

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 Annointing 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 (Annointing).

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 GLUTEN

Prayer Chain Sharon Carey, 519-746-8073

St. Vincent De Paul For food hamper or more information call 519-743-4101



LOW

HOSTS

MASS INTENTIONS and EVENTS

Monday,	November 2	27 – No Mass					
	9 AM – NOO		Gym				
9:30 АМ			L. Hall				
5:30 PM		Good Shepherd Catechesis	Nursery				
6:30 РМ			Church				
	7:30 РМ	In the Footsteps of God 1/2	L. Hall				
Tuesday,	November 2	8					
9:00 АМ	Bring Our Lov	ed Ones Home to the Church					
	9:30 AM	Book Group Meeting	L. Hall				
	1:30 РМ	Prayer Shawl Meeting	L. Hall				
	7:00 РМ	Painting with Kelly - Christmas Moo	se L. H.				
Wednesda	ıy, Novembe						
9:00 AM	+ Moe Webs	ter – Family					
	9 AM - NOO	N Pickle Ball	Gym				
Thursday	, November	r 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle					
9:00 AM	t Joan Sich	ewski – Krause Family					
Fridaw, D	ecember 1	-					
9:00 AM † Joan Sichewski – Joan Powers							
	9 AM - NOO	N Pickle Ball	Gym				
Saturday.	December .						
		nday of Advent					
5:00 PM + Phyllis Ertel – Larry Ertel							
t Carol Schneider – Ron Schneider							
	† John Kenr	y & Terrence Bayley – Pat & Joan	Ford				
	t Katie & Albert Ruetz – Ruetz Family						
Sunday.		- First Sunday of Advent					
9:30 AM		ewski – McGrinder Family					
+ Glen Buckle – Alice McTavish							
		ter – Rosemary and Will Ringler					
		Sunday Social	L. Hall				
		Louis Parish	L. 1 Iall				
11·30 AM							
11:30 ам		In the Footstens of God 1/2	Holl				
11:30 АМ		In the Footsteps of God 1/2 OOTC Community Supper	L. Hall Gym				

Reflection on the First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

There are many aspects of our culture that attempt to overshadow the sovereignty of Christ in the world, yet today's readings draw our attention to the true power of God that will shine forth in the second coming of Christ and the judgement that will be placed on all peoples. This is an important reminder for us who live in the world: we belong to Christ, not to the ever-changing whims of culture, and must live in a way that reflects our citizenship in this kingdom.

Today's first reading comes from the longer parable of the shepherds in the Book of Ezekiel. In the verses that immediately precede this reading, Ezekiel delivers a woe oracle, that is, a warning, against the shepherds of Israel who have been taking advantage of the sheep, ruling harshly against them and not caring for the sick, injured, or lost among them. The metaphor of kings and leaders as shepherds and their constituencies as sheep had long been in use in the Mediterranean world, so people knew well what Ezekiel was talking about. Here, Ezekiel is blaming the king and religious leaders of Judea for the fate of God's people, scattered about in exile and metaphorically eaten by wild animals.

As we pick up today's reading, we hear Ezekiel giving voice to God's word against the shepherds of Israel, who did such great harm to God's people. The imagery of God as shepherd is very evocative and can be seen in other Old Testament passages. Imagine God collecting His scattered sheep that have been battered and bruised in exile, feeding the hungry ones tending the sick among them, and providing a place for them to rest in safety after their long and harrowing ordeal. But



Traditionally, the Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches. It is often decorated with berries and pinecones. Both the evergreen branches and the circular shape symbolize the passing of time and eternal life. The shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, reflects the complete and endless love that Jesus has for us.

During the Advent season, we eagerly anticipate His coming and the promise of eternal life in heaven with Him.

Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation. Candle Name: the Prophecy Candle.

The First Week of Advent Represents: Hope. Scripture Reflection: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." Isaiah 9:2

Prayer: Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to Your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in You as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Your birth on Christmas. Amen. (From dynamiccatholic.com)



Our next General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 6th beginning with Mass at 6:30 PM. As a special thank you to our ladies, we will have a Wine and Cheese Party in the Large Hall following Mass. After a brief meeting, we will sing Christmas Carols to celebrate the Christmas Season. Please join us and bring a friend. You do not need to be a member to attend our General Meetings. All ladies 16 years of age and older are welcome.

Christmas Eve Dramatization of the Gospel – this event takes place at the 5 PM Mass on Christmas Eve. Any child in the parish who would like to get involved with this dramatization 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, they are not very long, 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 really need some of the older children to take on the roles of Mary, Joseph, the Inn Keeper, etc. Please indicate your child's interest in getting involved with this wonderful event by signing up with Kelly Krause down 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.

