

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 p.m.
Summer hours (Canada Day to Labour Day): Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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.



Pastoral Team:

Pastor
Father Phil Reilly, C.R.
preilly@hamiltondiocese.com

**Coordinator of Youth and
Children's Ministries**
Kelly Krause
kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Secretary
Anna Malton
stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com

Custodian
Doug Lichty

Welcome new members - Whether you are just passing through the area or looking for a spiritual home, we welcome you to St. Louis Catholic Church. We hope you will find our worship environment hospitable and prayerful. 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)

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 Anointing 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 (Anointing).

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 resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com or www.resurrectionists.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
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



2025 – YEAR OF JUBILEE – PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS

Monday, February 3 – No Mass			
9 – 11:30 AM	Pickle Ball	Gym	
5:30 – 6:45 PM	Good Shepherd Catechesis	Nursery	
7 PM	SVDP Exec Meeting	Nursery	
7:30 – 9 PM	Bible Study – Revelation 3/11	L. Hall	
Tuesday, February 4			
9:00 AM	† Louise Lefebvre – Betty & Paul Gross		
9:30 AM	Book Group	L. Hall	
7:00 AM	Painting with Kelly	L. Hall	
Wednesday, February 5 – St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr			
9:00 AM	† Patrick Noronha – Noronha Family		
9 AM – NOON	Pickle Ball	Gym	
7:00 PM	† Rose Marie Gross – CWL Mass		
7:30 PM	CWL Meeting	L. Hall	
Thursday, Feb. 6, St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs			
9:00 AM	† Helen Ball – Cecilia Beechey		
6 – 7 PM	First Communion Preparation	Nursery	
Friday, February 7			
9:00 AM	† Norma Topsy Luftus – Larry Ertel		
9 AM – NOON	Pickle Ball	Gym	
Saturday, February 8			
NOON	Set up for the potluck/ceili	Gym	
Vigil of The 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time			
5:00 PM	† Walter & Kaye Hartman – Children		
	† Al Enns – Giselle Potvin		
	† Dan Hanlon – Pat & Joan Forde		
	† Carol Schneider – Ron Schneider		
6 PM	Potluck	Gym & L. Hall	
7 – 10 PM	Ceili	Gym	
Sunday, February 9 – The 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time			
9:30 AM	† Nick & Katie Gengler – Ruetz Family		
	† Tony Yolkowski – John & Sharon Carey		
	† Phyllis Ertel – Larry Ertel		
	† Mary Smith – St. Louis Prayer Chain		
10:30 AM	Coffee Time	L. Hall	
11:30 AM	People of St. Louis Parish		
4:30 PM	OOTC Community Supper	Gym	

Reflection on the First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4

Malachi is the last book of a collection called the Twelve Prophets, who are also known as the Minor Prophets. The title of the book, *mal'āki* (in Hebrew), means “my messenger” or “my angel,” but it is unclear if it is a proper name or merely a title referring to an anonymous author. This short book, which concludes the Old Testament, consists of six oracles dating from the early post-exilic era (cs. 500 BC). While Malachi shares prophetic concerns with the pre-exilic prophets (idolatry, easy divorce, social justice), his focus on the reconstructed Second Temple, the priesthood, and the system of sacrificial worship clearly identifies him as a post-exilic Prophet. For Christians, Malachi is an important bridge between the OT and NT, especially due to the way the Gospels connect Malachi's reference to Elijah with John the Baptist as the forerunner of the Messiah.

Today's reading, from the fourth oracle speaks of “my messenger” who prepares the day of God's visitation. There are four named figures in the passage: “my messenger”, “the Lord”, “the messenger of the covenant” and “Lord of hosts”. Understanding who these four figures are will help to understand this passage. A careful reading reveals that the oracle is spoken by God, who is identified as “I”, “the Lord” and “the Lord of hosts.” It is also clear the “my messenger” is a human agent sent by God. What is unclear is the

“Hope does not disappoint” (Rm 5:5) is the theme of the Jubilee that the pope has proclaimed, making the year 2025 a Holy Year. Now “the first sign of hope should be the desire for peace in our world, which once more finds itself immersed in the - tragedy of war.... May the Jubilee remind us that those who are peacemakers will be called children of God (Mt 5:9).” (From *Spes non confundit - Bull of Indiction for the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025*)

