St. Louis Catholic Church

53 Allen Street East, Waterloo ON N2J 1J3 Tel: 519-743-4101

Email: stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com Web site: www.saintlouisparish.ca Served by the Congregation of the Resurrection since 1890.

Office hours: Monday – Thursday 9 - 12 and 1-4, Friday 9 - 12

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. Rosary: Tuesday to Friday before 9:00 a.m. Mass

Sunday Masses: Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday:

9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.



Pastor Father Phil Reilly, C.R.

preilly@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Secretary

Anna Malton stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com

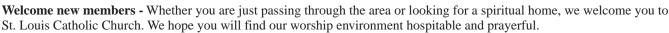
Coordinator of Youth and **Children's Ministries**

Kelly Krause

kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com



Doug Lichty



People often attend Mass at a parish for months or years without officially registering. Registration here at St. Louis is an expression of your commitment to being an active member of our community. Parish registration simplifies the process with regard to sponsoring a sacramental candidate; obtaining pastoral references and for preparation of baptisms, weddings and funerals. Registration is easy and can be completed at the Parish Office during regular office hours. Registration forms are available at the back of the Church.

Parish Records - Our parish records are very important. We try to keep them up to date. Please advise the office of any changes.

Music in the Liturgy - Music plays an integral role in the liturgical life of the parish. Parishioners are invited to join our choirs. Please contact the choir directors:

9:30 Choir - Bob Reinhart (robertreinhart182@msn.com),

11:30 Choir - Donna McLellan (donna-ipad@hotmail.com),

5:00 Choir - Peter DeSousa (organist) or Youth Music.

Sunday programs for children - During the Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. Mass there is babysitting for children under 3 years of age, Sunday School for 3 to 6 years of age and Children's Liturgy of the Word for children ages 7 and up.

Sacramental Life - St. Louis Parish celebrates the sacraments for its members who are registered and regularly attending. If you are not registered you are automatically a member of a parish closest to you.

Baptism - Celebrated once a month. Please speak with a priest after Mass on Sunday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturdays 4 - 4:30 p.m., or by appointment.

Marriage - For registered and supporting members, please contact the parish office at least one year in advance of your date.

Becoming Catholic - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, preparing adults for baptism and/or to join the community. Please contact the office for further information.

Anointing and Pastoral Care - Our parish community cares about the sick and elderly and the lonely. Please notify the parish office to arrange for them to receive the Annointing of the Sick, or to have the Holy Communion brought to them.

Pastoral Care to those in Hospital - A family member is asked to contact the parish whenever a parishioner is in hospital and requests a pastoral visit, or Sacrament of the Sick (Annointing).

Priesthood and Religious Life - Is God calling you to religious life, as a Brother, Deacon or Priest? If so, please contact the Vocation Director for the Congregation of the Resurrection, at crvocations@gmail.com or www.resurrectionist.ca

Diocesan Newsletter - For information about Activities and Events of interest in the Diocese of Hamilton, subscribe to the online Diocesan Newsletter at www.hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Organizations and Contacts:

Finance Council

Terry Collins, 519-741-1534

Maintenance Committee

2021

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Bob Lorentz, 519-576-5556

OOTC Community Suppers

Keith & Sharon Schnarr 519-801-8687

Parish Webmaster

Daniel Delattre, daniel@uwaterloo.ca

Altar Servers Coordinator Dave Pagett, 519-744-7705

Catechesis Of The Good Shepherd, **Youth Ministry**

Kelly Krause, 519-743-4101

Catholic Women's League

Donna Herbstreit, 519-884-9380 donna.marie2000@icloud.com

Ministry to the Elderly & Homebound

Cecilia Beechey, 519-572-5435

Prayer Shawl Ministry Sandra Williams, 519-742-9239

Prayer Chain

Sharon Carey, 519-746-8073

St. Vincent De Paul For food hamper or more information call 519-743-4101





9:00 AM To Bring Our Loved Ones Home to the Church

Wednesday, December 15

78 - 1

9:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received by the Family of Kerwin Ganouri - Esther McKinnon

Thursday, December 16

9:00 AM † Anne Malton – Anna & Andrew Malton & Family

Friday, December 17

9:00 AM † Alex McKinnon – Esther McKinnon

Saturday, December 18

Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00 PM † Wilfred Stanley – John & Sharon Carey

† Wanda Hadenko – Family

† Christopher Pope – Maggie & Peter Fioravanti Intentions of Nicole Larocque – Loretta Potvin & Family

Sunday, December 19 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM People of St. Louis Parish

11:30 AM † Stella & Edward Hrycyk – Their Family

† David Kirby – Kirby Family

Intentions of Wendy Ayoung-Chee - Amanda Ayoung-

Chee

Deceased Members of Reitzel Family - Audrey Reitzel & Family

Reflections on the First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14 – 18a

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally celebrated as Gaudete ("rejoice") Sunday. In the liturgy for this day, which is at the midpoint of Advent, the theme is joy and gladness as we anticipate the celebration of Christ's coming.

