

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



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS
Celebrated privately by Fr. Phil

Monday, February 1 – No Mass

Tuesday, February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord

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

Wednesday, February 3

9:00 AM Intentions of Phyllis Ayong-Chee – Amanda Ayong-Chee

Thursday, February 4

9:00 AM † Loretta Schnarr – Malton Family

Friday, February 5 – St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

9:00 AM † Bill Lavigne – Stirling Investment Club

Saturday, February 6 – St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Vigil of Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00 PM People of St. Louis Parish

Sunday, February 7 – Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

9:30 AM † Melanie Brattman – Carla McLennan

† Intentions of Wendy Ayong-Chee – Amanda Ayong-Chee

11:30 AM † David Kirby – Kirby Family

Reflections on the First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20:

Today's reading from Deuteronomy represents Moses' cautionary words to the Israelites concerning the authority of Prophets, or leaders, who will follow in his footsteps. These words from Moses occur near the end of his life, when Israel is about to end their forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Moses cautions them not to be swayed by the allure of the power of those who perform sorcery, but rather discern well the intentions of those who claim to speak on God's behalf.

As a result, we glean several important characteristics for those who might call themselves Prophets. First, Moses instructs the people that God will appoint a Prophet from their own ranks. God chose the inarticulate Moses because he was an insider who understood well the oppression of the Israelites. Second, it is necessary that a Prophet humbly acknowledge the message proclaimed as coming from God: "I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them everything that I command him." Finally, Deuteronomy suggests to us that, while it may be difficult to determine whether the Prophet is speaking God's word, God promises to reveal the truth: "But any Prophet ... who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded him to speak – that Prophet shall die." For those fortunate enough to have a Prophet sent to them, the challenge is to listen deeply to hear God speaking. *From 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.

Office is closed till Feb 11th.
Emails are checked through the week.
The bulletins are posted on-line only.



First Communion Preparation classes - If you have a child in Gr. 2 and would like them to receive their Sacrament of First Communion here at St. Louis parish please register for our classes. The classes began on Tuesday, January 26th from 6pm-7pm. The First Communion will take place on Sunday, May 16th. For more information, or if you would like to register for this class 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. I have 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 the on-line twice a month on Friday nights. Contact Kelly for more information.



Presentation of the Lord (February 2nd)

The feast was first observed in the Eastern Church as "The Encounter." In the sixth century, it began to be observed in the West: in Rome with a more penitential character and in Gaul (France) with solemn blessings and processions of candles, popularly known as "Candlemas."

In obedience to the Old Law, the Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Blessed Mother and his foster father. This is another 'epiphany' celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah through the canticle and words of Simeon and the testimony of Anna the prophetess. Christ is the light of the nations, hence the blessing and procession of candles on this day. In the Middle Ages this feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or 'Candlemas,' was of great importance. The Presentation of the Lord concludes the celebration of the Nativity and the offerings of the Virgin Mother and the prophecy of Simeon now point toward Easter.

The date of Candlemas is always February 2nd because it is exactly 40 days (inclusive) after Christmas on December 25th. It is also halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, so the date has always had significance for ancient people.

So what's the connection to Groundhog Day? Candlemas became linked to weather predictions about the end of winter because of an old English poem:

If Candlemas be fair and bright,
Come winter, have another flight.
If Candlemas bring clouds and rain,
Go winter, and come not again.

It makes sense that early February was a good time to prognosticate about the weather, especially as Feb. 2nd marks the midpoint between Winter and Spring. And the English poem appears to be the source of the shadow connection: "fair and bright" = sun = shadows = more winter, while "clouds and rain" = no sun = no shadows = spring arriving soon. It seems counterintuitive (why should a sunny day mean more winter?), but this is the exact pattern that Groundhog Day follows. (*From CatholicCulture.org*)

St. Agatha of Catania (February 5th)



Agatha was born in the first part of the third century into a wealthy and noble Christian family in Catania, Sicily. She was a beautiful young virgin, and at the age of 15 Agatha expressed her desire to live a life consecrated to God.

