

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),

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 Fr. Dan Lobsinger, C.R., 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 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 **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



LOW

GLUTEN

OSTS

MASS INTENTIONS

Mondav. March 1 – No Mass

Tuesday, March 2

9:00 AM To Bring Our Loved Ones Home to the Church – Monday Lunch & Learn Group

Wednesday, March 3

For Deceased Benefactors and Members of the 9:00am Congregation of the Resurrection

Thursday, March 4

9:00AM Intentions of Danielle Hayhurst – Cecilia Beechey

Friday, March 5

9:00 AM Intentions of Eleanor Horrigan – Cecilia Beechey 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 6

Vigil of Third Sunday in Lent

5:00 рм † Edna Ertel – Phyllis & Larry Ertel † Patrick Crabbe - Rosemary & Shaun MacNeil

Sunday, March 7 – Third Sunday in Lent

- 9:30am + Krystyna Kowalska – Malton Family Intentions of Danielle Pilon – Cecilia Beechey + Patricia Hamilton - James Doyle Sr.
- 11:30AM People of St. Louis Parish

Reflections on the First Reading: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18:

The reading from the Book of Genesis today, known traditionally by the title "The Binding of Isaac," clearly depicts why Abraham is known as the "Father of Faith." For anyone who hears the account of God demanding Abraham to sacrifice his beloved son, the movement of this tale is horrific. Yet from the beginning to the end of this scene, there seems to be a complete absence of emotion. Abraham's response to God in the words "Here I am" seems to be devoid of any feeling whatsoever. We might struggle with the question of why Abraham did not struggle to defend his son's life.

In reading these lines from Genesis, it is important to keep in mind all that Isaac represents. Not only does he exist to garner the affection between a father and a son, but he stands as the gateway to the future. Since God had promised the aged Abraham that he would carve out a great nation from among all of Abraham's descendants (Gen. 12:2), the death of Isaac would almost certainly nullify God's covenant with Abraham. Thus, in the act of sacrificing his son, Abraham would not only lose his family; destroyed as well would be the future of the people to whom God had pledged his faithfulness.

God summons Abraham to make his sacrifice at the location of Mount Moriah. Mountains in the Old Testament are understood to be sacred sites that provided a worthy setting for God's revelation. When Abraham ascends the mountain with his son, God is able once again to speak words of blessing. God accepts Abraham's obedient faith and provides the ram by which Abraham is able to offer an oblation. Then God reiterates his promise to make of Abraham a great nation, with "your offspring as numerous as the starts of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore." From this mountain of blessing, God makes it certain that all of the world shall behold his greatness. (From the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word)

Churches are re-opened and Masses are celebrated with the faithful for up to 30% capacity. Office is open by appointment during regular hours. Bulletins are published on-line only.

Sunday School & Liturgy of the Word (ages 3-

10) – is a little different this Winter! Join Teacher Kelly every Sunday morning at 10:30 AM for on-



line Sunday school session. We explore our church calendar, sing songs and read the Gospel together where we take away a few important points from the reading. Kelly has a link for a children's bulletin that is full of fun information and ongoing activities. Would like to get involved? Email Kelly (kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com) to get the link to our virtual Sunday school. Join us to learn more about your faith!

St. Louis Youth Group (Gr. 6 – 12) is meeting on-line twice a month on Friday nights. Contact Kelly for more information.

If you need examples of persons responding to God's call, look at Abraham and Sarah called in old age to leave their country Pray and have a child. Then Abraham was asked to sacrifice that child. What faith! Answering God's call to be a priest, brother, sister or deacon is also taking a great risk. If you are willing and think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, contact Most Rev. Wayne Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop and Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton vocations@hamiltondiocese.com, 905-528-7988, or Fr. Toby Collins, CR, Vocation Director, at crvocations@gmail.com, or Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha at 519-884-6700.

Prayer Vigil - Thursday, March 4, from 9:00 to 10:00 AM in front of 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. Any gueries, please contact Cathy at: kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com Note: We will all observe 2 meters distancing.

Plans to start a Women's Faith Group (of all ages) at St. Louis Parish are underway. The Dynamic Women of Faith group out of Mississauga will be assisting in launching this group. In the meantime we are bringing to your attention the following two conferences with excellent speakers. Please check the links below and be encouraged to connect with other women in enriching our faith.



