

A Catholic-Christian Community of Faith in the Diocese of Hamilton since 2012

# Saint Benedict Roman Catholic Church

300 Yates Drive, Milton, ON. L9T 2W3 289-878-3118

Email: [stbenedictmilton@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stbenedictmilton@hamiltondiocese.com) Parish Website: [www.stbenedictparish.ca](http://www.stbenedictparish.ca)



## ALL ARE TO BE WELCOMED AS CHRIST

( Rule of Saint Benedict #53 )

### LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.  
and 4:00 p.m. (en Français)

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Please see inside bulletin for complete schedule

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  
(First Friday – 9:30am to 9:00 p.m.)

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm  
or by appointment

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Celebrated the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Contact the parish office to arrange date and to arrange pre-baptismal course at least two months before preferred date.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF ADULTS

A period of preparation is necessary, and it is imperative that individuals complete the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). Please see Father Larry for more information.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Kindly contact the parish office at least a year prior to desired date of marriage. Preparation course is essential.

### CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES

When a death occurs in your family, please contact the parish office before contacting the funeral home, and we will assist you in making liturgical arrangements. The Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Hamilton website is: [www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca](http://www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca)

### PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

For more information in discerning God's call to Church ministry, contact Father Larry or contact Father Mark Morley, Vocation Director for the Diocese of Hamilton 905-528-7988 or visit the Vocations Services' website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations>

### SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please contact the parish office of confinement to home or hospitalization, so sacramental care may be provided.

### PARISH STAFF

Father Lawrence Parent, Pastor  
Father Jonathan Reitzel, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Mr. Leonard Gallant, Permanent Deacon  
Rev. Mr. Joseph Murphy, Permanent Deacon  
Mrs. Karen Vitoria-Miguel, Pastoral Minister/Music Director  
Mrs. Alma Paje, Office Administrator  
Mrs. Rosario Pinto, Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Lenie D'Souza, Office Assistant

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

*Office is closed on weekends and public holidays.*

### NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and your family to Saint Benedict Parish! Please introduce yourself to Father Larry. Registration forms are available on the table at the church Narthex or from the website.

### PARISH SCHOOLS

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <u>Guardian Angels Elementary</u><br>Nick Laratta, Principal             | 905-876-2386 |
| <u>Lumen Christi Elementary</u><br>Daniela Attardo, Principal            | 905-636-9692 |
| <u>Our Lady of Fatima Elementary</u><br>Kelly Stephens, Principal        | 905-864-0720 |
| <u>St. Benedict Elementary</u><br>Mark Witter, Principal                 | 289-851-9353 |
| <u>St. Josephine Bakhita Elementary</u><br>Vince Chininea, Principal     | 289-878-0918 |
| <u>St. Scholastica Elementary</u><br>Ann-Marie Melchionna, Principal     | 905-864-0344 |
| <u>St. Veronica Elementary</u><br>Angelina Barden- Principal             | 289-878-0916 |
| <u>St. Francis Xavier Secondary School</u><br>Adriano Perusin, Principal | 905-636-8799 |
| <u>St. Kateri Tekakwitha Secondary School</u><br>Kevin Wong, Principal   | 289-878-2038 |

