

# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

14400 Argyll Road, Georgetown, ON L7G 5S6

905-873-1887    [www.holycrossrc.com](http://www.holycrossrc.com)

## PARISH STAFF

Father David Walter, Pastor    email: [dwalter@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:dwalter@hamiltondiocese.com)

Twitter: @HCParish    Facebook: @HCParishGeorgetown

Father William Meehan, Associate Pastor

Father William Meehan, Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang, Permanent Deacon

Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Secretary



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Date	Time	Holy Mass	Parish Meetings
SUNDAY, December 28 <i>Holy Family</i>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Sunday Eucharist - (I) Holy Cross Parish (ON LINE at 6:00 a.m.)	
MONDAY, December 29	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (I) Anne Gaiger	
TUESDAY, December 30	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	7:00 p.m.	Daily Mass † Stella Succee Stone	
WEDNESDAY, December 31	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Louis De Melo	
<i>New Year's Eve</i> Wednesday, December 31	5:00 p.m.	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	
<i>New Year's Day</i> Thursday, January 1	10:30 a.m.	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	
FRIDAY, January 2	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Sydney Thomas Moore † Gail Laflamme † Harshita Chaudhrai † Palmira, Manuel & Frank Freitas (I) Rob & Chris Fines (I) Barb Lavoie & Family	
SATURDAY, January 3	9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass † Elizabeth Jolene Fendley & Anna & Leslie Simonyi	
	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass - the Epiphany of the Lord <i>Offered for the Intentions of the Deceased Faithful:</i> Maureen Kenny; David Rose; Doris Krzak; John Baus; Carolyn & Antoni Jedlinks; Maria from Heaven Cabral Melo; Sylvia Murphy; Maria Leong. Intentions of Pope Leo.	This week's Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of Gerald Forrester & May Merkle.

### From the Pastor's Desk

On this feast, the Church turns her gaze to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—an ordinary family made holy by love, faith, and obedience to God's will. In their joys and trials, we see that holiness is lived out in daily life: in patience, sacrifice, forgiveness, and trust in God. May the Holy Family bless our own families and help our homes become places where faith is nurtured and Christ is welcomed.

### Quote of the Week

"In meditation we find the strength to bring Christ to birth in ourselves and in others." — *St. Charles Borromeo*

### Sunday Smile

If we removed all the margarine from the earth, the world would be a butter place.

### Mass Times for the Feast of Mary, Mother of God - Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

**New Year's Eve** - Wed, Dec 31 — 5:00pm

**New Year's Day** - Thur, Jan 1 — 10:30am

(Please Note: **NO 9:00am Mass** on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>)

### Thank You, Christmas Volunteers!

Our sincere gratitude to all who generously shared their time and talents to make our Christmas liturgies prayerful and beautiful. From liturgical ministers and musicians to decorators, ushers, altar servers, and those working quietly behind the scenes—your service helped our parish celebrate the mystery of Christ's birth with reverence and joy. May God reward your generosity abundantly, and may the light of Christ remain in your hearts throughout the year!

### Thank You for the Gifts!

On behalf of Fr. Dave, Fr. Will and the staff at Holy Cross parish, a sincere thank you to everyone that dropped off cards and gifts for Christmas. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

### Close of the Jubilee of Hope

All are welcome to join Bishop Crosby and Bishop Lobsinger for the close of the Jubilee Year at a Eucharistic Celebration on Sunday, December 28 at 3:00pm in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. We will have an opportunity during this Mass to offer thanks for Bishop Crosby's ministry as Bishop of Hamilton at this celebration.

### Sunday (Novalis) Missals

2026 Sunday Missals will be available for purchase after all Masses this weekend. The Knights of Columbus sell the Missals for \$5 each. The Sunday Missal is useful for reflecting on the Scripture readings before Mass. Your 2025 Missals can be left with the Knights for disposal.

### Year End Donations

CRA regulations prevent us from accepting 2025 donations in 2026. If you would like to make a "year end donation" please do so before by December 31, 2025. Donations received or dated after December 31 must be credited for 2026. Thank you.

### Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2026

Boxed sets of 2026 envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex. If you are not currently an envelope user and would like to start please contact the parish office. Also, *pre-authorized giving* forms for 2026 are available in the Narthex - please return them promptly. If you would like to learn more about this way of supporting the parish please contact the office.

### Sanctuary Lamp

You may wish to donate the Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a deceased loved one. Contact the parish office for further details.

### Rosary Repairs

Do you have a broken rosary lying around that you're not sure what to do with? Well, there's good news! We have a parishioner that has the skills and tools to repair rosaries, and is more than happy to do so for you! There is a box in the narthex titled 'Rosary Repairs' – simply take an envelope from the box to insert the broken rosary, write your name and contact information on it and we will let you know when it's fixed and ready to pick up.

### Hospital Stays

For your information - Due to privacy laws, the hospital does not provide us with a list of Catholic patients as was the practice in the past, even if you give them information about your religious affiliation when admitted. This is just a reminder that if you find yourself or a loved one in the hospital and wish to have a visit from Father, please contact the office so we don't miss you! If it is an emergency, ask a nurse to contact the on-call priest.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

### Reduce Food Waste - Best Before & Expiration Dates

Check it out before you chuck it out. Don't throw out food just because it's past the best before date! Best before dates and expiration dates are not the same. **Expiration dates** relate to **food safety** and are only on certain foods with strict nutritional and compositional specifications (such as infant formula or meal replacements). The items should be disposed of once the expiry date has passed. **Best before** dates refer to **freshness and quality**, not safety. They indicate when a product will be at its tastiest and freshest. After that date, the food may still be safe to eat, it just might not be at peak quality. How date labels help reduce food waste and save money. More foods include best before dates than required by law. Why? They help you check it out before you chuck it out; they help you know how long items have been in your fridge or pantry; they give you a reference point so you can choose which foods to use first; they can save you money, as stores often discount items approaching their best before dates; they help industry monitor production and manage stock rotation. For more information, visit the Canadian Food Inspection Agency: <https://inspection.canad.ca/en/food-labels/labelling/consumers/best-dates>

### Need Help Finding the Right Healthcare Services?

You're not alone. The Connected Care Halton Ontario Health Team Navigation Line is here to support you! Whether you need healthcare assistance, social services, or just a little guidance, we're only a phone call away.

📞 Call us at 1-844-806-3093 to get connected to the care and resources you need (Monday to Friday, 8AM-8PM).

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Let's ensure no one struggles to find the help they need. Call now—and don't forget to share this with someone who might need it!

### NEW! Saturday Good Shepherd Atrium

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (also known as "the Atrium") is a parish-based ministry at Holy Cross Parish. It is open to all children between the ages of 3 – 13, offering them a unique opportunity for faith development. This program, founded in Rome, is a soundly traditional method of allowing children to enter more fully into the mystery of God using the principles of Montessori education. The sessions provide presentations, materials and a sacred space where the children can grow in their personal relationship with God, as it is first proclaimed to them through Jesus, the Good Shepherd. **We have started a Level 1 session on Saturday mornings twice a month from 9:00-10:30am. The next session is Sat, Jan 3 from 9:00-10:30am. For more information, please contact the parish office.**



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