Dynamic Women of Faith presents on Saturday, March 6, Annual conference (delivered via zoom) in the Archdiocese of Toronto for Catholic Women. Keynote speakers: Dr. Carrie Gress and Dr. Josephine Lombardi. The theme of the conference is "Rebuilding

Civilization, One Woman at a Time." For

more info. or to register go to:

dvnamicwomenfaith.com



Women's Conference is a FREE virtual event for Catholic women of all ages. This year, we will be exploring all the ways that we as women can open ourselves to receive Christ's peace. Despite the pressures that we feel in life, peace is possible! Let's explore it together.



The free event goes March 12-14. Register

today at

go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021

Anniversary Mass 2021 Registration - The Anniversary Mass scheduled for June of 2021 has been cancelled due to restrictions and concerns around COVID-19. We invite you to register your 25, 40, 50, 60 and 60 plus years of marriage on the Diocesan website at www.hamiltondiocese.com. The Anniversary Mass is listed on the home page - click on the icon and you can register your anniversary. We will send you the certificate you would have received from Bishop Crosby at the Mass.

FEBRUARY 28, 2021



Lent is the forty-day liturgical season of fasting, special prayer and almsgiving in preparation for Easter. The name "Lent" is from the Middle English "Lencten." meaning spring; its more primitive ecclesiastical name was the "forty days," "quadragesima" in Latin or "tessaracoste" in Greek. The number "forty" is

first noted in the Canons of Nicaea (A.D. 325), likely in imitation of Jesus' fast in the desert before His public ministry (with Old Testament precedent in Moses and Elijah). By the fourth century, in most of the West, it referred to six days' fast per week of six weeks (Sundays were excluded).

(From simplycatholic.com)

The three disciplines of Lent are fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

What is fasting and why is it important? Today, people talk about fasting in different ways, often with enhancing physical health in mind. We might think of juice fasts or water fasts or carb fasts. Spiritually speaking, fasting has a different meaning. To fast is



to abstain from food. Only one full meal is allowed, and one can take some food two other times on that day. Liquids such as juice, coffee, tea, or milk do not technically violate the fast.

A minimum required for Catholics is to both fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Friday of the Lord's Passion and abstain from meat on all other Fridays during Lent. Abstinence is binding for people over the age of 14 and fasting is binding on people between 18 and 60 years, unless there are some serious reasons. In ancient times, however, the forty-day period of Lent sometimes involved extended and more austere fasts. For example, some Catholics fasted each of the forty days (except for Sunday and sometimes Saturdays) up to the ninth hour or 3:00 PM, which is the hour that Christ gave up His spirit on the cross The intent was to unite one's suffering through fasting to the passion of Christ. Since our Lord's suffering ended at the ninth hour, so too the fast ended at that hour.

What is the origin and history of fasting in the Church? There's an ancient practice of fasting in sorrow and repentance for sins found in the Old Testament. Fasting also accompanied fervent prayer to God. The idea was that fasting made one's prayer more acceptable to God. It was a way of demonstrating one's level of commitment before the Lord. These ideas remain valid today. God desires that we prove our love for Him. As the old adage goes, actions speak louder than words.

In the New Testament, the Lord Jesus does not seem to emphasize fasting while His disciples are with Him. When questioned about this by John's disciples, Jesus insists that fasting is inappropriate in times of joy. In saying this, He compared Himself to the bridegroom and His disciples to wedding guests. In other words, while they are together, it is a time of jov like a wedding feast, not a time for fasting. But when the bridegroom is taken away, then there will be fasting, which seems to imply fasting as a sign of mourning the loss of the bridegroom and also in anticipation of and preparation for His return.

In the early Church, we find that the apostles were familiar with fasting and did so prior to making important decisions to gain divine assistance.

Lent is a time of penance and atonement for sin in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord. St. Thomas Aguinas taught that fasting and abstinence are integral to that preparation. These practices build virtue and self-mastery. They tend to raise our mind to the contemplation of heavenly things, towards the contemplation of God. Fasting is a means for taking responsibility for our sins and for atoning and making restitutions for them. This is not to say that fasting confers forgiveness for the guilt of sins. We obtain forgiveness for our sins from God by virtue of the merits of Christ's saving death and resurrection. We are forgiven the eternal guilt of sin through repentance and the sacrament of confession. Nevertheless, we can make restitution before God for our sins through acts of penance like fasting.