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

| February 22 <sup>nd</sup> to February 28 <sup>th</sup>   | SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION  | PEREIRA FAMILY   |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| READINGS   | LITURGY   | INTENTION  | PLEASE PRAY FOR                                |
| <b>Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup></b><br><b>First Sunday of Lent</b><br>Genesis 2.7-9, 16-18, 25; 3.1-7++<br>Romans 5.12-19<br>Matthew 4.1-11<br><i>"Jesus fasted forty days and was put to the test."</i> | <b>Masses</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br><br>10:30 a.m.<br><br>12:00 p.m.  | +Virginia Te<br><br>Our Parish Community<br><br>+Patsy Goldsworthy   |  |
| <b>Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup></b><br><b>St. Polycarp</b><br>Leviticus 19.1-2, 11-18<br>Matthew 25.31-46  | <b>Mass</b><br>9:00 a.m.  | Deceased Members of Barca Family   | Rev. Joonbin Lim                               |
| <b>Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup></b><br>Isaiah 55.10-11<br>Matthew 6.7-15  | <b>Mass</b><br>9:00 a.m.  | +Danny & +Margaret Martins   | Rev. Ralph Diodati                             |
| <b>Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup></b><br>Jonah 3.1-10<br>Luke 11.29-32  | <b>Mass</b><br>9:00 a.m.  | +James D'Costa   | Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, R.S.C.J. |
| <b>Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup></b><br>Esther 14.1, 3-5, 12-14<br>Matthew 7.7-12   | <b>Mass</b><br>9:00 a.m.  | Sp. Int. of Karen Akam   | Rev. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.             |
| <b>Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>St. Gregory of Narek</b><br>Ezekiel 18.21-28<br>Matthew 5.20-26  | <b>Mass</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br><i>Friday Eucharistic Adoration</i><br><i>9:30am to 10:30am</i><br><br>7pm Stations of the Cross<br><br>Lenten Evening Friday Mass<br>7:30 p.m. | Sp. Int. of Catholic Moms Group<br><br><br><br>Thanksgiving  | Rev. Kevin Upendran                            |
| <b>Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup></b><br>Deuteronomy 26.16-19<br>Matthew 5.43-48   | <b>Mass</b><br>5:00 p.m.<br><i>(Livestreamed)</i>   | Deceased Members of Vicencio Family<br>+Manuel Carvalho<br>+Florita Tallungan<br>+Leonard Malloni<br>Thanksgiving<br>+John Tavares &<br>+Jennifer Aguiar | Rev. Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.                      |



Our parish bulletin is also available online. For more information, updates and events, please visit our parish website: [www.stbenedictparish.ca](http://www.stbenedictparish.ca)



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### CATHEDRATICUM (Owed to the Diocese)

St. Benedict Parish contributes \$ 10,828,625.26. We sincerely thank our parishioners for your generous and faithful donations, which make this shared mission and service possible.

### FLOWERS RETURN AT EASTER



As we observe this sacred season, parishioners are kindly asked to wait until Easter before bringing flowers, so their return may joyfully mark the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord.



### CHALICE SPONSORSHIP WEEKEND

Chalice is coming to St. Benedict Parish! At the March 7 and 8 Masses, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you with the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. These are children in extreme poverty who need your support to excel in their education and fulfill their God-given potential. Please visit [chalice.ca](http://chalice.ca) for more information about Chalice and its mission.

### CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP

#### Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Subiaco Room



Social from 7:30 to 8:00 pm. Meeting from 8:00 to 9:00. The Feast of the Annunciation and You! Moms, come and get a better understanding of the Feast of the Annunciation, its implication for Salvation History and for your own life as a mom. Learn from Mary to listen to God and say "Yes!" to His plans. For more information contact Nelcy Lopez [stbenedictsh@catholicmomsgruop.com](mailto:stbenedictsh@catholicmomsgruop.com)



**To the Faithful of the Diocese of Hamilton**  
**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

“Return to me with all your heart... for I am gracious and merciful” (Jl 2:12–13). With these words from the prophet Joel, the Church opens the holy season of Lent. They are words of invitation—an appeal from the heart of God to each one of us. As we begin this sacred time—my first Lent with you as your Bishop—I receive these words personally, and I offer them to you as well.

In his Lenten Message for 2026, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that every journey of conversion begins by letting the Word of God touch our hearts and by relearning the art of listening. Lent, he writes, is a time to “place the mystery of God back at the centre of our lives.” These words beautifully echo the call of the prophet: to return with all our heart.

In the afterglow of the beautiful Installation Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King just two weeks ago, I concluded my homily with questions that remain with me still: How do we recognize God’s presence in our daily lives? Do we truly long for justice and peace? Are we attentive to the new people and situations God places before us? Through our words and actions, do we bring hope? Are we living the Gospel as Good News—news that brings joy, life, and light?

Lent gives us the grace to reflect more deeply on these questions.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive the cross in ashes upon our foreheads. That small cross proclaims that our faith is not confined to church walls. It is meant to be lived in our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities. We are reminded of our frailty—“Remember that you are dust...” (Gn 3:19)—and of the urgent call to hope: “Be reconciled to God” (2 Cor 5:20). Lent is the “acceptable time,” the “day of salvation” (2 Cor 6:2). It is a season of grace, a time to begin again.

