

# St. Teresa of Avila

## Roman Catholic Church

19 Flamingo Dr., Elmira, ON N3B 1V3  
519-669-3387 Fax 519-669-3487  
stteresaelmira@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: [www.stteresaelmira.ca](http://www.stteresaelmira.ca)

Established on the Second Sunday of Easter, 1851.

**Pastor:** Rev. Peter Meyer

frpetermeyer@gmail.com

**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Basil Markides

**Office Administration:** Donna Vollmer

**Sacramental Preparation:** Iris Miltenburg

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Mass Times

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

### Weekday Masses

see inside

### Reconciliation

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

### Sacrament of Baptism (3rd 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 offered.

### Sacrament of the Sick

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

### Outreach Ministry (A Ministry of Visitation)

Please contact the Parish Office if  
you or someone you know would  
like a visit by the Outreach Ministry.

### Parish Contacts

#### Parish Pastoral Council

Colleen Jack Debbie Yutzi

Dianne Brenner Fr. Peter Meyer

Karolina Amos Ken Gallipeau

Michele Way

#### Building & Finance Committee

Fr. Peter Meyer Diane Smith

Maria Diemert Rick Weishar

Sebastian Siebel-Achenbach

#### Catholic Women's League

Barb Vodicka

h094.cwlpresident@gmail.com

#### Knights of Columbus

Todd Cowan

gk8192@ontariokofc.ca

#### Vocations

Contact [www.vocationinfo.ca](http://www.vocationinfo.ca) or

[www.resurrectionist.net](http://www.resurrectionist.net)

#### New Parishioners

New parishioners, welcome!

Please register at the office or pick up a  
registration package at the church entrance.

#### Bulletin Deadline

Written submissions by Monday noon.

December 3, 2023

First Sunday  
of Advent



### St. Teresa of Avila School

75 First St. W., Elmira

519-669-8843 Fax 519-669-4509

### St. David Catholic Secondary School

4 High Street, Waterloo

519-885-1340 Website: [stdavid.wcdsb.ca](http://stdavid.wcdsb.ca)

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. ✠

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## MASSES FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

<b>Tuesday, December 5,</b>	
<b>6:00 pm</b>	First Reconciliation
<b>7:05 pm</b>	<b>+Paul &amp; Diana Renaud;</b> Wes & Theresa Grosz & Family <b>+Theresa Goodwin;</b> Bill Walter
<i>If the highest aim of a captain were to preserve his ship, he would keep it in port forever. – St. Thomas Aquinas</i>	
<b>Wednesday, December 6, 9:00 am – Maryhill</b>	
<i>It is always springtime in the heart that loves God. – St. John Mary Vianney</i>	
<b>Thursday, December 7, 12:05 pm</b>	
<b>+Betty Furlong;</b> John & Linda Bruder <b>+Frances Kraemer;</b> Family of Leo & Caroline Hicknell	
<i>If you have two shirts in your closet, one belongs to you and the other to the one with no shirt. – St. Ambrose</i>	
<b>Friday, December 8, 9:00 am – Maryhill</b>	
<i>To be possessed by Jesus and to possess him – that is the perfect reign of Love. – St. Peter Julian Eymard</i>	
<b>Saturday, December 9, 5:00 pm</b>	
<b>+Philip, Karen, Rose &amp; Maurice Downey;</b> The Family <b>+Dennis Walter;</b> Joanne & Jerry Berlette	
<b>Sunday, December 10, Second Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Our Parish Community</b>
<b>10:00 – 10:15 am</b>	<b>Christmas Pageant Practice</b>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Maryhill</b>

### READINGS FOR December 9/10

First Reading: Is 40:1-5, 9-11  
 Second Reading: 2 Pt 3:8-14  
 Gospel Reading: Mk 1:1-8

### HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Mon., December 4	Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.
Tues., December 5	Grandparents & Elderly
Wed., December 6	Order of Preachers (Dominican, O.P.)
Thurs., December 7	Donald Sanvido
Fri., December 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat., December 9	Rev. David Perrin

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

<b>MON</b>	7:00 pm	<b>Advent Small Group Reflection</b> – Library
<b>TUE</b>	7:35 pm	<b>Pastoral Council Meeting</b> – Library
<b>WED</b>	7:00 pm	<b>9 a.m. Choir Practice</b> – Church
<b>THU</b>	3:15 pm	<b>Children's Christmas Choir</b> - Practice
	7:00 pm	<b>R.C.I.A. Session</b> – Library
<b>FRI</b>	7:00 pm	<b>John B. Miller Advent/Christmas Concert &amp; Reception</b> – Church
<b>SAT</b>	3:30-4:45 pm	<b>Confessions</b> – Church

