

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 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 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 GLUTEN

Prayer Chain Sharon Carey, 519-746-8073

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



LOW

HOSTS

2025 - YEAR OF JUBILEE - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MASS INTENTIONS & EVENTS

Monday,	March 10 – No) Mass						
	9— 11:30 АМ	Pickle Ball	Gym					
	7:30 рм	Bible Study – Revelation 6/11	L. Hall					
Tuesday,	March 11							
9:00 AM † Tony Yolkowski – Yolkowski Family 9:30 AM Book Group - "Jesus & the Jubilee" L. Hall								
9:00 AM † Judy Schnarr – Cecilia Beechey								
	9 am – noon		Gym					
	7 РМ	SVDP Meeting	L. Hall					
Thursday	y, March 13							
9:00 AM † Stan Reitzel – John & Sharon Carey								
Friday, N	March 1A							
T 10000 99 1								
		or Graces Received by Estrada F	amily –					
			amily – a Family					
9:00 AM	In Thanksgiving fo 9 AM – NOON	Estrad	a Family					
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9:00 AM 7:00 PM	In Thanksgiving fo 9 AM – NOON	Estrad	a Family					
9:00 AM 7:00 PM Saturday	In Thanksgiving fo 9 AM – NOON Stations of the Cro 7 March 15 9 AM – NOON	Estrad Pickle Ball oss (led by SVDP) SVDP Sandwich project	a Family					
9:00 AM 7:00 PM Saturday	In Thanksgiving fo 9 AM – NOON Stations of the Cro 5 March 15	Estrad Pickle Ball oss (led by SVDP) SVDP Sandwich project	a Family <i>Gym</i>					
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Reflection on the First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses' words here are part of the laws and guides for living as God's people. Although they had experienced God's mighty works on their behalf, the Israelites had murmured against God and failed in their fidelity to Him (the most well-known example being the creation of the golden calf). Their time wandering in the desert was a time of testing, a testing that many failed. For this reason, they wandered in the desert for forty years and were not allowed to enter the Promised Land. Instead, their children experienced that fulfillment of God's promise to them.

In today's reading, Moses reminds the people of God's providential care. Moses describes God's salvific actions in their past and reinforces God's continued interventions in their present circumstances. In this passage, the ancient Israelites hear of the oppression their people suffered at the hands of the Egyptians. Yet, in their darkest hour, they lifted their cries to God who heard them and acted to save them from their afflictions. Moses goes on to describe how this was accomplished through God's power and might and how God's care is still sustaining them in the desert. These recollections reinforce God's providence and mercy.

This communal act of remembrance leads to a communal act of worship. The recognition of God's salvific activity in their lives leads naturally to thanksgiving and worship. They offer the best of their produce as a sign that all that they have is a gift from God and belongs to Him.

During the first week of Lent, we are reminded, along with the ancient Israelites, of God's salvific actions on our behalf. Lent is a time of testing similar to that of the ancient Israelites' time in the desert. Unlike the Israelites, however, we do not have to wait for God to fulfill



The Temptation of Christ by the Devil by Félix Joseph Barrias (1822-1907)

Do not put the Lord your God to the test.

Every Friday in Lent – Stations of the Cross at 7 PM.



St. Louis CWL warmly invites all parishioners to our annual **Simple Supper** on <u>Friday, March 21st at 5 PM</u> in the Large Hall. This free dinner will consist of homemade soup and bread. Following our meal, the CWL will lead the Stations of the Cross at 7 PM. Please join us!

Fish and Chips - Take 2! Friday, March 14, 2025 at 5:30 PM at Knight's of Columbus in Waterloo. A table will be reserved for St. Louis parishioners - come out & support the Knights, enjoy dinner and get to know others from our church. One piece is \$18.50, two pieces are \$21.50. Payment is that night - but we need to give them #'s attending. If interested - please let Patti know by Wed. March 12.

Patti Pagett 519-744-7705 or dpac@golden.net Thanks.