Resurrectionist Vocation Minute - ... in the end, the only thing that will prove to have really mattered in this life is how we have loved. It sounds easy, but how many of us actually know how to love? Or, as St. John of the Cross says, how many of us love according to our own ways - rather than how God desires to be loved? One way of looking at your vocation is to see it as your path to eternal life, in other words, how God is calling you to love in this life. Read more at www.resurrectionists.ca

not every sheep in the flock is good. The 'the fat and strong" is an allusion to members of the sheepfold who, like the bad shepherds, take advantage of the others for their own benefit. Immediately following this reading is an oracle about separating the bad sheep from the good, the rams from the goats. Thus, this God who shepherds like a good and great king also judges. In summary, God says that He will take the sheep away from the bad shepherds and take charge of the sheep Himself, undoing the damage that the bad shepherds did. (From the workbook for Lectors)

"Lord, when was it that we saw you ...?" Have you heard the Lord as well? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988, vocations@hamiltondiocese.com, hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/. 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!

Young Adults Night – December 2nd – Durham

Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and early 30s) of our diocese to attend a night of Adoration, Fellowship and Praise Music. Arrival and Holy Hour (7- 8 PM), Social with Food (8 - 8:30 PM), Praise Night and Vocation Testimony (8:30-9:30 PM), and Compline (9:30 PM) on Saturday, Dec. 2nd at St. Peter and the Missions Church (850 Garafraxa St. N., Durham). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more info., please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Coping with the Holidays...When you have Lost a Loved One

Join us for an afternoon of reflection and strategies on coping at Christmas. The session will be facilitated by Mrs. Teresa Hartnett, Director of Family Ministry. The gathering will be held at the Diocesan Chancery Office, 700 King St. West in Hamilton, on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm. You are welcome to join the session in person or by zoom. The event is FREE of charge. Please call Sarah to reserve a seat, or to receive the zoom link: 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 or register online at https://hamiltondiocese.com/office/pastoral-offices/family-ministry/healing-and-or-counselling/coping-with-the-

<u>holidays/</u> (You must register to join by zoom; in person you can also walk in the day of the event.)

Saint Andrew's Story

Andrew was Saint Peter's brother, and was called with him. "As [Jesus] was walking by the sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is now called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, 'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.' At once they left their nets and followed him" (Matthew 4:18-20).

John the Evangelist presents Andrew as a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." Andrew and another disciple followed Jesus. "Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come, and you will see.' So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day" (John 1:38-39a).

Little else is said about Andrew in the Gospels. Before the multiplication of the loaves, it was Andrew who spoke up about the boy who had the barley loaves and fishes. When the Gentiles went to see Jesus, they came to Philip, but Philip then had recourse to Andrew.

Legend has it that Andrew preached the Good News in what is now modern Greece and Turkey and was crucified at Patras on an Xshaped cross.

Reflection - As in the case of all the apostles except Peter and John, the Gospels give us little about the holiness of Andrew. He was an apostle. That is enough. He was called personally by Jesus to proclaim the Good News, to heal with Jesus' power and to share his life and death. Holiness today is no different. It is a gift that includes a call to be concerned about the Kingdom, an outgoing attitude that wants nothing more than to share the riches of Christ with all people.

Saint Andrew is the Patron Saint of: Fishermen, Greece, Russia, Scotland (*From franciscanmedia.org*)

ADVENT 2023 SPECIAL EVENTS:

Jesus, The Word Became Flesh (from the series of The Footprints of God) Fast-paced, entertaining biography, travel documentary, Bible study rolled into one movie filmed on location in Holy Land. Shown in 2 installments at two different times: Mondays at 7:30 PM (Nov. 27th and Dec. 4th) and Sundays at 12:30 PM (Dec. 3rd and Dec. 10th)

Family Fun Night on Friday Dec. 8th 6 – 8 PM – More details to follow.

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 & Fish Dinner

on Friday, Dec. 1 at 6 PM at the Knights of Columbus. We will raise funds toward the purchase of two choir microphones for the 11:30 choir. Tickets are \$17.50 for a one-piece dinner & \$22.50 for a two-piece dinner. Contact Marty (519-884-2060) to reserve your tickets.

The St. Louis Yule Band Advent/Christmas Concert

on Friday, Dec. 15 at 7 - 8 PM at St. Louis Church. Cash donations will be gratefully received. All proceeds will be given to the CWL and St. Vincent de Paul of St. Louis Parish.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JANUARY 2024 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.

ALSO COMING UP IN 2024

THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE STUDY – SALVATION STORY MADE CLEAR

The Bible Timeline® Study Program takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins shows you how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and gives you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven through Scripture. Using a unique color-coded chart, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and discover how they all come together to reveal 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. (There will not be Sunday sessions on long weekends etc.) This study is divided into two parts, the first 12 sessions will take place during Winter/Spring 2024 and the remaining session will be during the Fall of 2024. Detailed schedule to come.



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

Date	Sunday	Loose	Dioces.	Maint.	Pre Auth
Nov. 19	\$2450.00	\$ 401.35	\$3.00	\$ 982.25	\$2401.98

Thank you for your donations!