The Story of the Presentation of the Lord

At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her journal, discovered in 1887, gives an unprecedented glimpse of liturgical life there. Among the celebrations she describes is the Epiphany, the observance of Christ's birth, and the gala procession in honor of his Presentation in the Temple 40 days later. Under the Mosaic Law, a woman was ritually “unclean” for 40 days after childbirth, when she was to present herself to the priests and offer sacrifice—her “purification.” Contact with anyone who had brushed against mystery—birth or death—excluded a person from Jewish worship. This feast emphasizes Jesus' first appearance in the Temple more than Mary's purification.

The observance spread throughout the Western Church in the 5th and 6th centuries. Because the Church in the West celebrated Jesus' birth on December 25, the Presentation was moved to February 2, 40 days after Christmas.

At the beginning of the 8th century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemas.

Reflection: In Luke's account, Jesus was welcomed in the temple by two elderly people, Simeon and the widow Anna. They embody Israel in their patient expectation; they acknowledge the infant Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah. Early references to the Roman feast dub it the feast of Saint Simeon, the old man who burst into a song of joy which the Church still sings at day's end. (From franciscanmedia.org)

Saint Agatha's Story (c. 230 – 251)

As in the case of Agnes, another virgin-martyr of the early Church, almost nothing is historically certain about this saint except that she was martyred in Sicily during the persecution of Emperor Decius in 251 AD. Legend has it that Agatha, like Agnes, was arrested as a Christian, tortured, and sent to a house of prostitution to be mistreated. She was preserved from being violated, and was later put to death.

She is claimed as the patroness of both Palermo and Catania. The year after her death, the stilling of an eruption of Mt. Etna was attributed to her intercession. As a result, apparently, people continued to ask her prayers for protection against fire.

Reflection: The scientific modern mind winces at the thought of a volcano's might being contained by God because of the prayers of a Sicilian girl. Still less welcome, probably, is the notion of that saint being the patroness of such varied professions as those of foundry workers, nurses, miners and Alpine guides. Yet, in our historical precision, have we lost an essential human quality of wonder and poetry, and even our belief that we come to God by helping each other, both in action and prayer? Saint Agatha is the Patron Saint of: Healing from Diseases of the Breast, Nurses (From franciscanmedia.org)

identity of the “messenger of the covenant.” Most scholars view the identity of the “messenger of the covenant” as God, who is the refiner and purifier and will “purify the sons of Levi” so that they might offer the right worship. The image of purification and refinement is connected by Christians with the message of John the Baptist. John announces the coming of the mightier one – the incarnate God, Jesus – whose Baptism will purify and refine. (From *Workbook for Lectors*)

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD – FEBRUARY 2, 2025



First Communion Preparation Classes - If you have a child in gr. 2 and would like them to receive the Sacrament of First Communion here at St. Louis parish, classes started Thursday, January 30th, 6 PM - 7 PM.

The First Communion will take place on Sunday, May 4th at 9:30 AM. Please contact Kelly Krause at the parish office to register.



Our next **CWL General Meeting** will take place on Wednesday, February 5th beginning with Mass at 7PM. Following Mass, we will meet in the Large Hall for refreshments and to hear our Guest Speaker Cecilia Beechey speak to us about the Ministry of the Elderly and our upcoming Senior Fair. ALL parishioners are invited to this presentation. We will finish the evening with a brief meeting. Please join us and bring a friend!



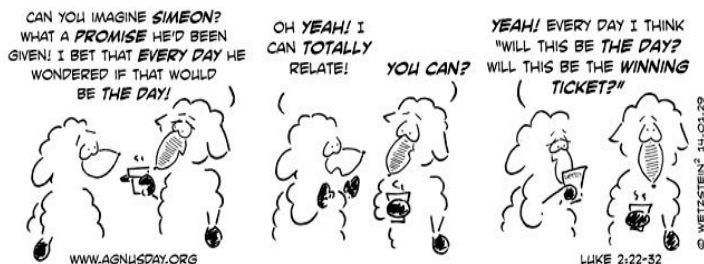
VBS Camp – July 14-18, 2025. If you helped in the past or are interested in helping this year, we are in need of volunteers. We are looking for adults and teens to help run the camp. To get more information please come to our first meeting – Wednesday, February 12th at 7PM in the Nursery. We will discuss the theme, whether we can run a full day, or a half day camp, and who is comfortable doing what roles within the camp. Any young adults or teens thinking about helping out, I really need you to come to this meeting. We have many roles for you and I need to know I have enough help to make the camp a great success.

