

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.



St Louis Catholic Church



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.

Our music directors are: 5:00 p.m. & 9:30 a.m. - Bob Reinhart (robertreinhart182@msn.com)
11:30 a.m. - 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 - 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:

Altar Servers Coordinator
Dave Pagett, 519-744-7705

Catechesis of The Good Shepherd,
Kelly Krause, 519-743-4101

Finance Council
Terry Collins, 519-741-1534

Grounds & Gardens
Peter Brill, 519-886-5266

Catholic Women's League
Donna Herbstreit, 519-884-9380
donna.marie2000@icloud.com

Knights of Columbus - Waterloo
Council 5135 - 519-884-2060

OOTC Community Suppers
John Pendergast, 519-574-3384 &
Debbie Delattre

St. Vincent de Paul
For assistance or information
call 519-743-4101

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

Parish Webmaster
Daniel Delattre,
daniel@uwaterloo.ca



MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS

Monday, Jan. 12 - St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Virgin - No Mass			
9 AM - NOON	Pickle Ball	Gym	
5:30 PM	Good Shepherd Catechesis	Nursery	
7:30 PM	Bible Study - Acts - 11/20	L. Hall	
Tuesday, January 13			
9:00 AM	Intentions of Pat Helm		
9:30 AM	Book Club	L. Hall	
12:15 - 1 PM	Fit Club	Gym	
7 PM	Painting with Kelly	L. Hall	
Wednesday, January 14			
9:00 AM	† Gord Walz - Cecilia Beechey		
Morning	OOTC Cake Baking	Kitchen	
9 AM - NOON	Pickle Ball	Gym	
Thursday, January 15			
9:00 AM	† Deceased Members of Estrada Family - Estrada Family		
12:15 - 1 PM	Fit Club	Gym	
Friday, January 16			
9:00 AM	For Healing of Jessica Bezruki - Bezruki Family		
9 AM - NOON	Pickle Ball	Gym	
Saturday, January 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot			
Vigil of Second Sunday in Ordinary Time			
5:00 PM	† Thomas & Marcella Kuntz - Peter Kuntz		
	† Walter & Kaye Hartman - Children		
	† Dr. Paul Horan - Shirley Clairmont		
	† Robert Halpin Sr., Robert Halpin, Liam Halpin - Pat & Joan Forde		
Sunday, January 18 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time			
9:30 AM	People of St. Louis Parish		
10:30 AM	Coffee Time	L. Hall	
11:30 AM	† Frank & Marie Butler - Butler Family		
	† Ethel Kehn - Beaton Family		
	† Tim Montserin - Gloria Montserin		
	† Gemma Belanger - Rosemary & Shaun MacNeil		
12:30 PM	Lunch & Bible Study - Acts - 12/20	L. Hall	
5 PM	OOTC Community Supper	Gym	

Jesus along the Jordan - The Gospel passage begins with a geographical annotation: Jesus goes from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John the Baptist. On His arrival, Jesus does not declare Himself to be the Messiah, He does not preach. Instead, He stands with everyone else there, wanting to be baptized, thus manifesting his solidarity with the sinful people. Jesus does not isolate Himself, but He goes out among the people, even those marked by the wounds of sin. He puts Himself at risk by being with them, just as He put Himself at risk by becoming Man in the womb of Mary. There is, therefore, a consistent design in how Jesus "moves about" along His "itinerary of salvation".

John the Baptist - "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" the Baptist says on seeing Jesus. We witness the prophet's bewilderment who just a few verses earlier expressed himself thus: "The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals ..." (Mt 3:11). It seems to be the same bewilderment Peter experienced in Caesarea when, having reproved Jesus after the revelation of the Passion, death and resurrection that awaited Him, saying, "God forbid, Lord!", hears the Lord's reply, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are not thinking as God does, but as human beings do" (Mt 16:22-23). Another time was in the Upper Room when Peter refused to allow Jesus to wash his feet (cf. Jn. 13:6-8). Reactions such as the Baptist's and Peter's reveal our discomfort at seeing Jesus so weak and yielding.

"Allow it" - There are moments when it is important to "allow things to happen". What seems so abnormal that John the Baptist feels embarrassed is, however, part of God's plan that will "bring to fulfillment" every righteousness, since Jesus - as He Himself would one day declare - did not come to abolish the law and the prophets (cf. Mt. 5:17), but to bring God's justice "to fulfillment". This justice does not humiliate, does not separate, does not judge. Rather, it unites, breaks down barriers, responds to everyone's needs and respects everyone. God's justice is superior than human justice: He does not use the measuring stick of "how much" - you pay according to the measure that you have offended. Rather, He uses the measuring stick of love, mercy, forgiveness - the only measuring stick that can bridge distances and heal wounded hearts since it is from within that evil intentions are born (cf. Mk. 7:1-23).

