

St Michael Catholic Church

80 University Ave. W., (at Hemlock Street) Waterloo, ON N2L 3C7

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Parish Office email: parish@stmichaelw.ca

 @StMikesWaterloo  @StMikesWaterloo

Father Pawel Jamroz, Pastor email: pastor@stmichaelw.ca



Feast of the Holy Family

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



*“Do not be afraid, for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord”
(Lk 2: 10-11).*

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, I pray that the remembrance of Christ's birth brings you much peace and hope. This year Christmas comes with challenges, but also countless opportunities to share the hope of the Gospel. Thank you for bringing hope and faith to those in need.

On behalf of myself and the parish staff, I wish you and your families all the many blessings of Christmas and a grace-filled New Year!

Pax Christi,

Fr. Pawel Jamroz

WELCOME HOME TO ST. MICHAEL PARISH

Welcome, we are really glad you're here! Whether exploring, struggling or looking for a new Church Home - we extend a warm welcome to our parish and pray that you feel at home. Please introduce yourself and consider becoming a member of our Family of Faith.



Tuesday, December 28, 2021

7:00 pm + Katharina Bortscher - Charlotte Wilson & Family
+ Esther Holmberg - The Family

7:30 pm Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

12:15 pm + Leslie Molnar, Jr. - Rita Molnar
+ Special Intentions of Glenn Snyder
- Arlene Kenrick

Thursday, December 30, 2021

12:15 pm + Special Intentions of Linda Kenrick & Family
- Arlene Kenrick
+ Special Intentions of Wendy Kenrick & Family
- Arlene Kenrick

Friday, December 31, 2021

New Year's Eve no 8:00 am Mass

Mass at 5 pm - + Special Intentions of Wanda & Wally
Rowcliffe & Family - Arlene Kenrick
+ Special Intentions of Gail Snyder
- Arlene Kenrick

Saturday, January 1, 2022

New Year's Day no 5:00 pm Mass

Mass at 9 am and 11 am

Public Masses have resumed

We may welcome the number of people we can accommodate with two metres of social distance between individuals/households. All who participate in the liturgy are to wear masks.

Sunday Homilies Online

Sunday homilies are available weekly online in audio version through our parish website - just click on the button 'LISTEN TO HOMILY'.

Sunday Missals

Sunday and Children's Sunday missals are now available for the new liturgical year. They are \$5 for the Sunday Missal and \$10 for the Children's Missal and are available at the main doors of the church. In order to limit contact, please have exact change. Missals can also be purchased at the parish office Monday-Friday 9 am - 4:30 pm.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed December 27 and 28 and will close at 4:00 pm on December 31.

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE JESUS' BIRTH ON DECEMBER 25?

As we do not know the exact date of Jesus' birth, the date of December 25th for Christmas may have been arbitrary. The Church could have chosen another date on which to celebrate the birth of Christ. One reason December 25th may have been deemed suitable is its proximity to the winter solstice. After that date, the days start to become longer and thus it is at the beginning of a season of light entering the world. **"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life"** (Jn 8:12). (www.catholic.com).

Christmas Season Mass Times

New Year's Eve

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Friday, December 31 at 5 pm

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Saturday, January 1 at 9 am and 11 am

(Note: no 5 pm Mass on Saturday, January 1)

Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 2 at 9 am, 11 am and 7 pm

Year End Giving

A reminder that only donations received at the parish prior to December 31st, 2021, can be applied for income tax credit for 2021.

You can also donate online through the parish website at <https://www.stmichaelw.ca/donate>. **Please note that online donations must be made by December 29, 2021 to be applied to the 2021 tax year.**

If you are donating on December 30 or 31, the Diocese has provided all parishes with a secure, online giving option through www.canadahelps.org. This allows you to make a donation directly to St. Michael Parish and receive a tax receipt from Canada Helps instantly. You may search St. Michael Parish, Waterloo or click on the following link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450R0014-st-michaels-parish/?sm=1>

Thank you for your generosity toward the financial needs of our parish.



DIocese of HAMILTON

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH - Marriage Tip 115 - Intentional divorce and conscience uncoupling are two terms becoming popular in North American vernacular, but what we should be promoting is intentional marriage and conscience coupling. The research is clear that couples can take steps to remain and even deepen their love. Consciously making the decision to spend time together, to share our deepest feelings (good and bad), to use touch throughout the day, to make date-night (however that looks) a priority will build your couple relationship. Looking for moments of gratitude and thanking your spouse will increase the loving bond between you. This Christmas make conscience coupling your gift to each other; it may be the best gift you will ever receive!

YOUTH MINISTRY CERTIFICATION AND ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

- The Diocese of Hamilton is pleased to have The University of Dayton: Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) as a partner in adult faith formation. The VLCFF is a living adult faith community offering online learning opportunities to address the learning needs of adults in our Diocese. Whether taking courses for professional development in ministry or for personal nourishment, the VLCFF provides a breadth of opportunity for learning including full certificate programs, five-week online courses and three-week intensive online seminars. The Youth Ministry office is now accepting applications for Youth Ministry Certification with courses beginning in January. For more information visit the Hamilton Diocese learns web page: <https://www.hamiltondioceselearns.com/> or contact the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis: (905) 528-7988 ext. 2339 or catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com.

Christmas Message from Bishop Crosby

Please go to <https://hamiltondiocese.com/letters/2021/December/2021-christmas-message> to read Bishop Crosby Christmas Message.



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