



St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish

Phone: 905-529-3921

email: stlawrencehamilton@hamiltondiocese.com

www.stlawrencehamilton.ca

December 16th - Third Sunday of Advent

Fr. Peter Jurzyk
To contact Fr. Peter,
please call the Parish Office
905-529-3921
In case of after hours
emergency please call
289-246-9877

Sunday Mass: 11:00am
Weekday Mass Schedule:

Tuesday

7:00pm

Wednesday

8:00am

Thursday

Confession 6:15pm

Mass 7:00pm

Friday

8:00am

Parish Office Hours:

9am-1pm Mon & Fri

9am-3pm Tues, Wed & Thurs
(office closes for a half hour at 12 noon)

**Sacraments of Marriage
or Baptism:**

Please contact the Parish Office to
make an appointment to meet
with Father Peter.

Phone: 905-529-3921

or email us:

stlawrencehamilton@hamiltondiocese.com

125 Picton Street East
Hamilton, Ontario L8L 0C5

Parish Staff

Keith Jolie - Secretary
Pat Sullivan - Custodian

From the Pastor's Desk

Rejoice in the Lord always; I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near – this entrance antiphon embodies the Third Sunday of Advent. We are called to the joy that flows from the Lord. Having passed the midpoint of Advent the Church encourages us to continue our spiritual preparation for the second coming of Christ and obviously for the feast of His Nativity. Today during the Mass a priest can wear rose vestments instead of purple ones that are normally used in the season of Advent.



In today's Gospel we find St. John the Baptist in the centre of all the events. He was not only a good and radical preacher, but also his teaching was very practical. When various groups of people came to him asking what they should do, he told each of them what to do in order to live a life pleasing the Lord. He told them a general rule how to truly love their neighbour and gave them specific pieces of advice accordingly to their professions.

Today, we are also called to live a holy life dedicated to the Lord despite of our occupation, social status or position. The call to holiness binds every authentic follower of Jesus.

This Monday, December 17th, we begin the second part of Advent that is directly dedicated to the mystery of the Nativity of the Lord. Therefore, during the 8 last days before Christmas in the liturgical calendar there is no special feast or memorial of saints.

The Filipino Community continues the Novena to Baby Jesus with a Mass and special prayers in our church. On Thursday, December 20th, we are going to have a common Mass with them at 7 pm and an Advent Celebration in the church hall to follow. Everybody is welcome!

The final days of Advent are a good opportunity to prepare not only our church and homes for the upcoming feasts but our hearts as well through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Saint John the Baptist, direct our hearts to the right desires, so that we may truly rejoice at the Lord!

God bless,
Fr. Peter

Mass Schedule & Intentions for the Week of December 17, 2018

TUESDAY, December 18
8:00 a.m. – Manuel Rocha
by Rosa Rocha

WEDNESDAY, December 19
8:00 a.m. – The Frisina, Fazzari & Caminiti
Families
by Giovanna Frisina

THURSDAY, December 20
Confessions starting at 5:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m. – Michele & Domenica Crea
by the family

FRIDAY, December 21
8:00 a.m. – The Pavao and Raposo Families

SUNDAY, December 23
Fourth Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m. – The Parishioners of St. Lawrence
the Martyr Parish

Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday December 24 (Christmas Eve) –
Midnight Mass
Tuesday December 25 (Christmas Day) –
11:00 a.m.

Important Dates and Events

December

20th Advent Celebration starting with
Confessions at 5:30, mass at 7:00 followed
by a social in the church hall.

24th Midnight Mass

25th Christmas Day Mass 11:00 a.m.



December 9 Sunday Collection
\$ 1240.90

Mass Times this week - Weekday Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday this week. Thursday's mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. as part of our Advent celebration.

Advent Celebration Thursday- As we enter the 3rd week of Advent, it is a time to reflect and a time to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus. Everyone is invited this Thursday for a very special Advent Celebration; as we gather as one community, to share in the hope, love, joy and peace that this season brings. Thursday Dec. 20th:

- Opportunity for confessions at 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Mass at 7:00 p.m,

A community social will be held in the parish hall after Mass, with food and refreshments.

Turkey Roll Thank You! Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the annual Turkey Roll. This year's event raised over \$8,000!

Good Shepherd Christmas Donations - The perfect gift for the person who wants for nothing! Please consider a donation to Good Shepherd. Your gift will help to brighten the lives of families and individuals in need during the Christmas Season. Christmas donations can be made in Honour of a person of your choosing and if you wish, Good Shepherd will send them an "in honour card" - A limited number of donation forms and mailing envelopes are on the tables at the back of the church. Please be generous.

Seniors Bingo - After this week (Wed, Dec. 19), The Vivere Sani Social Club seniors bingo will be on winter break and is tentatively scheduled to restart on January 23, 2019.

In Memoriam - If you would like to have a name included in our in Memoriam section of the Bulletin for 2019 please contact the Parish Office - your contributions help to pay for the printing costs of this bulletin.

