

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.



St Louis Catholic Church

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 the 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
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



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS INTENTIONS and EVENTS

Monday, Jan. 9 – The Baptism of the Lord – No Mass

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 AM † André Duval – Catherine Duval-Russell
 9:30 AM Book Group "With St. George on the Porch" L. Hall
 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal for 11:30 AM Mass Church

Wednesday, January 11

9:00 AM † Conrad Woelfle – Fran & Louis Urbanski
 9 AM – NOON Pickle Ball Gym
 7 PM St. Vincent de Paul meeting L. Hall

Thursday, Jan. 12 – St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, Virgin

9:00 AM † Catherine & Robert McNulty – Family

Friday, January 13

9:00 AM † Rosemary Peterson – Peterson Family
 9 AM – NOON Pickle Ball Gym

Saturday, January 14

9 AM – NOON SVDP sandwich project L. Hall

Vigil of Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 PM People of St. Louis Parish

Sunday, January 15 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM † Eugene & Beatrice August – Krause Family
 † Edna Ertel – Larry Ertel
 † John Brattman – Carla McLennan
 † Moe Webster – Doreen Gallagher

11:30 AM † Ethel Kehn – Beaton Family
 † Danielle Pilon – Rosemary & Sean McNeil
 † Moe Webster – Don & Lorraine Prior
 † Peter Malton – Don & Lorraine Prior
 12:30 PM Bible Study "From Genesis to Jesus" L. Hall
 5:00 PM OOTC Community Supper Gym
 2:45 PM – 8 PM Set-up to Clean-up

First Reading from Isaiah 60: 1-6

Today's reading comes from the third part of Isaiah, which focuses on Israel's restoration after years of exile in Babylon. Rather than a prophecy of doom and gloom, Isaiah announces that the time has come for Jerusalem to reclaim its favourite status: "Arise, shine, for your light has come." It had to be an unenviable task to call the people to return to the land that had been ransacked, with its centerpiece – the Temple – in ruins. So many of the Israelites in their land of exile had to debate whether it would be worth the effort to return. But Isaiah tells the people that today is a new day in which the light of God's glory will shine upon a renewed nation and that this light will spread to other nations. In fact, Isaiah suggests that rulers from all over the world will have no trouble seeing the "brightness of your dawn" that comes forth from the newly recreated land of the Israelites.

In an attempt to lure those who resist returning, Isaiah paints the picture of a great throng of people, journeying to behold the new Jerusalem. Just as the Egyptians gave their gold and silver to the Israelites when they were preparing to make their exodus, so does Isaiah suggest that visitors from foreign lands will pour out their wealth to the people when they see what God's glory has accomplished. Thus, it would be foolish for anyone to remain in Babylon when they are invited to be the recipients of such a great fortune. These foreigners will not only come with gifts of gold and frankincense, but they will also have the praise of God on their lips. A renewed Jerusalem not only benefits its inhabitants but also serves as a means of calling people to belief in God's wondrous care. Heard in the context of the celebration of Epiphany, this reading calls our attention to the way that God calls all the faithful to himself, not just those in particular time or region. (From the Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word)



As the Christmas decorations come down some people write the following on their front doors with a chalk that was blessed for the occasion on the feast of the Epiphany.



20 * C † M † B † 23

A key to the code:

— The '*' symbolizes the star that led the wise men to Jesus.

— The letters 'C', 'M', and 'B' signify the Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also the first three letters of the Latin phrase 'CHRISTUS MANSIONEM BENEDICAT' which means 'May Christ Bless the house'.

— The three crosses '†' signify the Holy Trinity made known to us through the Incarnation.

— Encompassing them all is the year we have just entered into: '2023'. It is a nice devotion for Epiphany – great for families – and is an active reminder for us through the year of the wonder of Christmas.

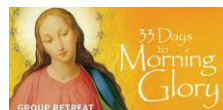
(Pieces of the blessed chalk will be available at the back of the church.)



With St. George on the Porch Book Group** – We will

start again our meetings on Tue. Jan. 10th at 9:30 AM in the Large Hall. We will watch a video talk by Sr. Miriam Heidland, SOLT on "Receiving Gift of Femininity". This will be a summary of the issues we were discussing while reading Lisa Cotter's book in the fall.

On Jan. 17th we will watch another video talk, this time by Fr. Mike Schmitz (famous from the "Bible in a Year" series) on the topic of "Subtle Idols and Hidden Agendas".



On Jan. 24th we will start our new book "35 Days to Morning Glory: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat in Preparation for Marian Consecration" by Fr. Michael Gaitley. We will be going through

the material at a slower pace with the aim to do the Consecration on March 25th – The Feast of Annunciation. If you already consecrated yourself to Mary in the past, this is a good time for a renewal, either on your own, or together with the group. If you wish to have a book to follow, please contact the parish office. New Members are always welcome!

** - Wondering about the name of the Book Group? St. George is a Patron Saint of books (and not only of dragon slayers) and we started our group on the Rectory Porch last May.



