

St. Teresa of Avila

Roman Catholic Church

19 Flamingo Dr., Elmira, ON N3B 1V3
519-669-3387
stteresaelmira@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: www.stteresaelmira.ca

Established on the Second Sunday of Easter, 1851.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Meyer
pmeyer@hamiltondiocese.com
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Basil Markides
Office Administration: Donna Vollmer
Sacramental Preparation: Iris Miltenburg
Office Hours:
Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Mass Times

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses
see inside

Reconciliation

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.,
or by request.

Sacrament of Baptism (3rd Sunday of the month outside of Lent)

Parents, please pick up Baptism
package from the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact office six months
prior to desired date.
Marriage Prep offered.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please notify the parish office of
loved ones who are housebound
or in the hospital so they may
receive the comfort of the Church's
sacraments and prayer.

Outreach Ministry (A Ministry of Visitation)

Please contact the Parish Office if
you or someone you know would
like a visit by the Outreach Ministry.

Parish Contacts

Parish Pastoral Council

Colleen Jack Debbie Yutzi
Fr. Peter Meyer Jim McInnis
John Bruder Ken Gallipeau

Building & Finance Committee

Fr. Peter Meyer Diane Smith
Dan Lauzon Maria Diemert
Rick Weishar
Sebastian Siebel-Achenbach

Catholic Women's League

Barb Vodicka
h094.cwlpresident@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus

Rick Weishar
gk8192@ontariokofc.ca

Vocations

Contact hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/
or resurrectionists.com/vocations

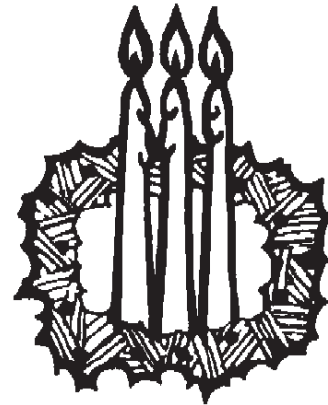
New Parishioners

New parishioners, welcome!
Please register at the office or pick up a
registration package at the church entrance.

Bulletin Deadline

Written submissions by Monday noon.

December 14, 2025
Third Sunday of
Advent



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

St. Teresa of Avila School

75 First St. W., Elmira
519-669-8843 Fax 519-669-4509

St. David Catholic Secondary School

4 High Street, Waterloo
519-885-1340 Website: stdavid.wcdsb.ca

Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth,
but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which
he moves compassion on
this world.

Yours are the feet with which
he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands with which
he blesses all the world.

Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila



✠ Please remember our benefactors and those who have left bequests in your prayers. ✠

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASSES FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 15TH

Tuesday, December 16, 5:00 pm

+Gord Walz; Judy & Marcella Furlong

The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God. – St. John Damascene

Wednesday, December 17, 12:05 pm

Intentions of Owen McIntosh; Millie & Al Selmenci

The more we go up and rise Christward and expose ourselves to the splendour of his light, the more wonderfully and brilliantly we too shall be flooded with his brightness. – Origen

Thursday, December 18, 12:05 pm

Intentions of Allan Graff & Family; Marcella & Judy Furlong

If God gave the soul his whole creation, she would not be filled thereby but only with himself. – Meister Eckhart

Friday, December 19, 9:00 a.m. – Maryhill

Live in such a way so that you bear outwardly as well as inwardly the image of Christ crucified, the model of all gentleness and mercy. – St. Paul of the Cross

Saturday, December 20,

4:00 pm Confessions

5:00 pm +Clare Downey; Jeannette Downey & Family

+Vince & Marie Kraemer; Nancy Kamberidis

Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Our Parish Community

10:00 am Children's Christmas Pageant

11:00 am Maryhill

READINGS FOR December 20/21

First Reading: Is 7:10-14

Second Reading: Rom 1:1-7

Gospel Reading: Mt 1:18-24

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR

PLEASE PRAY FOR :

Mon., Dec 15	Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
Tues., Dec 16	Rev. Stanley Nwokeji
Wed., Dec 17	Voluntas Dei Institute, i.v.Dei.
Thu., Dec 18	Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski
Fri., Dec 19	Rev. Donald Sanvido
Sat., Dec 20	Rev. David Weise

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

TUE Office Closed

THU 3:15 p.m. Children's Choir Practice – Church

6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus General Mtg-Hall

7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. – Library

MINISTRIES for December 20/21

Eucharistic Ministers

5pm Judy Furlong, Kieran Kelly

9am Chris & Allyson Cassidy, Sandi Hutchinson

Hospitality

5pm Marianne Kieswetter, Marilyn Hurlburt

9am Paul Shutsa, Pat & Linus Dittner

Lector

5pm Lisa Denomme

9am Hannah MacMillan

Commentator

Kevin Dupuis

Mike Noel

Altar Servers

9am Ella, Libby, Dan

Children's Liturgy

Dec 21 Sandi Hutchinson, Anna Jakeman

FOODBANK NEEDS

Canned Fish and Mayonnaise

LIVING ROSARY INTENTION

For Christians in areas of conflict – Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice". This Sunday is so named because "Rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Phillippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice!"

Join us next Sunday after the 9 a.m. Mass for the Children's Christmas Pageant.

