

# ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH

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**Very Rev. Msgr. Cornelius O'Mahony**, Pastor

**Rev. Mr. Rene Marechal**, Deacon

**Divine Dimaranan**, Administration/Secretary



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 28, 2025

## REFLECT ON THE GOSPEL

Reflect upon next Sunday's Gospel throughout the week.

The Epiphany of The Lord is:

**Matthew 2.1-12**

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD December 14<sup>th</sup> Collection

Regular Sunday Env.	\$ 6,053.00
Loose Cash	\$ 720.00
Missionary Coop Plan (HAITI)	\$ 1,720.00
St.M.M. Parish Outreach	\$ 945.00

*We thank you for your continued, dedicated and regular financial support for St. Margaret Mary Parish.*

## DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon., Dec. 29	Rev. Edward Mahony
Tues., Dec. 30	Rev. Francis Hubilla
Wed., Dec. 31	Religious Life Candidates
Thurs., Jan. 1	<b>Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God</b>
Fri., Jan. 2	Most. Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.
Sat., Jan. 3	Very Rev. Adrian Lee

## New Year's Mass Times

New Year's Eve

Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

No Morning  
5:00 pm

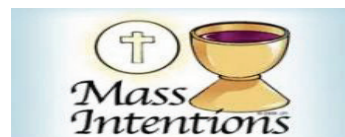
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

No 9:00 am Mass  
11:00 am

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Parishioners may make a donation for the sanctuary Christmas flowers in memory of deceased loved ones. A Mass for them will be celebrated on The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, **Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.**, and their names will be included in the bulletin. Please clearly print the name of the person to be memorialized on the back of the donation envelope. **The deadline for donations is January 1st, 2026.**



Tues., Dec. 30 7:00 pm.	†Mina & Silvio Mancinelli †Lillo & Rita Nori †Tomasia Orellana †Doroteo Membreno †Johnny Murtagh
Wed., Dec. 31 5:00 pm	<b>New Year's Eve</b> †Nellie Narozanski †Tony Stanfl Jr. †Michael Jackwitz
Thurs., Jan. 1 11:00 am	<b>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</b>
Fri., Jan. 2 9:00 am	†Salvatore Tiberi
Sat., Jan. 3 5:00pm	†Annette Spatazzo

## PLEASE PICK UP!!

### 2026 DONATIONS ENVELOPES

Donation envelopes for 2026 are still available for pick-up in the narthex and are arranged alphabetically for your convenience. Returning parishioners are asked to please dispose of all old envelopes and begin using the **pink envelope** available in the narthex. Be sure to write your **full name and address** on the pink envelope so your donation is properly credited to you. Please do not continue using old envelopes, as the numbers may have changed and could now belong to another family. If you need a new set of envelopes, please contact the Church Office.

## BIG THANKS FROM OUTREACH PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Outreach Program Christmas Gift Card Giveaway. Because of your generosity, we were able to help families in our community and families from our schools who are in need. Your support and kindness are truly appreciated. May God bless us all!

## ATTENTION CANDIDATES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

Enrolment for the Sacrament of Confirmation and the first session for the candidates takes place during the 9.00 am Mass on Sunday, January 11 (the first working session takes place after the Mass in the school). Please note that a parent or other family member is required to attend the first parish session with the Confirmation candidate.

*Thank you, thank you and thank you..* to everyone who helped at Christmas. It takes a large group of people who dedicate time and talent to bring down the boxes, put up the trees and lights, put the baby Jesus in the crib, keep the music flowing, usher, read, serve and distribute communion, organize and keep the confusion to a minimum. Thank you for your patience if your seat was taken by someone else or if traffic in the parking lot was moving too slow. It was a joy to see so many people in church and to notice that they left with rosy cheeks and a smile on their faces. Everyone helped, thank you.

## A NEW YEAR, A NEW BEGINNING

As we turn the calendar to a new year, many of us feel the familiar mixture of gratitude, hope, and perhaps a touch of weariness from the year just completed. There is something undeniably refreshing about a clean page, a new start, a chance to begin again. A good friend recently shared with me a delightful and profound line from G.K. Chesterton that captures this beautifully: **"The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears and new eyes."**

Chesterton reminds us that the true promise of a new year is not found in the number changing on our phones or calendars. It is found in the renewal of the human person—in the possibility that God can make us new from the inside out. We do not need to wait for life's circumstances to change before we begin again; grace allows us to begin again right now.