St. Louis Catholic Women's League Presents a ST. PATRICK'S DAY CARD PARTY



WHEN? Wednesday, March 19th, 2025 WHAT TIME? 11:30 AM till 4:00 PM

WHERE? Knights of Columbus Hall, 145 Dearborn Place Waterloo COST? \$20, which includes lunch!

WHY? Why not? What else have you got to do on a weekday in March? TICKETS? Contact Patti Pagett at dpac@golden.net or 519-501-8062 Proceeds to St. Louis C.W.L. THANK YOU!

Senior Information Fair on <u>Saturday, April 5, drop-in from 1 to 4 PM at</u> <u>St. Louis Gym</u>, 77 Willow St., Waterloo (a barrier-free environment). This is a great opportunity to meet over 30 professionals from many areas impacting seniors' lives to ask questions about what is available. Admission and refreshments are free. Sponsored by St. Louis Ministry to the Elderly and St. Louis Catholic Women's League. For information contact StLouisSeniorFair2025@gmail.com or Cecilia, 519-572-5435

Resurrectionist Vocation Minute - Before beginning His ministry, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where He faces temptation. Discernment also involves being led into unknown places, trusting that God is guiding us. Religious life calls for surrender to the Spirit, allowing Him to shape us through prayer, sacrifice, and daily conversion. Are you willing to let the Spirit lead you in your discernment and during this time of Lent? Fr. Pawel Szymanowski, CR; resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com

His promise to the next generation. Instead, our Lenten journey culminates in our commemoration of God's ultimate saving act: Jesus' death on the cross. This recollection should draw us into a deeper appreciation of God's past interventions as well as His continued presence in our lives. In so remembering, we are drawn to worship God, offering the best we have to give of ourselves and the work of our hands. (*From Workbook for Lectors*)

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT - MARCH 9, 2025



VBS Camp 2025 – morning theme will be Weird Animals, where Jesus' love is one of a kind. The afternoon theme will be Spanish language and culture. It is for campers ages 6 – 11. If you are 12 yrs

old or older, you are invited to join our camp counselling team. Please contact Kelly if this is of interest to you. The camp will run **July 14-18** from 9 AM - 4 PM for full day. Half day is an option, please refer to the registration form for details. If you would like to register, please pick up a form from the back of the church or in the Nursery. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Krause at the parish office.

Pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph on March 25 – You are welcome to join the members of the St. Louis Book Group on the Pilgrimage to the Guelph Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate for The Feast of the Annunciation on March 25. The Basilica was named by Bp. Crosby as a Pilgrimage Church in our Diocese. On the Solemnity of the Annunciation, His Excellency, Bishop Lobsinger, will celebrate a special Pilgrimage Mass for Wellington Deanery at the Basilica. You are all very welcome, and encouraged to come. The Evening Prayer is at 6:30 PM. Solemn Mass with Bishop Lobsinger is at 7 PM. Reception in the Parish Hall after Mass.

We will meet at <u>St. Louis Parking lot at 5:30 PM</u> and carpool to Guelph so we can attend the Evening Prayer, the Mass and part of the reception. (Sacrament of Reconciliation will not be available that evening.) If you are planning to attend, please inform the parish office.

St. Teresa Kitchener Parish Pasta Dinner. Join us Sunday, March 30th at 4:30 or 6:30 PM for our Pasta Dinner fundraiser—pasta by Ennio's. All proceeds will be going towards the needs of the parish. Tickets are \$25 each for adults, \$10 for children 7–14, children 6 and under free. We will also be having a silent auction. Tickets can be purchased by emailing Barbara at bmdaly@me.com.

Note on Prayer from the CCCB Episcopal Commission for Doctrine

Prayer is a universal human activity. It can be found in every country, in every period of human history, at every age of life. It expresses the awareness of a relationship with a Being greater than oneself, distinct from oneself, present within oneself.