In today's first reading, we hear from the Prophet Zephaniah, who preached during the reign of King Josiah (ruled 640 - 609 BC) of Judah. It was a time of political turmoil, when Assyria's power was beginning to wane and Egypt, which was allied with Assyria, was trying to keep its empire from collapsing. Babylon was quickly moving to fill the power vacuum, and there sat tiny Judah in the middle. In the first part of this book, Zephaniah writes a lot about the Day of the Lord, meaning judgment day. He rails against Judah for its idol worship, and he delivers several oracles or threats against nations that were traditional enemies of Judah.

However, in the last part of the book, which includes today's reading, Zephaniah's oracles of doom become powerful and consoling words of hope and promise, especially for Jerusalem, also known as Zion or Daughter Zion. The Prophet delivers a call to joy by saying that Jerusalem should rejoice as God rejoices over its people and showers love upon them. Jerusalem no longer needs to be discouraged or afraid, because God, her saviour, has vanquished its enemies. Moreover, twice in this short reading, Zephaniah declares that God dwells (present tense) among the chosen people. If we let this reality truly sink into our consciousness, we can do nothing else but be overwhelmed with joy. (From the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word)

St. Louis Youth Group (Grade 6 & up): Our next meeting: Dec. 17 from 7-9 PM in the Large Hall. All are welcome to come.



CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Fri.	December 24	Christmas Eve – 5 PM & 8 PM (No 9 AM Mass)		
Sat.	December 25	Christmas Day – 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM		
		(No 5 PM Sunday Vigil Mass)		
Sun.	December 26	Holy Family – 9:30 Aм & 11:30 Aм		
Mon.	December 27	No Mass		
Tue.	December 28	9 AM Mass		
Wed.	December 29	9 AM Mass		
Thu.	December 30	9 AM Mass		
Fri.	December 31	NY Eve – Vigil of Mary, Mother of God – 5 PM		
Sat.	January 1	NY Day – Mary, Mother of God – 9:30 AM only		
		(No 11:30 AM or 5 PM Sunday Vigil Mass)		
Sun.	January 2	Epiphany – 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM		
Mon.	January 3	No Mass		
Tue.	January 4	9 AM Mass - Regular schedule resumes		

Reservations are required for December 24th & 25th Masses. Reservation requests are available from the church, or the office. No on-line reservation. Tickets will be available for pickup from Dec.11th.



St. Louis Children's Babysitting during 9:30 AM Mass. We are looking for more volunteers for Babysitting. You would be committing to helping once a month. If you are able to help,

please contact Kelly Krause at the parish office: 519-743-4101.

First Communion classes will begin in the New Year, starting Wed., January 26th from 6 PM - 7:30 PM. First Communion will take place on May 1st. If you have a child who is in grade 2 and would like to have their sacrament here at St. Louis parish, please phone the office and register with Kelly Krause.



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org



Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? Contact Most Rev. W. Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop

and Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton 905-528-7988, vocations@hamiltondiocese.com, or Fr. Raphael Ma, Congregation of the Resurrection Vocation Director, at crvocations@gmail.com, or Carmel of St. Joseph, St. Agatha at 519-884-6700.

WE ARE OPEN: (Waterloo Knights of Columbus) Friday Knight Fish Fry Dine in: please contact Martin at 519-884-2060 to reserve your place. To order take-out, call Derek at 226-748-8378 by 4 PM on Friday. PICK UP TIMES: 4:30 - 6 PM; 1 PC

\$15, 2 PC \$18 - Tax incl.

Wednesday Knight Take-Out of Spaghetti & Meatballs or Lasagna dinner with Garlic bread (Tax Incl.) for \$13.25 per person. Call Martin at 519-884-2060 to order up to 4 PM. Pickup times 4:30 - 6 PM.



Saint Lucy's Story - Every little girl named Lucy must bite her tongue in disappointment when she first tries to find out what there is to know about her patron saint. The older books will have a lengthy paragraph detailing a small

number of traditions. Newer books will have a lengthy paragraph showing that there is little basis in history for these traditions. The single fact survives that a disappointed suitor accused Lucy of being a Christian, and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304. But it is also true that her name is mentioned in the First Eucharistic Prayer, geographical places are named after her, a popular song has her name as its title, and down through the centuries many thousands of little girls have been proud of the name Lucy.

One can easily imagine what a young Christian woman had to contend with in pagan Sicily in the year 300. If you have trouble imagining, just glance at today's pleasure-at-all-costs world and the barriers it presents against leading a good Christian life.

Her friends must have wondered aloud about this hero of Lucy's, an obscure itinerant preacher in a far-off captive nation that had been destroyed more than 200 years before. Once a carpenter, he had been crucified by the Romans after his own people turned him over to their authority. Lucy believed with her whole soul that this man had risen from the dead. Heaven had put a stamp on all he said and did. To give witness to her faith she had made a vow of virginity.