ALPHA 2025 at St. Mark's Parish, 55 Driftwood Dr., Kit. **Thursdays, Feb. 20 to May 1, 6:30 to 9:15 PM.** Alpha is an 11-week program that brings adults together for conversations about life, faith and Jesus. It's an opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting. We start each session with a delicious home-made meal. After dinner, we watch a video and then break into small groups for discussion. All are welcome! For more info. or to sign up, contact Ron Denomme at stmarkalpha@gmail.com or 226-748-3210.

You are invited to a nine week **Christian Life Program** sponsored by Couples For Christ and its Family ministries at St. John's RC Church hall, 85 Strange St. Kit. Thursdays Feb. 6th to April 3rd inclusive. Dinner 6 PM, program 7 PM to 9 PM. Opened to Christian married couples, single women and men, widows and widowers and those separated or divorced. At the same time we offer a Children's program for those 12 years and under. There is no fee. Be enriched by talks on topics: *God's Love, Repentance and Faith, Transformation in Christ.* To register or more info. contact Len or Marie Solomon at 519 744 5198.

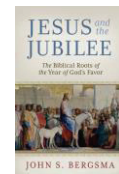
Sunday	Maintenance	Loose	Initial	PAD
2230.00	52.00	292.90	20.00	2178.61

Thank you for your donations on Jan 26



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

Book Group meets on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM (after the morning Mass at 9 AM) in the Large Hall. Meetings run for an hour. On February 4th (Delayed by 1 week) are starting a new book by John Bergsma "*Jesus and the Jubilee – The Biblical Roots of the Year of God's Favor*". In this book John Bergsma gets to the roots of the jubilee, showing how this practice was established in order to preserve freedom, family, and the fullness of God's blessing for the ancient Israelites. Discover how the jubilee is the very center of Jesus's mission and how we can fully participate in this ongoing "year of favour." Jubilee means joy—a joy that's not fleeting, a joy that lasts. We read the book together at the meetings and discuss what we read. No homework. Come when you can. Refreshments provided.



The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass – Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? You are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 1, 2025 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 PM. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is found under Upcoming Events on the home page at hamiltondiocese.com.

Prayer Vigil - Thursday, February 6, from 10 - 11 AM opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St. E., Kitchener, for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking - across the road, Schneider Park.

New availability in Catholic Retirement Home - Seniors are welcome to tour Marian Residence near Shantz Hill in Cambridge. This is a wonderful option for clean and comfortable living in a quiet residential area. Three homemade meals are served each day in a friendly atmosphere. Residents are welcome to participate in the rosary and daily Mass in the chapel. Marian Residence is home to many Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate, who live onsite and operate this special place with supportive and qualified staff. Please email info@marianresidence.ca or call 519-653-0363 to arrange a tour.



To celebrate 135 years of St. Louis Parish
Potluck – Ceili – Games Night with a Medieval Theme

Saturday, February 8th at St. Louis Gym
No tickets required - Free will offering

Wear a Medieval costume, if you wish.

4:30 PM – 5:45 PM Children Games

6 PM – Potluck dinner (Non-licensed)

7 - 10 PM – Ceili Dances from Irish, Scottish & English Traditions

Bring indoor shoes, water bottle & mess kit



Featuring: SHANE COOK (fiddle) & Mika McCairley (piano) (NEW!)

Guest performance by Medieval Singers around 8:30 PM

7-10 PM – Board & card games in the Hall
For more info. contact parish office.



ATTENTION: Help is needed with the set-up of the GYM on Saturday Feb. 8th at NOON. Please contact the parish office to let us know that you are able to do so!

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