

St. Louis Catholic Church

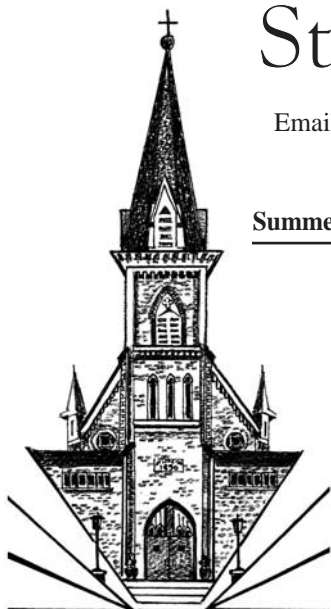
53 Allen Street East, Waterloo ON N2J 1J3 Tel: 519-743-4101

Email: stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com Web site: www.saintlouisparish.ca

Served by the Congregation of the Resurrection since 1890.

Office hours: Monday – Thursday 9 - 12 and 1- 4 p.m.

Summer hours (Canada Day to Labour Day): Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



St Louis Catholic Church



Weekday Masses:

Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m.

Rosary: Tuesday to Friday
before 9:00 a.m. Mass

Sunday Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Pastoral Team:

Pastor

Father Phil Reilly, C.R.
preilly@hamiltondiocese.com

Coordinator of Youth and Children's Ministries

Kelly Krause
kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Secretary

Anna Malton
stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com

Custodian

Doug Lichty

Welcome new members - Whether you are just passing through the area or looking for a spiritual home, we welcome you to St. Louis Catholic Church. We hope you will find our worship environment hospitable and prayerful. People often attend Mass at a parish for months or years without officially registering. Registration here at St. Louis is an expression of your commitment to being an active member of our community. Parish registration simplifies the process with regard to sponsoring a sacramental candidate; obtaining pastoral references and for preparation of baptisms, weddings and funerals. Registration is easy and can be completed at the Parish Office during regular office hours. Registration forms are available at the back of the Church.

Parish Records - Our parish records are very important. We try to keep them up to date. Please advise the office of any changes.

Music in the Liturgy - Music plays an integral role in the liturgical life of the parish. Parishioners are invited to join our choirs. Please contact the choir directors:

9:30 Choir - Bob Reinhart (robertreinhart182@msn.com)

11:30 Choir - Donna McLellan (donna-ipad@hotmail.com)

Sunday programs for children - During the Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. Mass there is babysitting for children under 3 years of age, Sunday School for 3 to 6 years of age and Children's Liturgy of the Word for children ages 7 and up.

Sacramental Life - St. Louis Parish celebrates the sacraments for its members who are registered and regularly attending. If you are not registered you are automatically a member of a parish closest to you.

Baptism - Celebrated once a month. Please speak with a priest after Mass on Sunday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturdays 4 - 4:30 p.m., or by appointment.

Marriage - For registered and supporting members, please contact the parish office at least one year in advance of your date.

Becoming Catholic - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, preparing adults for baptism and/or to join the community. Please contact the office for further information.

Anointing and Pastoral Care - Our parish community cares about the sick and elderly and the lonely. Please notify the parish office to arrange for them to receive the Anointing of the Sick, or to have the Holy Communion brought to them.

Pastoral Care to those in Hospital - A family member is asked to contact the parish whenever a parishioner is in hospital and requests a pastoral visit, or Sacrament of the Sick (Anointing).

Priesthood and Religious Life - Is God calling you to religious life, as a Brother, Deacon or Priest? If so, please contact the Vocation Director for the Congregation of the Resurrection, at resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com or www.resurrectionists.ca

Diocesan Newsletter - For information about Activities and Events of interest in the Diocese of Hamilton, subscribe to the online Diocesan Newsletter at www.hamiltondiocese.com

Parish Organizations and Contacts:

Finance Council

Terry Collins, 519-741-1534

Maintenance Committee

Bob Lorentz, 519-576-5556

OOTC Community Suppers

Keith & Sharon Schnarr 519-801-8687

Parish Webmaster

Daniel Delattre, daniel@uwaterloo.ca

Altar Servers Coordinator

Dave Pagett, 519-744-7705

Catechesis Of The Good Shepherd, Youth Ministry

Kelly Krause, 519-743-4101

Catholic Women's League

Donna Herbstreit, 519-884-9380
donna.marie2000@icloud.com

Ministry to the Elderly & Homebound

Cecilia Beechey, 519-572-5435

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sandra Williams, 519-742-9239