What a hubbub this caused among her pagan friends! The kindlier ones just thought her a little strange. To be pure before marriage was an ancient Roman ideal, rarely found, but not to be condemned. To exclude marriage altogether, however, was too much. She must have something sinister to hide, the tongues wagged.

Lucy knew of the heroism of earlier virgin martyrs. She remained faithful to their example and to the example of the carpenter, whom she knew to be the Son of God. She is the patroness of eyesight. (From franciscanmedia.org)

Lucy from Narni(a) - Perhaps we all know of Lucy Pevensie, the little girl who was the first to dare to pass through the wardrobe that led to Narnia, and who would later be crowned as one of the queens of the land, with the title Lucy the Valiant.

C.S. Lewis gave the name Lucy to his character in recognition of his friend Owen Barfield, whose daughter had the name and was Lewis' godchild. But that wasn't the only source of his inspiration. It was also a homage to one of the great Italian mystics, Lucia Brocadelli.



Brocadelli, in fact, was born in Narni — yes, you read that right, in Narni — a town between Assisi and Rome that in the times of the emperor Nerva, who reigned from 96 to 98 AD and was also born in Narni, was known as Narnia.

Blessed Lucia Brocadelli, better known as Lucia of Narni, was a Dominican tertiary with profound mystical experiences. She had the stigmata, meaning she had the wounds of Christ on her body, like Francis of Assisi and Padre Pio. And she had visions of the Virgin Mary and St. Dominic when she was just a girl.

Lucia wanted to become a Dominican nun, but the premature death of her father led her uncle to arrange a marriage for her. Lucia was betrothed to the count Pietro de Milan, who agreed to let Lucia keep her vow of chastity.

Thus was fulfilled in Lucia what the Virgin had promised her: that she would be like Her, married and a virgin.

In time, Lucia did join a convent and her husband, in fact, did the same, taking the Franciscan habit. (From aleteia.org)

St. John of the Cross' Story (June 24, 1542 – December 14, 1591) - John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: "of the Cross." The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John's life. The Paschal Mystery—through death to life—strongly marks John as reformer, mystic-poet, and theologian-priest.

Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at age 25, John met Teresa of Avila and like her, vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. As partner with Teresa and in his own right, John engaged in the work of reform, and came to experience the price of reform: increasing opposition, misunderstanding, persecution, imprisonment. He came to know the cross acutely—to experience the dying of Jesus—as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God.

Yet, the paradox! In this dying of imprisonment John came to life, uttering poetry. In the darkness of the dungeon, John's spirit came into the Light. There are many mystics, many poets; John is unique as mystic-poet, expressing in his prison-cross the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the Spiritual Canticle.

But as agony leads to ecstasy, so John had his Ascent to Mt. Carmel, as he named it in his prose masterpiece. As man-Christian-Carmelite, he experienced in himself this purifying ascent; as spiritual director, he sensed it in others; as psychologist-theologian, he described and analyzed it in his prose writings. His prose works are outstanding in underscoring the cost of discipleship, the path of union with God: rigorous discipline, abandonment, purification. Uniquely and strongly John underlines the gospel paradox: The cross leads to resurrection, agony to ecstasy, darkness to light, abandonment to possession, denial to self to union with God. If you want to save your life, you must lose it. John is truly "of the Cross." He died at 49—a life short, but full. St. John of the Cross is the Patron Saint of Mystics.

Reflection - In his life and writings, John of the Cross has a crucial word for us today. We tend to be rich, soft, comfortable. We shrink even from words like self-denial, mortification, purification, asceticism, discipline. We run from the cross. John's message—like the gospel—is loud and clear: Don't—if you really want to live!



Crucifix drawn by St. John of the Cross after a mystical revelation. (From franciscanmedia.org and alateia.org)

"O" Antiphons: During the final days of Advent, anticipation heightens as the birth of the Saviour draws nearer. This anticipation is marked by something special in the prayers of the Liturgy of the Hours. (Antiphons are short sentences sung or chanted before the recitation of a psalm or canticle.) The antiphons of Evening Prayer (Dec. 17 – 23) welcome the birth of the Saviour by heralding one of His resplendent Biblical titles: Wisdom, Lord of Israel, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, King of All Nations, and Emmanuel, as foreshadowed in the Old Testament by the prophet Isaiah. Each antiphon begins with the exclamation "O", which is why they are called the "O Antiphons." Additionally, the ancient monks who first assembled the O Antiphons were very creative with the order in which they were prayed. If you take the first letter of each antiphon (in the Latin) and read them from last to first, the word ERO CRAS is spelled, which translates: "Tomorrow I will come." (Excerpt from catholiccompany.com)

Date	Sunday	Christ.	Loose	Pre Auth.
Dec. 12	\$ 3353.00	\$ 70.00	\$107.00	\$ 2515.77

Thank you!



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