Reconciliation stands at the heart of our journey. We seek it not only as individuals, but within our families, parishes, and wider community. Before approaching the altar, we are called to be at peace with one another (Mt 5:23–24). Perhaps the Lord is inviting us to mend a strained relationship, to offer or to ask forgiveness—even “seventy-seven times” (Mt 18:22). In this way, our homes become places where Christ’s light truly dwells. As the Holy Father also notes, conversion touches not only our conscience but the quality of our relationships and dialogue.

Saint Matthew’s Gospel presents the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

“**Whenever you pray...** your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt 6:6). Prayer deepens our relationship with the Father. This Lent, we might set aside a few more moments each day for quiet conversation with God, rediscover Sunday Mass with renewed devotion, attend a weekday Mass, or pray the Via Crucis with our parish or as a family. In the spirit of the Pope’s invitation to listen, we can embrace moments of silence, opening our hearts to the way God’s Word gently speaks within us.

“**When you fast...** your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt 6:17–18). Fasting teaches us freedom. By freely giving something up, we remember that “one does not live by bread alone” (Mt 4:4). The Holy Father reminds us that fasting expands our hearts and even calls us to refrain from words that wound. We are called to speak thoughtfully, refrain from harsh judgment, and nurture kindness in our families and communities.

“**When you give alms...** your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt 6:3–4). Almsgiving flows from compassion. In caring for “the least of these” (Mt 25:40), we serve Christ Himself. Listening to the

Word must also mean listening to the cry of the poor and responding with generosity and justice.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation holds a special place in this season. In Confession, there is a confession of praise, a confession of sin, and a confession of faith—trusting that Christ, who “will save his people from their sins” (Mt 1:21), has conquered sin and death. Here we encounter not judgment, but mercy.

The Beatitudes (Mt 5:1–12) remain our guide: “Blessed are the merciful... Blessed are the peacemakers.” They gently invite us to examine our lives: Am I humble? Am I merciful? Do I seek peace? Jesus not only teaches these blessings—He lives them and shares His life with us.

Lent is a journey we make together. As your Bishop, I walk it with you—as a fellow pilgrim in need of God’s mercy and grace. I carry you in my prayer each day, and I ask you to pray for me. In the words of the Holy Father, may this be a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to one another, so that our communities become places where hope and reconciliation flourish.

May our families grow stronger in faith, our parishes become places of reconciliation and joy, and our Diocese shine ever more brightly with the light of Christ.

“Return to me with all your heart” (Jl 2:12). May this be our shared response to the Lord’s loving invitation. I wish you all a blessed and fruitful Lenten journey.

*Sincerely Yours in Christ,*

*+Joseph Dabrowski*

Most Reverend Joseph Dabrowski, CSMA  
Bishop of Hamilton

**ALPHA YOUTH**



Calling all high school students! Have questions about God, life, or faith? Alpha is a safe space for teens to explore the big questions, share honest conversation, and discover what Christianity is all about—no pressure, just open dialogue. Join us every other Saturday starting **February 28th at 7pm** for food, friendship, and faith as we journey together through the basics of the Christian life. Registration is available on the QR code in the smartboard. For Registration click this link:

[Alpha Youth registration](#)

**LENT RETREAT – BAPTISM, MASS, YOUR STORY**



**Saturday, March 14th, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

St. Benedict Parish, 300 Yates Drive, Milton

Rediscover the gift of Baptism and how the Mass sustains us on the journey. We were baptized... but how often do we stop to ask what that truly means? If Baptism is such an astonishing gift, why does it sometimes feel distant from our daily lives—or even from the Mass we attend each Sunday? This Lent retreat invites us to rediscover the gift of our Baptism and how it is nourished every time we participate in Mass. Together, we’ll reflect on how Baptism begins a new journey and how the Mass continually sustains and strengthens us on that path. The retreat will be led by Fr. Pierre Caouette, LC, with a team of collaborators. RSVP: Please click the link below to register:

<https://www.regnumchristionario.org/event-details/len-retreat-st-benedicts>. If you have any questions or difficulties registering via PayPal, please contact Tima at [events@regnumchristionario.org](mailto:events@regnumchristionario.org)

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**



On the weekend of **February 21/22**, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society will be at the doors after Mass to accept your donations. Your generosity is most appreciated, and we thank you on behalf of society and the needy of our community.

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