Prayer Chain

Sharon Carey, 519-746-8073

St. Vincent De Paul

For food hamper or more
information call 519-743-4101



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS and EVENTS

| | | | |
|--|--|---------|---------|
| Monday, December 11 – No Mass | | | |
| 9 AM – NOON | Pickle Ball | Gym | |
| 5:30 PM | Good Shepherd Catechesis | Nursery | |
| 6:30 PM | 11:30 Choir Rehearsal | Church | |
| Tuesday, December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas | | | |
| 9:00 AM | Bring Our Loved Ones Home to the Church | | |
| 9:30 AM | Book Group Meeting | L. Hall | |
| 7:00 PM | Painting with Kelly - Christmas Moose | L. H. | |
| Wednesday, December 13 – St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr | | | |
| 9:00 AM | † Members of Estrada & Leonard Families – Estrada | | Family |
| 9 AM – NOON | Pickle Ball | Gym | |
| Thursday, Dec. 14 – St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor | | | |
| 9:00 AM | † Evangelina Logena Roxas – Pete & Tess Bianchi | | |
| 7:00 PM | Lectio Divina | L. Hall | |
| Friday, December 15 | | | |
| 9:00 AM | † Rosemary Peterson – Peterson Family | | |
| 9 AM – NOON | Pickle Ball | Gym | |
| 7 PM | Advent & Christmas Concert | Church | |
| 8 PM | Social | L. Hall | |
| Saturday, December 16 | | | |
| 8 AM – NOON | SVDP Sandwich Project | Kitchen | |
| Vigil of the Third Sunday of Advent | | | |
| 5:00 PM | People of St. Louis Parish | | |
| Sunday, December 17 – Third Sunday of Advent | | | |
| 9:30 AM | † Shirley Hinsperger – Rob Hisperger | | |
| | † Joan Sichewski – St. Louis Conference of SVDP | | |
| | † Mel Buckle – Alice McTavish | | |
| | † Deceased Members of the Gies Family – Rob Hisperger | | |
| 10:30 AM | Sunday Social | L. Hall | |
| 11:30 AM | † Edward & Stella Hrycyk – Caravaggio Family | | |
| | † Dave Coombes – Caravaggio Family | | |
| | † Michael Sullivan – Butler Family | | |
| | † Fatima Cabral – Mother | | |
| 12:30 PM | Hot dog lunch before practice | | L. Hall |
| 1:00 PM | Practice for Dramatization of the Gospel for Christmas Eve (2/2) | | Church |
| 5:00 PM | OOTC Community Supper | | Gym |

Reflection on the First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Today's reading from Isaiah begins with the word "comfort." God's people, referred to collectively as "Jerusalem," are comforted because a new beginning is on the horizon: "*she [Jerusalem] has served her term, ... her penalty is paid.*" Their comfort lies in God's redemptive actions toward His people. There is also comfort in the continuity of God's presence among them. The phrases "my people" and "your God" recall the covenant formula that would have been familiar to the people: "*I will be your God and you will be my people.*" This covenant relationship is recalled and renewed throughout the OT.

Isaiah continues by depicting what this new beginning looks like though geographical topography that shifts to such a degree that even the earth manifests God's glory and none can ignore it. In this new era, all people will be united before God in praise and worship. The restoration of God's people to new life full of glorifying God is such good news that it needs to be proclaimed from the highest mountaintops to desert paths; everyone must hear the "good tidings."

God's people are exhorted to share this joyous communication. Isaiah refers to God's people as both Jerusalem and Zion and repeats the call using both names: "O Zion, herald of tidings... O Jerusalem,

The Second Week of Advent Represents:

Peace and Preparation.



Candle Name: Bethlehem Candle. Color: Purple.

During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and work on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Scripture Reflection: "And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." Luke 2:4-7

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

The Third Week of Advent Represents: Joy

Candle Name: Shepherd's Candle. Color: Pink

This third candle is pink and symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.

