



# 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



# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

## MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS

<b>Monday, January 13 – No Mass</b>			
9 AM – NOON	Pickle Ball		Gym
5:30 – 6:45 PM	Good Shepherd catechists meeting		Nursery
<b>Tuesday, January 14</b>			
9:00 AM	† Ethel Kehn – Beaton Family		
9:30 AM	Book Group mtgs start again		L. Hall
<b>Wednesday, January 15</b>			
9:00 AM	† Alexander Behr – Cecilia Beechey		
9 AM – NOON	Pickle Ball		Gym
7:00 PM	SVDP General Meeting		L. Hall
<b>Thursday, January 16</b>			
9:00 AM	† Jocelyne Haroun – Martin Family		
<b>Friday, January 17 – St. Anthony, Abbot</b>			
9:00 AM	† Tony Yolkowski – Sandra Williams		
9 AM – NOON	Pickle Ball		Gym
<b>Saturday, January 18</b>			
<b>Vigil of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			
5:00 PM	† June Flieger nee Winkler – Lorne & Elizabeth Winkler		
	† Anne Mulhall – Pat & Joan Forde		
	† Edna Ertel – Larry Ertel		
	† Sally Scherrer – Betty & Herb Wendling		
<b>Sunday, January 19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			
9:30 AM	People of St. Louis Parish		
	10:30 AM Coffee Time		L. Hall
11:30 AM	† Rev. Len Desjardines – Rosemary & Shaun MacNeil		
	† Mary Dunning – Rosemary & Shaun MacNeil		
	Intentions of John & Sharon Miles – Prior Family & Larry Cullton & Family		
	Intentions of Don & Lorraine Prior – Prior Family		
	12:30 PM Bible Study – Book of Revelation 1		L. Hall
	4:30 PM OOTC Community Supper		Gym

### Reflection on the First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Today's reading is a collection of prophecies directed at Israel in Babylonian exile. By this time, Assyria has fallen, Babylon is teetering, and God is preparing ascendant Persia to send His people back to their land.

The Lord issues a series of commands: "Comfort, O comfort," "Speak tenderly," and "cry". These commands are addressed to plural "you" and likely indicate members of the divine council (Angels and messengers). It is their task to comfort, speak, and proclaim the message of God. The comfort they offer is more than a solace. Rather, it opens Israel to unimagined possibility, even as it dashes the power of Babylon. Three descriptions of Jerusalem's punishment justify this comfort: she has served her time, the price of her sin is paid, and she has suffered doubly. The reading then describes the plan for the implementation of the sharing of God's comfort and message; a pathway will be created to ease their return home. The details of the highway reflect the practice of creating roads for processional victory events, highlighting the victory of a king and the gods. Thus, Israel's vindication will reveal the Lord's glory and shall witness it.

At this point, a member of the divine council issued more commands ("Get you up," "lift up," "do not fear," and "say"), now to a Prophet identified as the "herald of good tidings." Pointing to God's imminent arrival, the herald's message is striking: the Lord God is both a conquering hero and a gentle shepherd who embodies majesty and mercy. The fact that the Gospel accounts of John the Baptist that precede Jesus' baptism employ this passage from Isaiah point to God's definitive victory in the person of Jesus. (From Workbook for Lectors)

## 2025 – Year of Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope.

Few days ago at the Feast of Epiphany we celebrated the Magi's journey to worship Jesus. This feast represents the coming of Jesus to all – to Gentiles and Jews alike. The Magi saw the star from afar and traveled to worship the Christ Child. They brought Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh – each of which tells us something about Jesus' identity.



### What the Bible Tells Us about the Magi?

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage."

After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the Child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother. They prostrated themselves and did Him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. – Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12

### Gold – the Kingship of Jesus

The magi's gifts were not simply a demonstration of wealth – they conveyed deeper meaning. The gold represents Jesus' kingship. As Daniel 7:13-14 says:

As the visions during the night continued, I saw coming with the clouds of heaven One like a son of man.

When he reached the Ancient of Days and was presented before him, He received dominion, splendor, and kingship; all nations, peoples and tongues will serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, his kingship, one that shall not be destroyed.

Jesus' kingship transcends all earthly rulers – the Magi recognized that, and they came to worship him.

### Frankincense – the Deity of Jesus

The frankincense represents Jesus' deity. In the Old Testament, frankincense was traditionally burned in the temple as an offering to God (Leviticus 2:2). By bringing this gift, the Magi affirmed Jesus was no ordinary man; He is both fully man and fully God.

For in Him dwells the whole fullness of the deity bodily, and you share in this fullness in Him, who is the head of every principality and power. (Colossians 2:9-10)

### Myrrh – the Death of Jesus

Commonly used to embalm bodies, the gift of myrrh foreshadows Jesus' death. We see in John 19:38-40 that Nicodemus brought myrrh at the time of Jesus' burial:

After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus. And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took His body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to Him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom.

In this way, the full story of Jesus' coming is revealed. Jesus was born so that we might have salvation. Through His death, we have eternal life.