"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or consecrated virgin contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, 905-528-7988, vocations@hamiltondiocese.com, or Fr. Raphael Ma, Congregation of the Resurrection Vocation Director, at crvocations@gmail.com, or Carmel of St. Joseph, St. Agatha at 519-884-6700. Pray for vocations!



The Baptism of the Lord – Jan. 9 - Why did Jesus ask to be baptized by John? The Baptism of the Lord didn't make a lot of sense to the early followers of Jesus who worried about the fact that it seemed to suggest that Jesus was somehow subordinate to John the Baptist. Two thousand years later, the Church has developed a very substantial theology of the sacrament of baptism, but that theology is not very helpful for the task of understanding the Baptism of the Lord either. Catholics believe that baptism imparts the grace of forgiveness of sins, and marks our initiation into the Church. But Jesus didn't need to be forgiven nor can we really say that by his baptism Jesus became part of the church. The gospel itself doesn't give us very much to go on. The only explanation offered by Jesus regarding why he should be baptized by John is: "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." But that explanation doesn't get us very far.

The final line of Matthew's gospel reading (Mt 3:17 "*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.*") offers a better clue about the meaning of Jesus's baptism. There we hear an unmistakable echo from the first reading: "*Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased*" (Isaiah 42:7). By making this connection, the Matthew is testifying to the fact that Christians had come to believe that the "Suffering Servant" in Isaiah ultimately refers to Jesus Christ. It is Jesus who will be the definitive "covenant of the people" and "light for all nations." He will "open the eyes of the blind" and "bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon those who live in darkness." Those images of the mercy of Christ can be taken quite literally – Jesus Christ as liberator, freeing those unjustly bound or confined in darkness. But they can also speak to Jesus rescuing those of us held in the bondage of sin or trapped in lives marked by an existential darkness. As another Christmas fades into the past and we prepare to move on next week to ordinary time, these readings help us to understand more fully the meaning of the incarnation – of why Christ has come. As Pope Francis noted the good news of the incarnation is not merely that God has taken on human flesh, but that God has done so in a world "marked by so many things, good and bad, marked by divisions, wickedness, poverty, arrogance and wars." Jesus has come to bring God's mercy to the world.

What can these readings tell us about the meaning of our own baptism? "Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons [and daughters] of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission" (CCC #1213). Just as Matthew's gospel makes a connection between the Baptism of the Lord and the mission of the suffering servant, we too should make a connection between our own baptism and that same mission. Having been baptized into the Body of Christ, we too are called to His ministry of mercy.

Finally, these readings also point to the importance of humility. Indeed it seems that humility plays a part in the "righteousness" that Jesus refers to when he asks John to baptize Him. The reading from Acts also points to the importance of humility when Peter states that "In

truth, I see that God shows no partiality." The meaning of Peter's discourse in the house of Cornelius can only be understood by reading what comes before the passage proclaimed for this Feast. Peter had been an advocate of the view that Christianity was only for Jews (i.e., to become a Christian one must also become a Jew). He had come to change his mind and to recognize that Jesus Christ came for Gentiles too. We might conclude that we should not dwell on the fact that baptism makes us part of a holy people. Instead, our baptism might be understood primarily as a calling to embrace the mission of Christ and the suffering servant to go out into the world and "heal all those oppressed by the devil." (From *catholicmoralthology.com* by Christopher Vogt.)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:
DINNER, DANCE & GAMES PARTY
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023
POTLUCK DINNER (6PM) AND
LIVE MUSIC FOR CEILI DANCING 7PM**



First Communion - Anyone who has a child in gr. 2 and would like them to receive their First Communion at St. Louis Parish, note that classes will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 18th at 6 PM. Please sign up with Kelly Krause at the parish office.

"Loving our Dysfunctional Families - Part 2" with Fr. Mike King. Sunday Jan.15th from 2 - 3:15 PM at St. Agnes, Wat.. The Christmas season can bring complex feelings. Sometimes we are missing the joy & connection we had hoped for. Disagreement & conflict can be painful. When family tensions run high & relationships are fractured, how do we love & forgive despite the hurt? And how do we attend the next family gathering? Details under "Events" at www.saintagnescatholicchurch.org

ALPHA 2023 ... Coming soon to St. Mark Parish. All are welcome to join this 11-week program, bringing people together for conversations about life, faith and Jesus; looking at questions like: Who is Jesus? Why and how do I pray? Does God heal today? Join us Thu. evenings, Feb. 16 to April 27, from 6:45 to 9:15 PM at St. Mark Parish Hall (55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener). To sign up, or for more info, contact Ron Denomme at rondenomme@gmail.com or 226-748-3210.

RECENT DONATIONS – THANK YOU!

Christmas donations:	\$28,080.00
Sunday donations on Dec. 18:	\$ 4,870.00
Sunday donations on Dec. 25:	\$ 2,954.60
Sunday donation on Jan. 1:	\$ 3,378.00
New Year's and Initial donations:	\$ 2,785.00
Preauthorized donations for Dec. prorated per week:	\$ 2,471.65



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Eat in call **Manager 519-884-2060**
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