Scripture Reflection: "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." Luke 2:20

Prayer: Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

(Advent is short this year as the 4th Sunday is on Christmas Eve, therefore you might wish to anticipate each week and that is why we publish reflections for two weeks at a time.) (From dynamiccatholic.com)



Christmas Eve (at 5 PM Mass) Dramatization of the Gospel - Any child is welcome. We will have practices Dec. 10 & 17 right after the 11:30 AM Mass (12:30 PM).

Please join us for a hotdog lunch in the Nursery, and then we will proceed into the main body of the church for the practice. One parent is asked to stay for the practice for about 45min. If your child is under the age of 5, they are welcome to participate; we ask that a parent help out with the children during the dramatization. We need some of the older children to take on the roles of the Inn Keeper, and the Star. Please indicate your child's interest in getting involved with this wonderful event by signing up with Kelly Krause in the Nursery or emailing the parish office. Please also indicate if you will be joining us for lunch and how many hotdogs your family will eat.

herald of good tidings." This double reference to God's people in these terms is significant. Even though both terms refer to the same geographic location, in this context the term "Zion" has religious connotations while "Jerusalem" has political connotations. Their use together highlights the impact of the news on the totality of God's people, affecting all aspects of their lives.

We are invited to likewise share in the comfort spoken of by Isaiah. Our comfort lies in our redemption through Christ, who is the new and eternal covenant. The birth of Christ, marks a new beginning for all of humanity. As God's people, we are heralds of these glad tidings as we, like Jerusalem/Zion, cry out: "Here is your God!" (From the workbook for Lectors)

Advent Evening of Reflection – Emmanuel: The Plea and The Promise - led by Fr. Thomas Rosica, CSB on Fri., Dec. 15th at St. Michael's Church (80 University Ave.). Mass: 7 PM. Reflection: 7:45 PM. Register on our website or by phone at 519-884-9311.

Advent Education on Dec. 14 at 7 PM at St. Teresa of Avila Parish Hall, 44 Leonard St., Kitchener - Sr. Eileen Schuller, who will speak on the psalms and Advent. Sr. Eileen is a member of the Ursuline Sisters of Chatham and a retired professor of McMaster University where she taught in the Department of Religious Studies from 1990–2016. Her research and writing are in Biblical Studies, the Dead Sea Scrolls and Judaism at the time of Jesus.

Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir (IMCC) Concert: Tell the News! on Sun. Dec. 17 at 3 PM at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church. Songs that celebrate the wondrous events of Christmas. Tickets at the door: Adults - \$12; Children (5-18) - \$5. For info.: conductor@imcchoir.org

Join IMCC in Winter 2024 - The Inter-Mennonite Children's choir is inviting additional choristers to start singing with us in January 2024. Our rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings at W-K United Mennonite Church for children in grades 1 and up and provide an excellent music education experience while singing with friends. Singers ages 9 and up who are new to the choir need to have a Vocal Placement Interview which can be arranged by contacting: conductor@imcchoir.org. Registration information and choir fees can be found at: <https://bit.ly/SING24>. The deadline is December 15th.

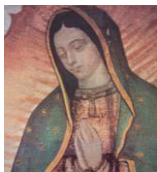
The Story of Our Lady of Guadalupe - The feast in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-year-old widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Sat. Dec. 9, 1531, he was on his way to attend Mass in honour of Our Lady.

Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On Dec. 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patron Saint of: The Americas & Mexico (From franciscanmedia.org)



CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS TIMES:

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 4th Sunday of Advent (vigil) | Dec. 23 | 5 PM (Vigil Mass) |
| 4th Sunday of Advent | Dec. 24 | 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM |
| Christmas Eve (vigil) | Dec. 24 | 5 PM & 8 PM |
| Christmas Day | Dec. 25 | 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM |
| St. Stephen's | Dec. 26 | No Mass |
| 3rd, 4th, 5th day of Christmas | Dec. 27, 28, 29 | 9 AM |
| Holy Family (vigil) | Dec. 30 | 5 PM (Vigil Mass) |
| Holy Family | Dec. 31 | 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM |
| Mary, Mother of God (vigil) | Dec. 31 | 5 PM (Vigil Mass) |
| Mary, Mother of God | Jan. 1 | 9:30 AM (ONLY!) |
| 9th, 10th, 11th day of Christmas | Jan. 2, 3, 4 | 9 AM |
| 12th day of Christmas | Jan. 5 | No Mass |

