

# ST. MARY OF THE VISITATION PARISH



16 Cooper Street,  
Cambridge, Ontario N3C 2N2

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[www.stmaryhespeler.ca](http://www.stmaryhespeler.ca)

Rev. David Reitzel, Pastor [dreizel@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:dreizel@hamiltondiocese.com)

Mr. Jangho Hong, Seminarian

Mrs. Catherine Quinto Garcia, Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Rosanne Nusca, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Ruth Ann Milne, Office Assistant

## SCHEDULE OF LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Children's Liturgy runs during the 11:00 a.m.  
Mass for children in Kindergarten to Grade 2*

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

## PRAYING THE ROSARY

Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and

7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

All are welcome.

## PARISH ADORATION CHAPEL

Our Chapel is available seven days a week starting  
Sunday at 12 noon through Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

For more information please call Sheila at 519-  
658-9414.

## OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Fatima School 519-658-4041

St. Elizabeth School 519-651-0400

St. Gabriel School 519-658-2008

St. Benedict Secondary School 519-621-4050

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

(Located in the lower level of the church)

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

## NEW PARISHIONERS

Please register through our parish website or by  
completing a form located at the parish entrances.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday – Friday 15 minutes prior to Mass

Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. or  
by appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the parish office to begin the process  
of preparing your child and family for this  
Sacrament.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office before setting a date  
of marriage in order to begin preparations.

## PASTORAL CARE TO SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please contact the office and Father David would be  
most willing to visit.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

Please call 519-658-6511 for assistance.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Requested by
Tuesday, December 16	7:00 PM	+ Percy Miranda + Eric Walter + Lynn Swiss + Jim Haney + Audrey Athavale	The Miranda Family The Walter Family Anna Altomare The Haney Family Anne-Marie & Steve Belanger
Wednesday, December 17	8:00 AM	+ Luisa Bairos Leonardo & Family	Carmen and Tony Chaves
Thursday, December 18	8:00 AM	+ Jim Haney	The Haney Family
Friday, December 19	8:00 AM	Intentions of June & Connie Voivin	Chris O'Neill
Saturday, December 20	5:00 PM	+ Luigi Chiarot + Mary and Jim Haney + Luis Silverio Barcelos + Lenore Enright	The Natalizio Family The Haney Family Rosa Barcelos Cecilia Maceachen
Sunday, December 21	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	For the people of St. Mary of the Visitation Parish For the people of St. Mary of the Visitation Parish	



### WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE VISITATION PARISH:

A special welcome to all new members and visitors! We encourage all new members to register with the parish.

Please pick up a registration form at the church entrance or complete an online form:

[www.stmaryhespeler.ca/new-parishioners](http://www.stmaryhespeler.ca/new-parishioners)

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 24 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>
5:00 p.m.	11:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	
12:00 Midnight	

### EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES FOR ADVENT

Monday, December 22: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 23: 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.



### CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTES:

Thank you for your dedications of flowers for the Christmas season. Christmas flowers for the church will be placed in memory of your loved ones and their names will be kept near the altar and remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** The Children's Liturgy program will pause for the holidays following next Sunday and resume on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.



**BAMBINELLI SUNDAY:** For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on

**Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent,** and is known as Baminelli Sunday. The blessing of the 'Baminelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy. All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on **December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>** at all Masses to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Baminelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Baminelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day and as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

**MONTHLY MASS AT ST. LUKE'S PLACE:** Our next Mass at St. Luke's Place is **Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.** All are welcome.



### O COME, LET US ADORE HIM

Jesus, who was born in a stable in Bethlehem, is waiting for you in our Chapel of Adoration. Each moment that you spend in His Eucharistic Presence will increase His divine life within you and deepen your relationship with Him. Please visit our Chapel of Eucharistic Adoration located off the lower parking lot. For more information please call: Sheila or Frank (519) 658-9414.

**PARISH OFFERINGS for Dec. 6/7, 2025**

Sunday Offerings: \$6,529.00  
Spirit of Hope Collection: \$ 250.00

***Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated.***

If you are looking for ways to support the parish, please visit [www.stmaryhespeler.ca/donate](http://www.stmaryhespeler.ca/donate)

**2025 OFFERINGS:** Please submit any 2025 donations to the parish by Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**SPIRIT OF HOPE COLLECTION:** As requested by Bishop Crosby, our parish is taking up a "*Spirit of Hope*" special collection to be used to assist the poor in our community. To date we have collected \$1,745.00. Thank you for your generous support! The last day to contribute to this special collection is Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS:** We know that at Christmas our hearts will be full – we want our pews to be full also! Throughout Advent, Parishes across the Diocese are being encouraged to invite all the faithful to ***Come Home for Christmas***. We all know people who have fallen away from regular Mass attendance, and Christmas provides a privileged occasion to welcome them home. All parishioners are encouraged to join in this effort to extend a warm invitation to return. Visit <https://hamiltondiocese.com/comehome/>

**JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT 2025:** Join The Most Rev. Wayne Lobsinger, Auxilliary Bishop of the Hamilton Diocese, as he reflects on the Scriptures for the Sundays of Advent. For more information: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

**THE REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL** is back with another year of enlightening films and meaningful dialogue! Our lineup for 2026 explores topics of housing insecurity, intellectual freedom, Indigenous rights, and ecological debt. Visit us online at <https://hamiltondiocese.com/reel-justice-film-festival/> to view our full event schedule, learn more about our films, and register for screenings. A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the Reel Justice Film Festival shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustices.

**SUNDAY MISSALS:** Available for purchase at the parking lot entrance of the church. Cost: \$5.00

**DAY OF MERCY:** All Day Confessions at St. Ambrose Church, Cambridge will be held on **Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** from 9am to 4pm.  
Fr. Gary Schlack – from 9:00 am to 11:00 am  
Fr. Michael King – from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Fr. Gary Schlack – from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm  
Fr. Michael King – from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm



**PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH:** 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.

**MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH:** Marriage is a journey that two people undertake with a plan to navigate life together. When researchers investigate what makes the journey both long and happy, many things come into play, but a strong one is repeated by most: "I married my best friend." It is good to ask yourself then, are you being a good friend to your spouse? Do you spend time together, share parts of your day, invite them to share in an event with you, watch a movie together, or even a series that can become together time? Do you call once in awhile to say hello during the time you are not together and plan time for your spouse in your agenda – everyday? Are you patient when they make a mistake, are not perfect, or let you down? Friendships thrive and last in this kind of environment, so make friendship a foundation of your marriage. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

**CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT:** During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8pm-9pm) and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>** at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>



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