2018 Tax Receipts - Early in the new year we will be preparing charitable donation tax receipts. If you have moved please ensure that you update your address with the parish. Forms to update your information are available at the back of the church.



Giuseppe Cavigliano
Hollier- Heddle & Greco Families.
Gilberto Pavao and Families.
Jackson, Joyce & Moorcroft Families
The Grace, Dunn, Kennedy,
& Nespal Families.



In the Diocese...

The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation (CWLF) is accepting applications for 2019 Leadership Program for Canadian Catholic women. The Program will be facilitated by the Providence School of Transformative Leadership and Spirituality, Saint Paul University, Ottawa. For more information about CWLF, the Leadership Program and to complete an application form visit www.cwlfcanada.ca.

Seeking the Sacred: The Soul's Slow Ripening - A Senior Adult Workshop Series taking place on 7 Tuesday afternoons, starting Jan. 29 2019 1:30- 3:30pm at the Chancery Office in Hamilton. This 7 part workshop/study session will explore twelve unique Celtic-Christian spiritual practices. These 12 practices are intended to give practical ways for us to deepen our relationship with God and all of creation. This course will be facilitated by Sister Mary Heather MacKinnon SSND. The cost will be \$35, which includes the text. Please register by Jan. 25 2019. For further information please contact 905-52807988 ext. 2238 or check the website, www.hamiltondiocese.com

Friday Night Support Group for Persons Separated or Divorced meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month and they can help! No need to register just come and join us at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West, Hamilton from 7 - 9 p.m. For more information call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249. NO COST.

Healing After an Abortion: It Is Possible? - Project Rachel offers a confidential service allowing people to work through their feelings and find hope and healing. Contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.



A Christmas Movie With A Message! At this time of year when the Little Town of Bethlehem is on our minds, Development & Peace - Caritas Canada invites you to attend a screening of the critically acclaimed documentary, 'Open Bethlehem'. Come and discover modern-day Bethlehem, and how the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has disturbed the Peace of the world's most famous small town. This is a 'pay what you can' event, and all proceeds will go towards Development & Peace's International Development projects, including those in the Holy Land.

DETAILS: Wed Dec 19th; 7-9pm; The Cotton Factory (270 Sherman Ave N, Hamilton). For more info, contact D&P's Southwestern Ontario Animator, Rebecca Rathbone, at 905-521-5632 or rrathbone@devp.org.





DIOCESE OF HAMILTON



The Diocese of Hamilton is conducting the One Heart, One Soul Campaign to raise money for every parish in the Diocese and for shared ministries. Answers to a set of Frequently Asked Questions appear in parish bulletins regularly. A compilation of all questions that have been published are available throughout the campaign at oneheartonesoul.ca.

What is the state of diocesan finances? Is this a desperate situation that requires a campaign?

The diocesan financial picture is strong – the amount of assets has grown in recent years and investments are doing well. Meanwhile, the Diocese is generous with grants and loans to parishes and Catholic organizations within the Diocese. Parish assessments have been stable in recent years but have not kept up with increases in diocesan operating costs. Property sales have been used more frequently to keep the Diocese's operating budget balanced and strong, and many assets (such as the Care and Maintenance Fund for Cemeteries) are restricted and not at the Diocese's disposal. This is not an emergency situation. The Diocese is looking ahead and acting before any kind of emergency could develop. Overall, the campaign is a way to ensure that more parishes will be able to be self-sufficient over the long term, building up themselves and the Diocese at the same time.

I've heard the Diocese has a lot of assets. Can't those be used?

At the end of 2017, the Diocese reported assets of \$322 million. However, the majority of the assets are restricted assets, such as the Care and Maintenance Fund for Cemeteries, money legally reserved for the maintenance of cemetery operations and funds held for pre-arranged funeral services and burials. Unrestricted assets are less than a third of the total capital. Of these unrestricted assets, more than 90 percent is used to generate investment income that – when combined with parish assessments – pays for annual diocesan operations (68 percent) and make funds available for grants and loans to help parishes and organizations within and outside the Diocese (32 percent).

Is there any chance that funds would be used to settle potential claims of abuse of children by clergy?

The tragic stories recently in the news, thankfully, do not reflect the circumstances and history of our diocese. However, it should still be noted that funds raised during the campaign will be held in a segregated account, in trust for the parishes and ministries for which they were raised. Both civil and canon law require the diocese to use the gifts we receive for the stated purposes for which they were given – an obligation to which we are fully committed. Regarding how the Diocese handles abuse allegations, Bishop Crosby said in an August 2018 letter to all in the Diocese: "All allegations of sexual misconduct have been and will continue to be taken seriously and addressed immediately in accordance with our diocesan policy." For a link to the full letter, see our diocesan website, hamiltondiocese.com.

What kind of financial transparency can we expect during the campaign and beyond?

Transparency is a top priority for the Diocese. Summaries of diocesan financial reports from 2012 through 2017 are on the diocesan website, and copies of the full reports are available from the Diocese's financial office. Regular updates of campaign goals, projects and fundraising will be communicated during the campaign through a number of avenues – the website, emails, social media, to name a few.