When Chesterton writes of a *new soul*, he isn't imagining that we discard who we are and start from scratch. Rather, he invites us to open our hearts more fully to God's transforming love. A "new soul" is a heart refreshed by forgiveness, a spirit strengthened by trust, and a renewed awareness that God walks with us into every chapter of life.

To have a *new nose* may sound odd, but Chesterton is getting at something deeply spiritual: the ability to "smell" what is good, holy, and life-giving. Many of the saints speak of developing a kind of instinct for grace—a sensitivity to the presence of God in the ordinary. Perhaps this year we can pray to become more alert to the subtle fragrances of God's work around us: a moment of peace, an unexpected kindness, a chance to help someone in need.

*New feet* suggest a willingness to walk new paths, especially ones that lead us closer to Christ and toward those who need us. It might mean stepping away from habits that drain our joy or making more intentional time for prayer, for family, or for those who are hurting. New feet give us courage to move in the direction of God's invitations.

A *new backbone* is Chesterton's way of saying that renewal sometimes requires strength, moral courage, resilience, and perseverance. The Christian life is not always easy, but it is always accompanied by grace. A new year invites us to stand a little straighter in our faith, trusting that God's strength is made perfect in our weakness.

Finally, *new ears and new eyes*: the ability to hear God's Word more deeply and to see others and ourselves with greater compassion. Perhaps the greatest gift we can receive this year is the grace to look at the world with the eyes of Christ, seeing not only its challenges but also its possibilities, its beauty, and the goodness still unfolding.

As a parish family, may this New Year be more than a change of date. May it be a season of renewal in mind, heart, and spirit. Let us welcome the grace that makes all things new and step forward with hope, trusting that God is already ahead of us, preparing the way.

Blessings for a grace-filled New Year!



## A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Lord God of all time, as we cross the threshold of a new year, renew us by Your grace. Give us a *new soul* open to Your mercy, ready to trust You more deeply. Grant us a *new nose* to sense the quiet presence of Your goodness in the ordinary moments of our days. Give us *new feet* to walk the paths You set before us, especially those that lead toward compassion, service, and holiness. Strengthen within us a *new backbone*, the courage to stand firm in faith, to persevere when life is heavy, and to live with integrity and hope. Open our hearts with *new ears* to hear Your Word and bless us with *new eyes* to see Your beauty in every person we meet and in every circumstance we face.

Lord, make this year not merely new in number, but new in transformation. Shape us, guide us, and walk with us, so that our lives may reflect the love of Christ more clearly. Bless our parish, our families, and all we hold in prayer. May Your peace go before us, Your grace sustain us, and Your joy be our strength. Amen.

## AN INVITATION FROM HAMILTON RIGHT TO LIFE

**Hamilton Right to Life** invites you to participate in our **17th Annual Candlelight Prayer Vigil on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>** honouring the 4-million unborn children who have lost their lives through abortion since 1980, and to pray for a transformation in the hearts and minds of those who view abortion as a solution to crisis or unplanned pregnancy. Evening Program of prayer, Gospel readings and music begins at **7:00pm** at **St. George Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson St., Hamilton**, followed by a short walk to Main St. for a half-hour of prayer and silent witness across from McMaster Children's Hospital. Afterward we'll return to St. George's for hot drinks, fellowship and a short presentation by Rev. Dr. Wayne Hancock. This is an outdoor event. Please dress warmly and according to weather conditions. Signs and battery-operated candles will be supplied. [Please go to our website to register:](http://HamiltonRightToLife.org/events) [HamiltonRightToLife.org/events](http://HamiltonRightToLife.org/events).





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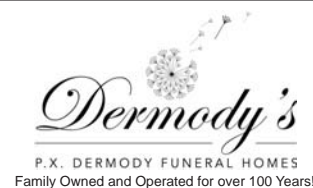
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