

St. Teresa of Avila

Roman Catholic Church

December 20, 2015
Fourth Sunday of Advent

19 Flamingo Dr., Elmira, ON N3B 1V3
(519) 669-3387 Fax (519) 669-3487
StTeresaofAvila.Elmira@rogers.com

Website: www.stteresaelmira.ca

Established on the Second Sunday of Easter,
1851.

Pastor: Fr. David Lewis
Parish Secretary: Donna Vollmer
Sacramental Preparation: Iris Miltenburg

Office Hours:
Monday to Friday 9:00am-1:00pm



Mass Times

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am

Weekday Masses

see inside

Reconciliation

Tuesday 6:30pm - 7:00pm,
or by request.

Sacrament of Baptism (4th Sunday of the month outside of Lent)

Parents, please pick up Baptism
package from the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact office six months
prior to desired date.
Marriage Prep required.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please notify the parish office of
any who are housebound or in the
hospital so they may receive the
comfort of the Church's
sacraments and prayer.

Parish Contacts

Parish Pastoral Council

Al Vodicka
Alan Diemert
Andrea Visneskie
Dan Ziegler
Fr. David Lewis
Marianne Kieswetter
Patsy Pond
Peggy Kelly
Tim Baillargeon

Building & Finance Committee

Fr. David Lewis Diane Smith
Katie Hickey Kris Kauk
Rick Weishar
Sebastian Siebel-Achenbach

Catholic Women's League

Agnes Downey-Norris

Knights of Columbus

Guy Wakutz

Vocations

Contact www.vocationinfo.ca or
www.resurrectionist.net

New Parishioners

New parishioners, welcome!
Please register at the office or pick up
registration package in the church foyer.

Bulletin Deadline

Written submissions by Monday noon.

St. Teresa of Avila School

75 First St. W., Elmira
(519) 669-8843
Fax (519) 669-4509

Christ has no body now
but yours,
No hands, no feet
on earth, but yours.

Yours are the eyes
through which
he moves compassion
on this world.

Yours are the feet with
which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands with
which he blesses all the world.

Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila



✠ Please remember our benefactors and those who have left bequests in your prayers. ✠

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASSES FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 21ST

Tuesday, December 22, 7:05 pm +Rose Downey; Maurice Downey & Family
Wed., December 23, 10:15 am – Barnswallow Place +Rose Linseman; Estate
Thursday, December 24, 7:00 pm Our Parish Community 9:00 pm Our Parish Community
Friday, December 25, Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) 10:00 am Our Parish Community
Saturday, December 26, NO MASS
Sunday, December 27, Feast of The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 9:00 am +Kyle Kelly, Kieran & Kathy Kelly & Family 11:00 am Our Parish Community

READINGS FOR December 26/27

First Reading: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28
Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24
Gospel Reading: Lk 2:41-52

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MON 7:00pm **9 a.m. Choir Practice** – Church
WED 1 - 3pm **Decorating for Christmas** - Church
7:00pm **11 a.m. Choir Practice** – Church

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR:

Mon., December 21 Rev. Mark Morley
Tues., December 22 Rev. Miro Grubisic, O.F.M.
Wed., December 23 Consecrated Men and Women
Thurs., December 24 Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
Fri., December 25 Rev. Stanley Zaryczny, C.R.
Sat., December 26 Rev. Lech Wycichowski, C.R.

MINISTRIES for December 26/27

Eucharistic Ministers

5pm Judy Furlong, Kieran Kelly, Armand Bertin
9am Louis & Pat Ditner, Carol Kieswetter
11am Vera Csizmar, Lisa Denomme

Hospitality

5pm Greg, Derek, Brent & Zachary Goetz
9am Guy Wakutz, Adrian Miltenburg, Anne & Bill Hanley
11am Paul & Diane Shuttsa, Sharon Both, Marilyn Hurlburt

Altar Servers

5pm Emily Hickey, Lauren Hickey
9am Thomas Kraemer, Heike Elliott, Taylor Girling
11am Fiona Bernard, Alexis Zettler

Lectors

5pm Connie Kaster
9am Tom O'Marra
Joyce Stemmler
11am Sheila Bauman

Commentator

Patsy Pond
Larry Glofcheskie
Dianne McGuire

Sunday External Eucharistic Minister (to Elmira)

Dec 27 Marianne Kieswetter

Sign Ministry

Dec 21 Sandi Hutchinson

Wednesday External Eucharistic Minister

Jan 6 Millie Schlupp

FOODBANK NEEDS

Cookies & Crackers

LIVING ROSARY INTENTION

That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving and that families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus, a sign of certain hope.

May you feel God's presence in the candles, that softly spread their glow at Christmas and may you experience the wonder of His abiding love, as He guides you, through each day of the coming year. May God's Blessings be with you at Christmas and may you have a Blessed New Year!

Fr Dave

For those who are interested in learning more about the **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM** in Catholic Schools please see the Parent's Guide in the narthex racks that have been provided by the Diocese and created by the Institute for Catholic Education.

SYRIAN REFUGEE - Our parish is committed to bringing in a Syrian family in 2016. Please consider picking up a pledge / committee form and helping us. Forms can be picked up in the Narthex and returned on the collection plate or to the office until December 31, 2015.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – Please pick up your box of Offertory Envelopes for the Year 2016, which are available in the hallway. If you wish to receive a box of envelopes, place your name and address in the collection basket.