### The Magi's Gifts: Pointing to the Ultimate Gift

The gifts of the Magi illuminate the different aspects of Christ's identity. He is king, He is God, and, in His marvelous grace, He died, so that we might live. As the Magi actively pursued Jesus, so too should



we follow Christ without hesitation, letting Him be our guiding star. As Pope Francis stated:

*It is not enough to know where Jesus was born, as the scribes did, if we do not go there. It is not enough to know that Jesus was born, like Herod, if we do not encounter Him. When His place becomes our place, when His time becomes our time, when His person becomes our life, then the prophecies come to fulfillment in us. Then Jesus is born within us. He becomes the living God for me. Today we are asked to imitate the Magi. They do not debate; they set out. They do not stop to look, but enter the house of Jesus. They do not put themselves at the center, but bow down before the One who is the center. (From [nationalshrine.org/blog/what-the-gifts-of-the-magi-tell-us-about-jesus/](http://nationalshrine.org/blog/what-the-gifts-of-the-magi-tell-us-about-jesus/))*

## How Was John's Baptism Different than the Sacrament of Baptism?

**Question:** Could John the Baptist forgive sins?

**Answer:** No, John could not forgive sins, or, more precisely, he could not absolve people of their sins. His baptism was a baptism of repentance, which prefigured that won by the merits of Jesus through His sacrifice of Calvary, i.e., the sacrament of baptism (CCC 700). Baptism absolves one of all his sins and gives him new life in God through the indwelling of the Holy Trinity (see: CCC 1262-70). (From [Catholicanswers.com](http://Catholicanswers.com))



**Sacrament of Baptism symbols:** Baptismal font with holy water of redemption won for us by Christ on the cross, white garment of purity, holy oils of Catechumens and Chrism and candle as the Light of Christ to be taken into the world.



Attention all Parishioners: St. Louis CWL is continuing our sale of Vista VIP Gift Cards. Examples of the cards offered are: Sobeys, Canadian Tire, Giant Tiger, Tim Horton's, Esso and Loblaws stores. You can use the gift cards instead of paying cash, or debit, or credit card when you do your regular shopping. We buy the gift cards from Vista VIP and for every gift card you purchase, we make a small profit (2 to 10% of the amount of the gift card). To purchase gift cards, please call or email Patti Pagett at: (519) 501-8062, [dpac@golden.net](mailto:dpac@golden.net). We can accept cash or cheque (made out to St. Louis CWL) to purchase the gift cards.

## Special Event coming up at St. Louis parish

**Saturday, February 8** – Potluck & Ceili Dance with a Medieval Theme – As part of our parish 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we will transform for one night our Gym into 13<sup>th</sup> century Hall (King Louis IX times were 1214 – 1270). Wear a medieval costume, if you wish.

**Come and help to make decorations for this event**

– no special skills required! Date: Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Time between 5:30 & 9 PM in the Large Hall (simple dinner provided).



Christmas	New Year	Sunday	Loose	Initial	PAD
250.00	1746.00	3420.00	421.10	920.00	2178.61

*Thank you for your donations on Jan 1 & 5*

## Coming up - Bible Study: The Book of Revelation

with Jeff Cavins. 11 part DVD course running concurrently on Sundays at 12:30 PM (lunch included), or on Mondays at 7:30 PM (with refreshments). This study program shows how the kingdom established by Christ in His Church is intimately connected with the Kingdom of Heaven. Jeff Cavins pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." Course is free. Handouts provided. If you wish to have your own workbook (\$38) please contact the office. **Start: Jan.19/20 in the Large Hall.** Full schedule on [saintlouisparish.ca](http://saintlouisparish.ca)



Book Group meetings start again this Tuesday at 9:30 AM (after the morning Mass at 9 AM) in the Large Hall. Meetings run for an hour.

We will conclude our current book by Fr. Jacques Philippe "Searching for and Maintaining Peace: A Small Treatise on Peace of Heart" in the next couple of weeks. We read the chosen book together at the meetings and discuss it. No homework. Come when you can. Stay tuned to see what our next selection will be.

## ALPHA 2025 at St. Mark's Parish, 55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener Thursday evenings, 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 to ask questions, share thoughts and explore answers. All are welcome! For more information or to sign up, please contact Ron Denomme at [stmarkalpha@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkalpha@gmail.com) or 226-748-3210.

**St. Agnes Parish Education Café** - Families today can be faced with many challenges: mental health, addiction, division, financial stress & beyond. Even the strongest of families can suffer under the pressure. How can we draw on our faith to persevere with unshakeable hope despite the struggles? Join us for the next **St. Agnes Education Café: "Our Families: Signs of Hope amid the Challenges"** with Teresa Hartnett, Director, Family Ministry, Diocese of Hamilton. Sun., January 26<sup>th</sup> 2-3:30 PM, St. Agnes Parish (75 Bluevale St N, Waterloo).

**Resurrectionist Vocation Minute** - In today's Gospel, the heavens open, and the Father proclaims Jesus as His beloved Son. The Father's words also form the foundation of our vocation. If you're discerning religious life or priesthood, remember that your identity is rooted in the Father's unconditional love. Recognizing that you are also His beloved gives you the strength to trust the steps ahead. How might this understanding help you say 'yes' to God's plan for your life? Fr. Pawel Szymanowski, CR; [resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com](mailto:resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com)



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