(Excerpts from Catholic Online catholic.org/lent)

Marriage Enrichment - Looking for a wonderful opportunity to spend time together as a couple, in the safety of your own home? Join the Online Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience from March 5-7. During these stressful times, give your marriage a booster shot! Restore your loving communication with your spouse and rekindle the romance. The Marriage Encounter experience is a skill-building enrichment program where together, you, as husband and wife, learn how to be the best couple you can be. No group discussion. Based on Catholic values but open to couples of all faiths. Rediscover the love in vour relationship! Contact: Marge & Gerard McCauley at gerard.marge@rogers.com or (905) 792-1925 or visit the website at: www.me.ora



TAKE OUT FISH AND CHIPS ON FRIDAYS 145 DEARBORN PLACE, WATERLOO, CALL DEREK AT 226-748-8378 BY 4:30 P.M. PICK UP TIMES: 4:30 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. 1 PC \$15.00, 2 PC \$18:00 - TAXES INCL.

WEDNESDAY KNIGHT SPAGHETTI AND

MEATBALL DINNERS

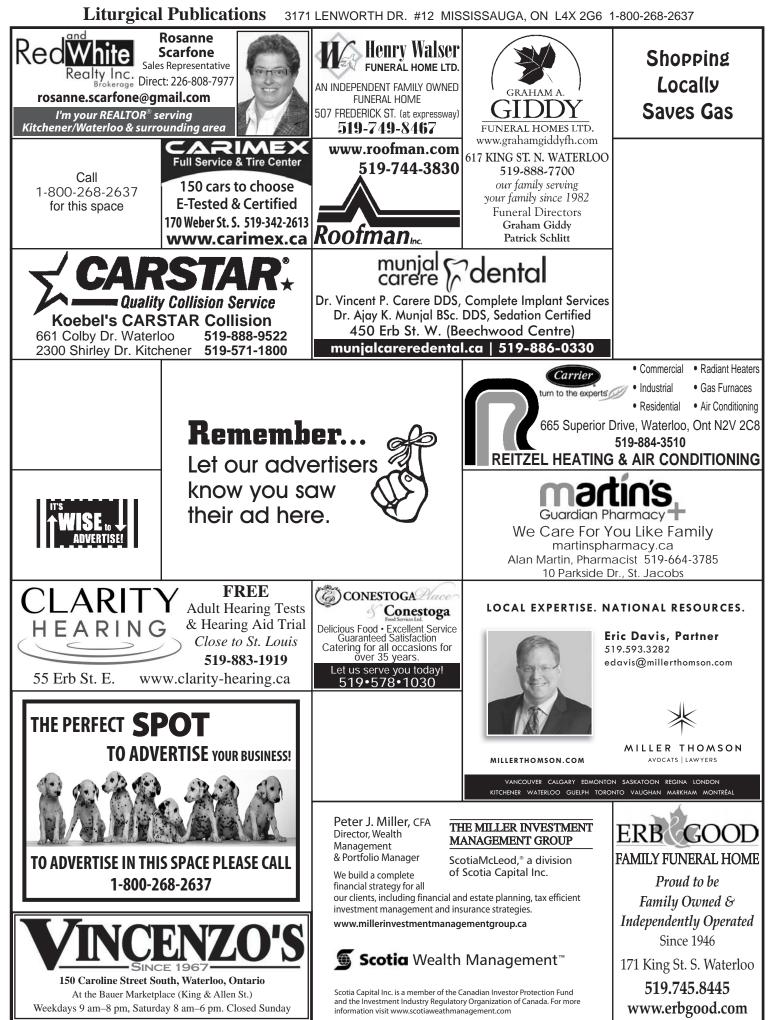
CALL MARTIN AT 519-884-2060 PLEASE ORDER BY WEDNESDAY NOON PICK UP TIMES: 4:30 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. 145 DEARBORN PLACE IN WATERLOO DINNER FOR ONE, \$10.00, DINNER FOR TWO \$18.50 - TAXES INCL.



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

Last weeks' donations - Thank you!

Date	Sunday	Mainten	Seminary Ed.	Loose	Pre Author.
Feb 21	\$ 3525.00	\$ 754.00	\$ 200.00	\$71.03	\$2687.31



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