We need your **HELP TO DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS** on **Wednesday, December 23rd** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. If you can help, please sign the sheet in the narthex or call the Parish Office at 519-669-3387.

ONGOING WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The **RHEO THOMPSON MINT SMOOTHIES** will continue to be available for purchase in the Parish Office until supplies run out. Each mint smoothie is \$2.00.

ANNUAL CARMELITE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR at the Carmel of St. Joseph, 1127 Carmel-Koch Rd, St. Agatha beginning **First Sunday of Advent to December 23rd** from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Come and see the Homemade Jams, Jellies, Honey, Homemade Loaves, Christmas cards, articles and crafts. All are welcome to come and visit our Chapel.

PRIESTLY ORDINATION - It is with great joy that we announce that **Deacon Scott Whitfield will be ordained a priest** by Bishop Douglas Crosby on **December 19, 2015**, at 10 a.m. The Ordination Mass will be celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Waterdown, where Deacon Whitfield has been ministering for the last six months. All are invited to join us for this joyful occasion as we welcome our newest Diocesan priest.

Join us for a **MEXICAN ADVENT CELEBRATION** at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Linwood on **Sunday, December 20th** for La Posada, as we celebrate the arrival of St. Mary and St. Joseph in Bethlehem with songs, a Mexican dinner and piñatas. Meet at 5 p.m. at the Scotiabank, Linwood and arrival at St. Mary's Church will be by 5:30 p.m. For more information contact by email jacob_wall@angels-and-saints.org or by telephone 519-698-0523.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE - At this time of year the darkness of grief can be overwhelming. Join us at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 49 Blueridge Ave. Kitchener, on **Monday, December 21st** at 7 p.m. for an evening of prayerful reflection in solidarity with our loved ones who have passed away, and those who grieve their loss. A reception will follow. Open to all.

TELEVISED CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS ON CHCH - His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby will celebrate Midnight Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. The Mass is preceded by carols from the Cathedral beginning at 11:30 p.m. on December 24th. The carols, and the Midnight Mass, will be televised on CHCH-TV and re-broadcast at 8:00 a.m. on Christmas morning. Our thanks to CHCH-TV and the Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Hamilton for this presentation of Christmas Midnight Mass.

EXPLORING MERCY: A STUDY IN SCRIPTURE – A SENIOR ADULT WORKSHOP SERIES for 7 Wednesday afternoons, **starting January 6, 2016** from 1:30- 3:30 p.m. at Notre Dame Convent in Waterdown. The theme of Mercy in the Old Testament we hope to understand better why Pope Francis is calling us to the virtue of Mercy in our lives today. This course will be facilitated by Sister Mary Heather MacKinnon SSND and David Dayler. The cost is \$75 which includes the textbook and other resources. To register and for information please contact Monica at 905-528 7988 ext. 2238 or mverin@hamiltondiocese.com or check the website, www.hamiltondiocese.com.

DIRECTED RETREATS at Loyola House, Ignatius Jesuit Centre, Guelph

January 15, 2016 – January 20, 2016 (5-Day)

January 27, 2016 - February 4, 2016 (8-Day)

February 9, 2016 – 17, 2016 (8-Day) - half-price for new retreatants

A directed retreat provides you with individual direction in an environment of silence and prayer, facilitating a deepening of your relationship with God. Cost: 5-Day \$495; 8-Day \$792. Register online at www.loyolahouse.com or contact

registration@ignatiusguelph.ca or by calling 519.824.1250 ext 266.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH – Life sometimes throws so much “stuff” at us that we feel we are running on a treadmill that just won’t stop. Down time seems non-existent, and experts tell us that most adults are not at their best because they are constantly sleep deprived. If you see yourself in that statement, then it is time to stop for a moment and ask how this busy life is impacting your married relationship. Do you make your spouse a priority, or do they get the leftovers, of which there are often none? Do you find yourself impatient with the one you love because you are stressed and tired? Marriage is a commitment to the other made in love – are you putting your spouse first, or last? It is an important question to resolve if you want a connected, loving, joyful marriage. From Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office, 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

HEALING AFTER AN ABORTION: IT IS POSSIBLE

Caring hearts are available to help you deal with the difficult feelings that often come after an abortion. At Project Rachel we offer a **confidential** service allowing people to work through their feelings and find hope and healing. Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.

BIRTHRIGHT is unique. They provide non-judgmental support and love to pregnant women and their unborn children. Birthright is not involved in any religious movements, political activities, or lobbying. Their focus is on loving the mother, and helping her help herself. **THEY NEED VOLUNTEERS!** You can work as an office volunteer, or you can keep the baby and maternity clothes in order, or a volunteer supervisor, or how about a Board Member? Birthright welcomes volunteers of any age, race, gender, or religion. If you feel you could be a Birthright volunteer, please call 519-579-3990.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Lk 6:38 “Give, and it will be given to you... For the measure you give will be measured back to you.”

Offertory collection for December 5/6: \$4,871.85

Average per envelope: \$35.15

Electronic funds for the week: \$907.50

(based on 4 Sundays per month)

Weekly parish operating expenses: \$4,632.00

Thank you!



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