Advent Penitential Services in KW and area:

- Tue. Dec. 12th at St. Francis of Assisi's Church (Kit.) at 2 PM
- Tue. Dec. 12th at St. Joseph's Church (Kit.) at 7 PM
- Wed. Dec. 13th at St. Aloysius' Church (Kit.) at 7 PM
- Th. Dec. 14th at St. Mark's Church (Kit.) at 7 PM
- Sat. Dec. 16th at St. Teresa of Avila's Church (Elmira): 3:30 – 4:45 PM
- Tue. Dec. 19th at St. Anne's Church (Kit.) at 7 PM
- Wed. Dec. 20th at St. Michael's Church (Wat.): 8 AM – 8:30 PM
- Wed. Dec. 20th at St. Anthony Daniel's Church at 7 PM
- Wed. Dec. 20th at St. Teresa of Avila's Church (Elmira): 6 – 7:30 PM
- Th. Dec. 21st at St. Mary's Church (Kit.) at 11 AM
- Th. Dec. 21st at Blessed Sacrament's Church at 7 PM

ADVENT 2023 SPECIAL EVENTS:

Lectio Divina – Thur. Dec. 14 at 7 PM in the Large Hall. Praying with the readings of the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

The St. Louis Yule Band Advent/Christmas Concert on Friday, Dec. 15 at 7 - 8 PM at St. Louis Church. Following the Concert there will be social in the Large Hall. Donations will go to the CWL and St. Vincent de Paul of St. Louis Parish.

JANUARY 2024 SOCIAL EVENTS:

St. Louis Epiphany Potluck Dinner and Party – Saturday, Jan. 6th starting at 6 PM in the Large Hall.

St. Louis Mid Winter Dinner and Ceili Dance – Saturday, Jan. 27th starting at 6 PM in the Gym and L. Hall.

COMING UP IN 2024 NEW BIBLE STUDY

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD – THE MYSTERY OF JESUS' PASSION – Study of Passion Narratives from St. John's Gospel with Bible scholar Frances Hogan. This 8 part study focuses on the second half of the Gospel of John, known as the Book of Glory, detailing how Christ prepared His disciples for the upcoming task of spreading His Gospel message. Thursdays at 1 PM, starting on Jan. 18th, 2024.

THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE STUDY – SALVATION STORY MADE CLEAR

The Bible Timeline® Study Program is a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins shows how 14 of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and gives the keys to understand the amazing story woven through Scripture. Unique colour-coded chart, helps to learn about the people, places, and events of the Bible and reveals the remarkable story of our Faith. (The presentations have been updated since we last studied it in 2015.) Offered either on Monday nights at 7:30 PM starting Jan. 15th, 2024 OR on Sundays at 12:30 PM (till 1:40 PM with substantial snacks provided.) starting on Jan. 14th. (No sessions on long weekends etc.) 12 sessions during Winter/Spring 2024 & 12 sessions during the Fall of 2024.

Envelope News - Envelope boxes for 2024 are ready for pickup. Your number is most likely different. Please write your name and address on the first few envelopes that you use.

Using envelope #196 in 2023 – please let the office know who you are.

On-line ways of donating:

Via Canada Helps canadahelps.org/en/ (search for "St. Louis Waterloo")

Via diocesan website: hamiltondiocese.com/ways-to-give select "Online to a Parish" and then "St. Louis Waterloo".

| Date | Sunday | Loose | Dioces. | Maint. | Pre Auth |
|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Dec. 3 | \$3760.25 | \$ 296.50 | \$5.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$2432.00 |

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 Wednesday Spaghetti: Take out/Eat in call
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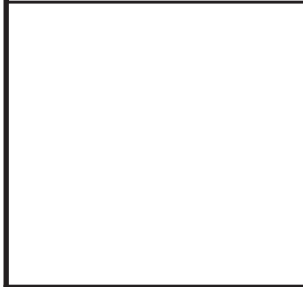
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