Fr. Peter Meyer

BECOME A C.W.L. MEMBER! Ladies 16 or older, our membership drive goes until the end of the year. We would love to have you join our sisterhood of women here at St. Teresa which is a part of the National League that is Canada wide! Join today! Membership is \$40. Indicate your name, address, phone number and email address and either place it in the collection with your fee or e-transfer to our Treasurer at dunnfam1@rogers.com indicating C.W.L. membership.

St. Teresa School students have designed beautiful **CHRISTMAS CARDS** now available for purchase! Each pack includes 6 unique cards for \$15. Quantities are limited so pick up a set today and share the joy of the season. Proceeds support the good works of the Knights of Columbus.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – St. Teresa

Sunday, December 21st – Following the 9:00 a.m. Mass

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES – St. Teresa

Wednesday, December 24th – 6:30 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 25th – 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES – St. Boniface

Wednesday, December 24th – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 25th – 10:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES – St. Teresa

Wednesday, December 31st – 4:00 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES – St. Boniface

Thursday, January 1st – 11:00 a.m.

The **PHOTO DIRECTORIES** are now ready for pick-up. You can pick them up after Masses or at the Parish Office. Please make sure to initial beside your name on the list when you pick up your book.

CONFESSIONS – 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. on **Saturday, December 20th** or by appointment.

Each Advent the National Office for Evangelization and Catechesis produces a **FOUR-WEEK SERIES ON THE SUNDAY GOSPELS THROUGHOUT ADVENT** with reflections from His Excellency, Bishop Wayne Lobsinger. These reflections are on the Gospel of Matthew. You can find all information, at: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>.

St. James Lutheran in Elmira is hosting a **LONGEST NIGHT/BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** on **Sunday, December 21st** at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and encouraged to invite those for whom this year's season might be especially difficult.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! A CLOSING MASS FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE will be celebrated at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on **Sunday, December 28th** at 3 p.m. It will also be the Mass of Thanksgiving offered for Bishop Crosby's 15-years of service as Bishop of Hamilton. Priests, Deacons and Parishioners are invited to join in this time of prayer! Thank you for this blessed moment.

In January the Woolwich Counselling Centre is offering:

- **GLAD TO BE ME**, In-Person Workshop, ages 4 – 7 on **Monday, January 5, 2026** from 4 - 5 p.m. Fee is \$10.
- **NO NEED TO FRET: JUNIOR GROUP**, In-Person Workshop, ages 10 -12 on **Mondays, from January 12 - February 9, 2026** from 5 - 6 p.m. Fee is \$150.
- **UNDERSTANDING ADHD IN CHILDREN**, Virtual Parenting Workshop, on **Tuesday, January 13, 2026** from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Fee is \$10.
- **DISCOVERING THE BENEFITS OF MINDFULNESS**, In-Person Adult Workshop, on **Wednesday, January 16, 2026** from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Fee is \$10.
- **EFFECTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING WITH OUR CHILDREN**, Virtual Parenting Workshop, on **Wednesday, January 28, 2026** from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Fee is \$10.

To register, please visit:

<https://woolwichcounselling.org/upcoming-events/>.

***Further subsidies available if needed.**

Mark your calendars for the Woolwich Counselling Centre **50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA** on **Friday, March**

27, 2026 at the Lions Hall in Elmira. This unforgettable evening will feature a powerful musical keynote by **Séan McCann**, founding member of *Great Big Sea*, and a 3-course dinner prepared by Kennedy's Catering. Through this event, we're aiming to raise \$50,000 to ensure that every resident of Woolwich and Wellesley Townships can access mental health support. Tickets are on sale now - take advantage of the early bird pricing until January 31st!

Mark your calendar for the **2026 CRAFTS & COLLECTIBLES SHOW** on **Saturday, April 11, 2026** presented by Woolwich Community Services. Shop locally from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Elmira District Secondary School. Looking to be a vendor? Call 519-669-5139 or email craftshow@elmiramaplesyrupfestival.com.

PARENTING TIP – Christmas is a wonderful time of year! We see family, experience the joys of gift giving and receiving and have some time as a family just to be. It is however, more than any of these things, the celebration of the birth of Christ. In the hustle and bustle of the season we can forget to focus on this moment, where a child came into the world so that each of us could experience the profound gift of Salvation. This Christmas, enjoy all the fun stuff, but remember to focus, through stories, Mass, prayer and discussions, on the joy of Christ's birth and the real reason for the season. From Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

RESURRECTIONIST VOCATION MINUTE – John the Baptist had an intuition that profound things were about to take place. In every generation there are people being born who do not know who Jesus is. Part of our vocation in life is to pray for the same intuition that John had, so that we can help others to get excited about Jesus, because he continues to have great things in store for us all. In fact, some people are called to dedicate their lives in religious communities to the continued proclamation that Jesus has and will continue to perform miracles. Miracles that change our world for the better and remind us of the joy that radiates from everyone who chooses to keep God at the centre of their lives. Fr. Toby Collins, CR; resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com

VOCATION SEEDS – “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.” Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Offertory collection for December 6/7: \$ 3,830.85

Building & Maintenance Fund Balance: \$75,955.81

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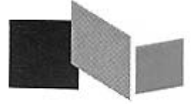
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