>LIVE STREAM</i> Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish (<i>ON LINE at 6:00 a.m.</i>) | <i>ON LINE ONLY</i> |
| MONDAY, January 4 | 9:00 a.m. | <i>Private</i> Daily Mass † Sam Passafiume | |
| TUESDAY, January 5 | 6:00 p.m. | Holy Hour - <i>CANCELLED</i> | |
| | 6-6:30 p.m. | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - <i>CANCELLED</i> | |
| | 7:00 p.m. | <i>Private</i> Daily Mass † Mrs. B. Cheek | |
| WEDNESDAY, January 6 | 9:00 a.m. | <i>Private</i> Daily Mass † Jerry Waskalik | |
| THURSDAY, January 7 | 9:00 a.m. | <i>Private</i> Daily Mass † Perfecto Vergel de Dios Jr. | |
| FRIDAY, January 8 | 9:00 a.m. | <i>Private</i> Daily Mass † Christopher Quinn † Souls in Purgatory (I) Greg & Lisa Morrison (I) John & Maria Branco & Family | |
| SATURDAY, January 9 | 4-4:30 p.m. | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - <i>CANCELLED</i> | |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Vigil Mass - Baptism of the Lord (<i>ON LINE at 6am Sunday</i>) <i>Offered for the Intentions of the Deceased Faithful:</i> John & Maria DaCosta; Ninetta D'Alfonso; Lorna Lagare; Elvira Testa & Riccardo Angelosi; Glenn Anderson. | This week's Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of George & Nina Busuttill. |

From the Pastor's Desk - Happy New Year!

Once again, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone! The Christmas season continues until we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on January 10th as we continue to celebrate the birth of the Lord! It has been a difficult Christmas given the lockdown restrictions, and the closure of many things including the church. But, let's remain hopeful! Life may be on a bit of a 'pause' right now, but Jesus continues to reign in our hearts. Although we can't currently be together at Mass we can certainly continue our prayer lives at home, and with the extra time we have perhaps even be able to spend more time in prayer, reading scripture and other spiritual reading. There are also many online Catholic resources that we can benefit from, including the online broadcast of our daily Gospel Reflections and the Sunday Mass. Let us all stay positive and be thankful for all that we have, and we continue to pray that we will all be able to gather again soon at the parish church to worship together! - Fr. Dave

The Provincial Lockdown and Churches – We are Closed

Many of you have naturally wondered how the province-wide lockdown announced by Premier Ford on December 21st affects Churches. The answer is that we are included in the lockdown effective Dec. 26th at 12:01am. This means

that we are closed for all public Masses until further notice. The current lockdown we are told will last for 28 days, but this of course could change. We will keep you posted through our website, Facebook and Twitter.

Office is Also Closed Until Further Notice

The provincial lockdown order includes the closure of our parish office as well. Although we will still be checking messages and working, the office will be closed except for necessary in-person appointments. All other ministry will be offered by phone, email or online video conference services.

The Building Is Closed, But We're Still Here!

Although the building will be closed during the lockdown, that doesn't mean that we're not here! Fr. Hayden and Fr. Dave will still be celebrating Mass daily for the scheduled intentions, and for the intentions of the parish. We will still post content online including the Sunday Mass, daily Gospel Reflections, and will work to offer more ways of engaging online. Further, we will still be offering ministry by phone, and are available for emergencies to offer the Sacrament of the Sick, abiding by the protocols of our hospitals, senior homes, and emergency visits to your personal homes. The building may be closed, but the Church is never closed!

Donations to the Parish During the Lockdown

We thank you for your continued generosity during these difficult months. It is so much appreciated in helping to keep all our bills paid! During the lockdown there are several options to continue making your offerings:

- 1) **Drop off your envelopes** (we have a locked mailbox outside the office door that is checked several times each day)
- 2) **Pre-Authorized Giving** - *'Set it, and forget it!'* Forms are available on the website to begin making donations automatically from your bank account through pre-authorized giving
- 3) **Donate Online** - there is a link on our website home page which allows you to make one-time donations with your credit card.

Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2021

For those that have not been able to pick up their Sunday Offering envelopes for 2021, let us know at the office. We have volunteers that will happily deliver them to your door!

Online Resources

We will continue to engage with the parish online. A list of links to online resources will be published on our parish website, including links to our Facebook, Twitter and Youtube channels. We can't currently gather in person, but we will certainly do all that we can do to stay in touch!

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 our ushers, cleaners, liturgical ministers, musicians, decorators – THANK YOU! We simply could not 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. You also went above and beyond to make our Christmas Mass celebrations so beautiful. A big thank you as well to our CWL, Knights of Columbus, Holy Cross HELPS and all of our ministries operating behind the scenes. And to all of our ministries that aren't able to operate right now but are eager to start up again when possible, thank you so much! As soon as we can gather again post-COVID, we look forward to celebrating your commitment with a great volunteer appreciation event!

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!

Subscribe to our Parish Bulletin by Email

Would you like to receive the parish bulletin each week by email? Send a message to holycrossgeorgetown@gmail.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Thank You!

For all of you that left cards and gifts for Fr. Dave, Fr. Hayden and for our parish staff over Christmas, a big thank you! It wasn't expected or necessary, but we very much appreciate you thinking of us!

Year End Donations

CRA regulations prevent us from accepting 2020 donations in 2021. Please note that all donations received or dated after December 31, 2020 will be credited to your 2021 donation receipt. Thank you.

2021 Weddings

Couples planning to marry in 2022 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.

Have You Recently Moved or Changed Your Contact Info?

If you have moved or changed your telephone number or email address in the last few months, kindly let us know at the parish office so we can update our records.

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