Christian prayer is clearly marked by faith in God who has made Himself known, not only as the Creator of the universe, but as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The faithful pray to the Father through the Son in the Spirit.

We learn to pray, just as we learn to speak, walk or sing. *The Gospel* offers a profound insight into this. Impressed by Jesus' prayer, the disciples ask Him to teach them how to pray: He teaches them the *"Our Father,"* with its two poles: God and humanity. Several other Gospel passages show Jesus at prayer, in close contact with His Father *(abba = dad)*, jubilant under the action of the Holy Spirit (Mt 11:25-27), in anguish before death (Lk 22:39-46), and confident on the cross (Mt 26:46; Lk 23:46). The great prayer recounted in chapter 17 of Saint John's Gospel reveals the heart of Christ.

Prayer is *personal*, that is, it expresses and enriches the faith of each person, unique and precious in God's eyes. It is also *communal*, since it is lived in union with others, whether physically or spiritually present, those living in this world and those who have already entered into eternity. It is *spiritual*: "The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words" (Rom 8:26).

Prayer takes on different *hues: adoration* before God's unfathomable mystery, *thanksgiving* for His countless and unceasing benefits, *petition* in the face of daily difficulties, *intercession* for our evictors and betthere is humanibut to an he used (aut loud) mental (in

sisters and brothers in humanity. It can be *vocal* (out loud), *mental* (in the mind through meditation); the body participates (seated to listen;

kneeling to adore and implore), eyes closed and recollected. It has a daily rhythm: morning or evening prayer, the Lord's Day....

Prayer is *nourished* by the Word of God, the Old and New Testaments, in particular the book of Psalms that Jesus Himself used; it is also nourished by the *liturgy*, the privileged place of God's presence; by the teaching of the Church's *Magisterium*, for example the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, which devotes its entire 4th part to prayer (#2558-2865); in the life and experience of *the saints*, who are inspiring models and privileged intercessors, especially the *Blessed Virgin Mary*.

Prayer is connected to daily life, with its ups and downs. Jesus Himself showed this when He rejoiced at the Holy Spirit's action in the humble (Luke 10:21), and when He trusted in His Father after the death of His friend Lazarus (John 11:41-42).

We can pray in different *places*: in nature, in the bedroom, in a church; alone, as a couple, as a family, as a Church.

The cycle of the liturgical year affects Christian prayer, from Advent to Christmas, from Lent to Easter and Ordinary Time, with the great mysteries of the faith (Creation, Incarnation, Redemption, Eternal Life) and the figures of the saints. The sacraments, lived out in prayer, are all essential places for this, with the celebration of the *Eucharist* and its extension, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, at the forefront.

The official prayer of the Church (the liturgy of the hours), the recitation of the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross or other devotions remain important sources for the life of prayer. Gazing at the Cross of Christ, statues of the Blessed Virgin or other saints is a great help in fixing the mind. Sacred music can also inspire us.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (n. 2650) states: "in order to pray, one must have the will to pray."

"Looking to Jesus" (Heb 12:2), the faithful can have their faces radiant and be transformed in Him, as the experience of the Transfiguration (Lk 9:29) reminds us.

The resources on prayer that have been compiled by the CCCB Ad hoc Committee for the Preparation of the Jubilee can be a great help to all of us as we spiritually prepare ourselves and journey through this Jubilee Year. These (located at <u>cccb.ca</u> website) consist of:

• "Teach us to Pray": Living the Year of Prayer in Preparation for Jubilee 2025, from the Dicastery for Evangelization.

• 38 Catecheses on Prayer by Pope Francis

• 44 Catecheses on Prayer by Pope Benedict XVI

• Webinar Series: A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Programme of Life, and A Great Symphony of Prayer: Mary, the Saints, and Scripture, by Dr. Josephine Lombardi.

CCCB Episcopal Commission for Doctrine - January 2025



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Sunday	Mainten.	Loose	Diocesan	PAD
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