In the years 250 to 253 AD, Roman Emperor Trajan Decius ordered the persecution of all Christians.

The prefect of Catania at that time was a man named Quintianus. Legend says that Quintianus, upon seeing Agatha, fell madly in love with her. It is more likely, though, that his true desire was to gain control of her family's property and lands. When Agatha refused his advances he sent her to a brothel as punishment. She refused to accept customers and was sent back to Quintianus. After refusing Quintianus' advances time and again, Agatha was imprisoned, suffered repeated tortures, and then brutally had her breasts cut off.

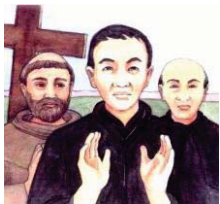
She was returned to her cell without any medical attention to her wounds. It is believed that during the night Saint Peter appeared in her cell, and healed her wounds.

Quintianus, now had a horrible hatred of Agatha, and ordered that she be burned on a bed of coals. While she lay burning on the coals her red veil stayed miraculously intact.

An earthquake struck Catania during this last torture of Agatha, and Quintianus became fearful for his safety, he had her returned to prison and then he fled the city. Agatha died a few hours later on February 5, in the year 251.

The people of Catania believe that the carrying of Santa Agatha's veil in procession, has saved the city from many eruptions of Mount Etna, earthquakes, the plague, and is also responsible for saving the people of Catania from the wrath of Emperor Fredrick II in 1231.

Saint Agatha has become the patron and protector of all of Sicily. She is the patron saint for breast cancer, rape victims, fire, nurses and natural disasters. (From *Italian Sons and Daughters of America website*)



St. Paul Miki (1565?-1597) and Companions (February 6) were martyred in Japan at the end of the sixteenth century. A native Japanese, Paul entered the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) as a young man. He worked as a missionary brother, along with St. Leo Karasuma (a Korean layman), and six Franciscan missionaries from Europe,

led by St. Peter Baptist of Spain.

Building on the earlier work of St. Francis Xavier, the missionaries preached the Gospel around the city of Nagasaki, and were initially very successful. However, the captain of a visiting Spanish ship foolishly (and falsely) boasted that the missionaries' efforts were paving the way for a Spanish and Portuguese invasion of Japan.

The Japanese shogun (warlord) Hideyoshi, already envious of the missionaries' success, used this as an excuse to begin a severe attack on all foreign influences, including Christianity. Many Christians were martyred, including Paul Miki, John Goto, and James Kisai of Japan; Peter Baptist, Martin de Aguirre, Francis Blanco, and Francis-of-St. Michael of Spain; Philip de las Casas of Mexico; Gonsola Garcia of India, and seventeen Japanese lay people. These were all crucified and pierced with a lance. While hanging on the cross, Paul Miki spoke to the Japanese gathered below: "As I come to this supreme moment of my life, I am sure none of you would suppose I want to deceive you. And so I tell you plainly: There is no way to be saved except the Christian way. My religion teaches me to pardon my enemies and all who have offended me. I do gladly pardon the Emperor and all who have sought

my death. I beg them to seek baptism and be Christians themselves."

Lessons: Human boasting and political manoeuvring can seem to complicate the Church's mission, as happened with the Spanish captain and the Japanese warlord; however, the example of the Christian martyrs inspired and sustained the Japanese Catholics (and when Christian missionaries returned to Japan in the nineteenth century, they found a secret community of several thousand Christians still in existence). As St. Paul Miki stated while on his cross, we are called to forgive our enemies; our willingness to do this is a powerful testimony to the truth of our faith. (From *catholicexchange.com*)



Pray to know how God wants to use your talents and abilities. Could it be He is calling you to consider priesthood, religious life or deaconate? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, contact Fr. Michael King, 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.



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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 for full description on the benefits of plastic mats, on how to collect and prepare the bags, where to drop them off and even how to make the mats themselves. (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	New Year	Initial	PreAuthor.
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