

St. Mary of the Visitation Parish

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Rev. Ed Henhoeffter, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Michael Foulger, Permanent Deacon

Mrs. Rosanne Nusca, Administrative Assistant



Feast of the Holy Family

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Requested by
Monday, January 1	11:00 a.m.	<i>For the Parishioners</i>	
Tuesday, January 2	7:00 p.m.	Intentions of Noreen and Paul Tenechuk Deceased Members of the Nguyen Family	Brian & Sharon Prior The Nguyen Family
Wednesday, January 3	8:00 a.m.	+ John Pellegrini	The Catholic Women's League
Thursday, January 4	8:00 a.m.	+ Patricia O'Neill	Chris O'Neill
Friday, January 5	8:00 a.m.	+ Consuelo Amante	The Yu Family
Saturday, January 6	5:00 p.m.	+ Dennis Doye + Maria Gesufatto Souls in Purgatory	Ellen Doye The Pedro Family Lucinda de Oliveira



JANUARY 1ST, THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD: On the eighth day of Christmas, the Church honours Mary as the Mother of God. In Canada, **January 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation.** This year

with New Year's falling on a Monday the vigil mass will be celebrated on Sunday evening. The morning Masses on Sunday are for the *Feast of the Holy Family*. **The New Year's Mass schedule is Sunday, December 31st at 5:00 p.m. and Monday, January 1st at 11:00 a.m.**

THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON: The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the last day of the Christmas Season and is celebrated on the Sunday after January 6. In Canada where the Solemnity of the Epiphany is transferred to the Sunday after New Year's, depending on the year, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord can lose its place in the calendar and is transferred to the following Monday. This year the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord will be celebrated on **Monday, January 8.** In honour of the Feast, there will be Mass at 8:00 a.m. *Join us for the last day of the Christmas season.*

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: The Children's Liturgy program will **resume on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024.**

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS:

- Monday, January 1st: **Closed**
- Tuesday, January 2nd: Open 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 3rd: **Closed**
- Thurs. Jan. 4th: **Closed**
- Friday, January 5th: Open 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

LOST AND FOUND TABLE: There are many items to be claimed! Mitts, gloves, water bottles, glasses, umbrellas, etc. Please see the table in the hallway to the parking lot. Unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the year.

WINTER VACATION: Father Ed will be away on vacation January 15-25. At the time of the publication of this bulletin it has not been confirmed whether there is a priest available for the weekday Masses. If there is no priest available, there will be no masses for the weekdays. On the weekend of January 20/21 we will welcome Father Mark Morley the Vocation director of the Diocese to celebrate our Sunday Masses.

THE CHOSEN: On Saturday mornings for February and March (February 3 – March 23) join us for Season 1 of the Chosen. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. and then we will gather in the parish center to watch the episode followed by discussion and fellowship. A great way to prepare for Easter. 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

SAVE THE DATE! Our next Coffee Sunday will be **Sunday, January 14th** following ALL Masses. Plan to stay after Mass to wish your fellow parishioners a happy new year!



CWL MEETING: Our next CWL meeting will take place **on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024** immediately following the 7:00 pm Mass. We are very pleased to welcome Marty Dever from Lisaard House. She will give an overview of the great work that is carried out at Lisaard and Innisfree Facilities. All ladies are welcome to attend. Come and bring a friend to this great learning experience.

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your offertory envelopes in the parish hallway if you have not already done so. If you do not presently use envelopes and would like a set, or if you would like to switch to pre-authorized giving, please contact Rosanne in the parish office: 519-658-4443, stmarycambridge@hamiltondiocese.com

PARISH OFFERINGS

December 16/17, 2023

Sunday Envelopes (121):	\$8,345.30
Loose Offerings:	\$657.90
Christmas Offerings (3)	\$340.00

December 23-25, 2023

To be reported in the next bulletin.

Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING: Have you considered donating to the parish through our pre-authorized giving program? Pre-authorized giving replaces weekly cash or cheque offerings with monthly transfers from your bank account directly to the parish. Not only is this method of giving helpful to the parish, it is also more convenient for you – and, most importantly, it encourages us to give in a way that is intentional, faithful, and sacrificial. You are encouraged to prayerfully reflect on whether this method of giving is right for you. You can find the brochure and authorization form on our website: <https://www.stmaryhespeler.ca/donate>. Please contact the parish office for more information.

THANK YOU: We wish to thank the Knights of Columbus Council 4916 for their generous donation to our parish.



MONTHLY COLLECTION: Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be collecting donations after all Masses this weekend.

Please note that donations made this weekend will be receipted for 2024.

VOCATIONS: Mary treasured all that God had done for her and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God's gifts and ponder what He wants from you? You may have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988, vocations@hamiltondiocese.com. Visit <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>



WORLD DAY OF PEACE: JANUARY 1

The World Day of Peace was established by Pope Paul VI in 1968 who asked that "every year, this commemoration be repeated as a hope and as a promise, at the beginning of the calendar which measures

and outlines the path of human life in time, that Peace with its just and beneficent equilibrium may dominate the development of events to come." "Artificial Intelligence and Peace". This is the theme of the Message of the World Day of Peace. The remarkable advances made in the field of artificial intelligence are having a rapidly increasing impact on human activity, personal and social life, politics and the economy. The Pope's Message, divided into eight sections, examines the question of the progress of science and technology as a path to peace and reflects on the future of artificial intelligence (AI).

"If artificial intelligence were used to promote integral human development, it could introduce important innovations in agriculture, education and culture," writes the Pope, adding that "the way we use it to include the least of our brothers and sisters, the vulnerable and those most in need, will be the true measure of our humanity"

To read the full message from Pope Francis go to: <https://www.stmaryhespeler.ca/news-2>

WHEN LIFE CHANGES: The Hamilton Diocese is offering a new grief program. Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? You are not alone! Our six-week grief program starts **January 17, 2024** and will be held from 1:30-3:00 pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or by zoom. To register go to <https://hamiltondiocese.com/> and look for the start date under upcoming events on the home page.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR

January 1 – 6

Monday	<i>The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i>
Tuesday	Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.
Wednesday	Diocesan Priests
Thursday	Rev. Jason Kuntz
Friday	Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
Saturday	Rev. David Perrin

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