

St. Eugene's PARISH

232 Queenston Road, Hamilton ON L8K 1G6

905-549-2694 • steugeneschurch@cogeco.net • www.steugenesparish.ca

Pastoral Staff:

Father Peter Jurzyk, *Pastor*

Ms. Kim MacLellan, *Parish Secretary*

Mr. Arturo Maldonado, *Music Co-ordinator*



prepare the way...

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fourth Sunday of Advent	Time	Mass Intention	Diocesan Vocation Prayer Intention
Sunday December 24 th Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve	9:00am	✠ Mario Pilot	
	11:00am	For the People	
	6:00pm	For those who donated to the Christmas flowers	
Monday, December 25 th Christmas	Midnight 10:00am	Pastor's Intentions For the People	
Tuesday, December 26 th Feast of St. Stephen	10:00am	✠ Ted Zychowicz	Rev. Roshan D'Souza, O.C.D.
Wednesday, December 27 th St. John, Apostle, Evangelist	9:00am	✠✠ Catharine Hayes Frank & Marie Raftis Ernie & Adeline DiFrederico	Franciscan Fathers (O.F.M.)
Thursday, December 28 th The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	9:00am	✠ Saverina Barbaro	Rev. Lawrence Parent, O.F.M.
Friday, December 29 th	9:00am	✠ Anthony Vinken	Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski
Saturday, December 30 th Celebrating the Feast of The Holy Family	5:00pm	✠✠ Nghiep Giang & Thai Sao Ngoc Micky Dwyer Palma Restauri GianMartino DiMartino Margaret Cline Manuel Lucio Alfons Brandt Lucas & Magdalena Zarycki	Rev. Brian Quigley, M.C.C.J.

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends,

This year the 4th Sunday of Advent opens the fourth week of Advent and simultaneously concludes this season because tonight we will also celebrate the first Mass of Christmas. Last week I tried to turn our attention towards the Advent Antiphons and today I am doing so too. The Entrance Antiphon of the 4th Sunday of Advent contains a humble request to heavens: *"Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour"*. The Liturgy paraphrasing the words of the Prophet Isaiah compares the Saviour, who is to come, to dew and rain coming down. The earth is like a mother who is to give birth. We know that the earth without water becomes dry and unable to bear any fruit. It remains barren and infertile until rain and dew make it alive again. This metaphor well

pictures what happened to the people living before Christ and how they needed the Saviour. They longed for Christ as the dry earth awaits water. In this affectional way today's Liturgy prepares us for the mystery of the Nativity of the Lord and, saying more precisely, it tells us how to make this mystery present in our hearts. Our hearts are like the barren and infertile soil until the dew and rain from above come down and water them with the Divine grace. We not only celebrate the day when Jesus Christ was born but as well we want Him to be born again in our hearts and make His dwelling place there. On Christmas Day we tell each other our best wishes. This year I would like to wish all our parishioners and visitors to accept with joy this Divine Dew that is Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and to let Him dwell in our hearts, so that He may bestow upon us His precious gifts of love, hope and peace. Please, abundantly draw blessings from the Solemn Eucharist and His humble crib and bring them back to your homes, so your dwelling places may be filled

with the Divine Grace that is the best Christmas present.

I would like also to thank all those who have dedicated their time and skills to decorate our church for Christmas, who have donated to the flowers and who have sent to the parish and personally to me Christmas wishes. May the Newborn Child bless you all and keep you in His open arms.

God bless,
Fr. Peter

News From around the Diocese

The Christmas Mass on TV

For those who cannot make it to church, please join the Catholic Community this Christmas by watching the Daily TV Mass. Christmas Eve on Vision TV at 9:00pm and on yesTV at 10:00pm

Christmas Day at 8:00am and 12:00pm on Vision TV
11:00am on Salt + Light, 1:00pm on yesTV

For info : www.dailytvmass.com / info@nbc.ca or call 1-888-383-6277

From the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: www.hamiltonvocations.com

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!" ... and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton, at 905-528-7988 email: mking@hamiltondiocese.com

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

Something to consider during this busy season...

Rita McNeil's Christmas song titled, *With My Family*, has the following line: "All I want under my tree is peace and love and harmony." It is what we all want in our relationships, but it is important to ask ourselves what we are willing to do to get it. Will we take a peaceful approach to conflict, will we love the good pieces and the struggling pieces of our spouses and will we act in ways that bring us together in our decisions. The line

ends with, "Wrap it with a ribbon please, I'll share it with my family." What a great Christmas gift to your spouse – a promise to work on peace and love and harmony!

(from Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext 2250)

News from our Parish

Contribution envelopes for **2018** are available at the Parkdale doors of the church.

Please note: **Income Tax receipts for 2017 contributions** ~ all donations towards our parish **must** be received by Christmas Day 2017, (with cheques dated no later than December 25th 2017) to be recorded as a contribution for this year, **2017**. Any donations, in any form (cash or cheque) received after Christmas Day, will be recorded as a contribution towards 2018.

Our **Catholic Women's League** will hold a luncheon meeting on Sunday, January 7th 2018, after the 11am Mass. All ladies of the parish are welcome, and encouraged to attend.



Mass Schedule for Christmas

Sunday December 24th – 4th Sunday of Advent

Masses are Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 9am & 11am

Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24th - 6pm

Christmas: 12 Midnight and 10am Christmas Day

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph will be celebrated Saturday, December 30th with Mass at 5:00pm and Sunday, December 31st with Masses at 9:00am & 11:00am

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

will be celebrated with Mass on Sunday, December 31st at 5:00pm (New Year's Eve), and Monday, January 1st 2018, at 10:00am

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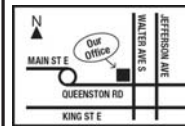
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