

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, Friday 9 - 12

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.**



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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),

5:00 Choir - Peter DeSousa (organist) or Youth Music.

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 Fr. Dan Lobsinger, C.R., Vocation Director for the Congregation of the Resurrection, at crvocations@gmail.com or www.resurrectionist.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

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



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

Celebrated privately by Fr. Phil at least until Feb. 16

Monday, February 15 – No Mass

Tuesday, February 16

9:00 AM To Bring Our Loved Ones Home to the Church – Monday
Lunch & Learn Group

Wednesday, February 17 – Ash Wednesday

9:00 AM For reconciliation where there is conflict & division

12:10 PM For blessings on our Lenten practices

7:00 PM For conversion and return to faith

Thursday, February 18

9:00 AM † Bill Lavigne – Stirling Investment Club

Friday, February 19

9:00 AM † Barbara & Zygmunt Adamski – Malton Family

Saturday, February 20

Vigil of First Sunday In Lent

5:00 PM † Ellen Forde & Teresa Forde – Pat & Joan Forde

† Colonel & Jean Moser – Kim Moser

† Gerald & Audrey Moser – Reid Family

† Loretta Schnarr – John & Sharon Carey

Sunday, February 21 – First Sunday In Lent

9:30 AM † Jeanette Bridle – Amanda Ayoung-Chee

† Julia Ann Schacht – Rosemary Rayner

† Loretta Schnarr – Cecilia Beechey

11:30 AM People of St. Louis Parish

Reflections on the Gospel: Mark 1:40 - 45:

The leper in today's Gospel clearly suffers from the visible impairment described in Leviticus. While many in the society of his day may have rushed to label this individual as unclean, his most visible characteristic is his display of humility and faith: "If you choose, you can make me clean." His intense desire is matched by Jesus' equally intense desire to heal him. Mark testifies that the disease left him "immediately."

As Jesus makes His way throughout Galilee, the signs of people being cast out from society were all around him. These situations stood as contradictions to the wholeness – and holiness – of God's creation. This could be the reason that Jesus instructs the man to remain silent about his healing. Nevertheless, the man could not keep quiet, which may have been a missionary purpose for the broader world. Not only did it serve to draw more and more people to Jesus, but it certainly helped to emphasize, at this early stage in announcing the kingdom, that there was much to be done in restoring creation to its original sinless beauty. *Based on the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word*

During the lockdown period there will be no public Masses celebrated at St. Louis Church. Check main page of our parish website for any changes in restrictions.

Ash Wednesday, February 17th, begins the Holy Season of Lent.

The Diocese is preparing an Ash Wednesday program that can be celebrated at home (if the church attendance restrictions are still in place) – with the Gospel proclamation and a brief reflection by His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby. Parents may bless their children by tracing the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads, marking the beginning of the annual Lenten journey. For more information please see www.hamiltondiocese.com/lent2021.



Reflection on suffering (From Crossroadsinitiative.com)

Catholics are often confused about suffering. Some writers extol its surpassing value. But does that mean that we should look for suffering? Or, if suffering should come our way, that it would be "unspiritual" to seek relief from it?

The story of Jesus and the leper in Mark 1:40-45 provides us with a case study on the subject.

In biblical times, "leprosy" was a general category that included many different skin diseases. We don't know what kind of "leprosy" the man had, exactly. It could have been Hansen's disease, which is what we call leprosy today. In that case, he would not have been in a lot of physical pain, since this disease takes away one's ability to feel much of anything in many parts of the body.

This, in fact is one of the problems with the Hansen's disease. Pain actually is supposed to be a gift from God—it tells us that there is something wrong that we must attend to before it gets worse. Without this unpleasant sensation we might be tempted, for example, to ignore an infection or continue to put stress on an overworked muscle that desperately needs a rest. The consequence could be permanent damage to the organ in question, and this is why lepers are often horribly disfigured, with missing digits and extremities. This hideous appearance causes the leper further suffering.

But regardless of what kind of leprosy the man had, there is yet another kind of suffering experienced by all lepers in ancient Israel. Leviticus 13 tells us that, to guard against infecting others, lepers had to isolate themselves from the rest of society, living outside city limits, obliged to warn all who approached them that they were "unclean."

So the leper asked Jesus to rid him of his despicable disease, with all its ugly consequences. Jesus promptly healed him. He did this not to prove he was a prophet, the Messiah, indeed, the Son of God. In fact, he gave the man strict orders not to broadcast the news of the miracle.

Jesus healed him, instead, out of compassion. It was a work of mercy, which is Love's response to suffering. Notice Jesus did not scold him for wanting to be relieved of the suffering associated with this dreadful disease. He had the power to free him from it and so He did.

So there are at least two lessons here—it's OK to seek relief from suffering and, should we encounter it in others, we must do all we can to relieve it.