The heavens opened - Jesus' choice is confirmed with the opening of the heavens, with the gift of the Spirit and the voice of the Father that seals Jesus' mission: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased". With the opening of the heavens, "justice" cancels the separation between humanity and God, bringing us back to the dawn of creation when the Spirit hovered over the waters. In Jesus, God the Father shows us the New Man, His beloved, the One who pleases Him. It was as if He were saying: "You make me so happy. I am so proud of you". This happiness exists in each one of us because each of us bears God's image within. We are made in his "image and likeness" (Gn. 1:26). No one can ever erase this image for "God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good" (Gn. 1:31). Jesus' coming tells us that God is interested in us. It's like He is saying, "With you, I want to begin a new story of salvation, a new beginning". We are made new to the extent that we learn to recognize life as a gift of love and that we live in this Love.

From vaticannews.va/en/liturgical-holidays/feast-of-the-baptism-of-the-lord.html
The image on the left, is of a painting which belongs to St. Louis Parish. It represents the Baptism of the Lord and hangs in the space off the church Narthex, which used to serve as a Baptistry. It was painted in early 1960s by Italian artist and church restorer Joseph (Giuseppe) Valerio. He also painted St. Louis church ceiling and walls. He died recently on May 17, 2025 in London, ON.

From his obituary: "Giuseppe was a church restoration artist and carpenter, and extremely devoted to his faith, blending these qualities into his choice of occupation. He restored churches in Italy, Eastern Canada, Quebec, and Ontario with a sense of pride and admiration. Giuseppe was a very proud Canadian and appreciated the great bounty this country had given him. He was very proud of his family and enjoyed the London community for many decades."



The Baptism of the Lord - Already in 300 AD, the Eastern Church celebrated the Epiphany and the Baptism of Jesus on Jan. 6. In the Western Church, this feast was mentioned in the Liturgy of the Hours. With the reform of the liturgy in 1969, the date for this Feast was set on the Sunday after the Epiphany. When the Feast of the Epiphany is not celebrated on Jan. 6, it is celebrated on the Sunday between 2 and 8 January, and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the following Sunday. The

Christmas Season concludes with the celebration of this Feast, even though a "window" is left open until Feb. 2, the day on which the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple is celebrated. The latter feast is also known as Candlemas since Christ is proclaimed as the "light for the gentiles".

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt. 3:13-17).

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



First Communion Preparation Classes will start on Wed. Jan. 28th from 6 to 7 PM in the Nursery. If you wish your child to receive their First Communion at St. Louis Parish on May 3rd, 2026 at 9:30 AM Mass, then please contact Kelly Krause to register. (kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com)



The Federation of North-American Explorers (FNE) is an international association of the Catholic Church for youth and young adults that builds its members into saints through an adventurous outdoors program. **Timberwolf FNE program (ages 8-12) is coming to KW area.** The registration is now open. The first meeting is on **Friday, January 30 @ 6:30 PM** in St. Paul Catholic Elementary School, 45 Birchcliff Ave, Kitchener. The link to registration is: <https://sites.google.com/view/fne-kwc/timberwolf-program>.



Resurrectionist Vocation Minute - Our vocations – whether to consecrated religious life, the priesthood, marriage, or the single life – may be likened to Jesus' call to and at the Jordan. God calls, prompting a journey with a direction, a trajectory. We respond generously, humbly. God does the rest. To what is God calling you? How will you respond? Fr. Eric Wagner, CR; resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com

SOCIAL EVENTS AT ST. LOUIS PARISH COMING UP:



Saturday, January 31 from 4:30 to 10 PM Annual Midwinter Potluck, Ceili Dance & Children Games with Fairy Tales Theme – Mark your calendars!

The evening will start with Children Games and Crafts in the Nursery from 4:30 to 5:45 PM. Potluck dinner at 6 PM in the Gym. Ceili Dancing from 7 to 10 PM with intermission and entertainment by Fairy Singers around 8:45 PM. Once again, our fiddler will be Shane Cook, Canadian and US National Champion. Bev Bernbaum (our Caller from last year) will teach us all the dance steps. If you can follow instructions, you can dance. If dancing is not your thing, come and listen to the music and socialize. This is an event for all ages! The decorating theme will be "Fairy Tales". Wear a costume, if you wish for more fun! Watch for posters with more information.