But there is more. Jesus took away one source of suffering but imposed another. The former leper was understandably thrilled at his change of fortune and passionately wanted to tell everyone about it. Jesus commanded him to restrain his passion and be quiet. This, by the way, was for the good of others – to make it possible for Jesus to move freely through the towns of Galilee preaching the gospel and revealing His identity in his own way and according to his own timetable.

But the leper would not accept the discipline imposed upon him by the Son of God, and the result was that from that point on it was Jesus, instead of the leper, who had to stay out in the wilderness, away from the towns.

We need not go looking for suffering. It will inevitably find us. Generally, we should seek relief from many forms of suffering, such as physical illness. But as long as we find suffering to be our traveling companion, we should bear it with as much joy and faith as possible in the name of the Lord, who suffered for us, joining our suffering to His for the redemption of the world. This is what St. Paul says – whatever we do, and whatever we have to endure, we must do for the glory of God and the salvation of all (*1 Cor 10:31-33*).



First Communion Preparation Classes - The classes began on Tuesday, January 26th from 6pm-7pm. The First Communion will take place on Sunday, May 16th. For more information please contact Kelly Krause at kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com.

Sunday School & Liturgy of the Word (ages 3-10) – is a little different this Winter! Join Teacher Kelly every Sunday morning at 10:30 AM for on-line Sunday school session. We explore our church calendar, sing songs and read the Gospel together where we take away a few important points from the reading. Kelly has a link for a children's bulletin that is full of fun information and ongoing activities. Would like to get involved? Email Kelly (kkrause@hamiltondiocese.com) to get the link to our virtual Sunday school. Join us to learn more about your faith!



St. Louis Youth Group (Gr. 6 – 12) is meeting on-line twice a month on Friday nights. Contact Kelly for more information.



Today's Gospel says that "Jesus was moved with pity when He saw a leper". Are you moved with love and compassion when you see the outcasts of today's society? Today, Jesus continues to call forward men and women to minister as he did. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, contact Most Rev. Wayne Lobsinger, Auxiliary Bishop and Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton vocations@hamiltondiocese.com, 905-528-7988, or Fr. Toby Collins, CR, Vocation Director, at crvocations@gmail.com, or Carmel of St. Joseph in St. Agatha at 519-884-6700.

Plans to start a **Women's Faith Group** (of all ages) at St. Louis Parish are underway. The Dynamic Women of Faith group out of Mississauga will be assisting in launching this group. In a meantime we are bringing to your attention the following two conferences with excellent speakers. Please check the links below and be encouraged to connect with other women enriching your and their faith.



Dynamic Women of Faith presents (delivered via zoom) on Saturday, March 6, 2021 Annual DWF conference in the Archdiocese of Toronto for Catholic

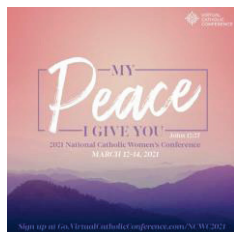


Women. Keynote speakers Dr. Carrie Gress and Dr. Josephine Lombardi. The theme of the conference is "Rebuilding Civilization, One Woman at a Time." For more information or to register go to:

dynamicwomenfaith.com

The National Catholic Women's Conference is a FREE virtual event for Catholic women of all ages. This year, we will be exploring all the ways that we as women can open ourselves to receive Christ's peace.

Despite the pressures that we feel in life, peace is possible! Let's explore it together. The free event goes March 12-14. Register today at go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021



Anniversary Mass 2021 Registration - The Anniversary Mass scheduled for June of 2021 has been cancelled due to restrictions and concerns around COVID-19. We invite you to register your 25, 40, 50, 60 and 60 plus years of marriage on the Diocesan website at www.hamiltondiocese.com. The Anniversary Mass is listed on the home page - click on the icon and you can register your anniversary. We will send you the certificate you would have received from Bishop Crosby at the Mass.

Marriage Enrichment - Looking for a wonderful opportunity to spend time together as a couple, in the safety of your own home? Join the Online Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience from March 5-7. During these stressful times, give your marriage a booster shot! Restore your loving communication with your spouse and rekindle the romance. The Marriage Encounter experience is a skill-building enrichment program where together, you, as husband and wife, learn how to be the best couple you can be. No group discussion. Based on Catholic values but open to couples of all faiths. Rediscover the love in your relationship! Contact: Marge & Gerard McCauley at gerard.marge@rogers.com or (905) 792-1925 or visit the website at: www.me.org



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Bags to Sleeping Mats - Sleeping mats made out of plastic bags are a good insulating layer from the cold ground for homeless. If you are interested in either collecting the milk bags, or cutting them to make a plastic yarn, or even crocheting a mat – please check the following website: sites.google.com/view/bagstosleepingmats/home (One mat uses about 700 plastic bags.)



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

Last weeks' donations - Thank you!

Date	Sunday	Mainten	Seminary Ed.	PreAuthor.
Feb 3 - Feb 10	\$885.00	\$ 565.00	\$140.00	\$2687.31

Office is closed till at least Feb 15th.
Emails are checked through the week.
The bulletins are posted on-line only.

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