Bible Study of the Book of Acts resumes on Sunday, Jan. 11 at 12:30 PM (with lunch), or on Monday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 PM (with refreshments). We keep both sessions in parallel, so you can come when it suits you better. So far, we covered 10 of the 20 sessions and studied the first ten chapters of this book. It is still possible to join the study groups for the remainder of the Book of Acts. Link to the detailed schedule is on the main page of our parish website.

Book Club just completed our Fall book "How to Share Your Faith with Anyone" by Terry Barber. The participants found it very beneficial to their own faith journey and very informative about how to share it with others. In January, the **Book Club will start a new book**, one that the members selected in winter of 2020 and never got to read it together. It is "**Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary – Unveiling the Mother of the Messiah**" by **Dr. Brant Pitre**. Here is what the author writes in introduction to this book: "*As I hope to show, far from being "unbiblical," Catholic doctrines about Mary are deeply rooted in Scripture – if you interpret the New Testament in light of the Old Testament. Keep looking at the New Testament by itself, and you'll never see them. Start looking at Mary through ancient Jewish eyes, and all will become clear.*"

The way book club works: the book is read aloud for part of the time, and then discussed. No homework. Come when you can. Tuesday mornings from 9:30 AM for about an hour. You are free to leave earlier, or come later. Refreshments provided. If interested, then please contact the parish office to order the book.



Closing of the Year of Jubilee - Pope Leo XIV on Tuesday (Jan. 6, 2026 – *Feast of the Epiphany*) closed the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica, bringing the ordinary holy year to an end — a time of grace that invited Catholics to conversion, reconciliation, and hope.

The pontiff processed toward the Holy Door as the antiphon "O clavis David" (*O Key of David*) was sung. Reaching the threshold, he knelt before the door and remained for a few minutes in silent prayer. He then rose and, ..., pushed shut the two large bronze doors — a gesture that visibly marked the end of the jubilee season.

"With thankful hearts we now prepare to close this Holy Door, crossed by a multitude of faithful, certain that the Good Shepherd always keeps the door of his heart open to welcome us whenever we feel weary and oppressed," Leo XIV said in an address before the concluding gesture that ended the ecclesial event, ordinarily held every 25 years to offer the faithful the possibility of obtaining a plenary indulgence.

With these words, Leo XIV emphasized that even though the jubilee has ended, God's mercy remains ever open to believers. (From Catholic News Agency)

New Year's resolution to become more fit? St. Louis clubs can help:

St. Louis Fit Club – Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:15 – 1 PM at St. Louis Gym. Low-impact, mobility-oriented workout delivered by certified trainer and Globe and Mail fitness columnist Paul Landini. Free (donations accepted). Bring indoor shoes & exercise mat, if you have one.

St. Louis Pickle Ball Club – Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 AM till Noon. Bring your own indoor shoes. Paddles, balls and nets provided. Free will donation. Drop in. First come, first play.



Lift Jesus Higher Rally 2026 - theme is "No Greater Love." Date is March 14th. Where? Metro-Toronto Convention Center. There is an all-day youth and adult rally that takes place

simultaneously in different parts of the convention center. Please don't delay in your decision to go, we would like to order tickets and take advantage of the early bird pricing. Adult tickets are \$35, youth are \$25. Transportation to the event will be on a bus. If Kelly has numbers early enough, we will be joining another parish in sharing the bus. If you would like to join Kelly Krause for this event, adult or youth, please contact her at the parish office before February 1st.

Christian Life Program - Sponsored by *Couples for Christ*. Please join us at St Francis Church Hall (49 Bluebridge Ave., Kit.) Thursdays, Jan. 29th to Mar. 26th inclusive. Be enriched by such talks as: *God's Love, Who is Jesus Christ?* and *Transformation In Christ*. Open to Christian married couples, Singles, Widows, Widowers and those separated or divorced. Dinner at 6 PM. Program: 7 to 9 PM. Child care provided for children ages 12 years and under. No fee. Contact: Ave/ Maricar Bagnes 226-978-9933 or 416-564-2239 or Len/Marie Solomon 519-744-5198.

Date	N Y	Sunday	Christ.	Initial	Maint.	Loose	PAD
Jan. 1	1553.30	0.00	0.00	595.00	0.00	91.00	
Jan. 4	185.00	3343.25	270.00	475.00	500.00	374.50	2,363.69

Thank you for your generous donations!

Donations on-line:

Via diocesan website: hamiltondiocese.com/ways-to-give select "Online to a Parish" & then "St. Louis Waterloo".

Via Canada Helps canadahelps.org/en/

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