### LIVING ROSARY INTENTION

**For persons with disabilities** – We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

### FOODBANK NEEDS

Baked Beans, Canned Pasta and Hamburger Helper

## MINISTRIES for December 9/10

### Eucharistic Ministers

5pm Deacon Basil Markides, Sharon Both  
 9am Deacon Basil Markides, Ron Stemmler, Iris Miltenburg

### Hospitality

5pm Debbie Yutzi, Marianne Kieswetter  
 9am Pat & Linus Ditner, Ray Denomme

### Lector

5pm Tom O'Marra  
 9am Linda Bruder

### Commentator

Lisa Denomme  
 Mike Noel

### Children's Liturgy

Dec 10 Anna Jakeman, Ken Gallipeau

### Sign Ministry

Dec 4 Sandi Hutchinson

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The first week of Advent offers the focus of the Second Coming of Christ. Jesus will return again in all splendor and glory, to judge the living and the dead. We profess that fact every Sunday in our Creed.

Join us for the Advent Small Group Reflections that is being held on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the church library. See the announcement in the bulletin.

John B. Miller and Friends will be here to entertain us on Friday. Consider coming out and joining us for Advent/Christmas music followed by a reception in the hall.  
 Fr. Peter

**BAPTISM** – We welcome into our Parish Family: **Amelia Marie Ivo Cottenden**, daughter of Michael and Jessica, **Easton Arlow Francisco Prime**, son of Joseph and Caroline, **Wyatt Hendrik Smeitink**, son of Erik and Laura and **Jackson William Smeitink**, son of Erik and Laura. *We pray that God will help these children to grow in holiness and wisdom.*

We greatly acknowledge your remittance of \$8,210 collected **on behalf of the Daughters of the Sacred Heart**. The continuing generosity and interest shown by your parish community in the mission work of the Church is very much appreciated. May your parish community be richly rewarded for their generosity.

Frank Cappelli

### ADVENT SMALL GROUP REFLECTIONS

– All parishioners are invited to gather this Advent to read a reflection on the scriptures for the four Sundays of Advent, share our thoughts and experiences, and feed our body and soul as we prepare for Christ's coming. **Mondays, December 4, 11 and 18, 2023** from 7 - 8 pm in the library, please join us for these small group sessions, followed by a light snack. Hosted by the St. Teresa C.W.L. All are welcome! For more info contact Alice Soeder at [alice\\_soeder@hotmail.com](mailto:alice_soeder@hotmail.com) or 519-669-1859.

Calling all young singers from Grade 2 to 8. We are having a **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR** that be singing on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at the 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Mass. **Practices are Thursdays, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and**

21<sup>st</sup> from 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. If your child is interested email the Parish Office at [stteresaelmira@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stteresaelmira@hamiltondiocese.com).

The Knights of Columbus “ANGEL TREE” event has started. We ask that parishioners pick a tag from the Angel Tree and return a new unwrapped gift with the tag to the church before **December 10, 2023**.

**C.W.L. NEWS** - Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** for Mass at **5:30 p.m.** followed by our Potluck. Please note the time change! All ladies of the parish are welcome to come and join us!

Our Knights of Columbus Council 8192 is hosting **JOHN B. MILLER AND FRIENDS ADVENT/CHRISTMAS MUSIC** on **December 8<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. at St. Teresa of Avila Parish, 19 Flamingo Drive, Elmira. A perfect way to kick off the Advent/Christmas Season. Reception to follow in the Church Hall. No tickets are needed, freewill offering.

**DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE** – Thank you to those who have supported environmental defenders and Carlos Escaleras National Park through their signing of the petition. Sign the petition in the narthex to the Honduran ambassador to Canada asking her government for protection, justice and reparation for environmental defenders and for Carlos Escaleras National Park. The petition will remain in the narthex for signatures for another two weeks. Please consider signing this petition.

### **★St. Teresa of Avila Christmas Pageant★**



**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** after the 9 a.m. Mass with Coffee Sunday to follow. Children of all ages are welcome to participate!  
**Practices 10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. in the church:**

★ **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>,**  
★ **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Children do not need to know lines; they just need to wear the provided costume and look adorable!

Merry Christmas!

-St. Teresa of Avila Children's Liturgy Team

### **FUNDSCHIP GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER CONTINUES!**

Thinking of gifts for Christmas? Now is the time to purchase gift cards here and support the church at the same time! The percentage the church receives from each card is listed beside each retailer on the order form. The order form can be found under Fundraisers on our website ([www.stteresaelmira.ca](http://www.stteresaelmira.ca)). Easy ordering instructions are at the top of the order form. Lots of places to choose from - something for everyone! Gift cards never expire and are easy to include in a greeting card! Don't forget to purchase some gift cards for yourself for your everyday purchases or for any special occasion! If you have any questions, please contact Barb Vodicka at [stteresaelmirafund@gmail.com](mailto:stteresaelmirafund@gmail.com) or call 519-497-3162.

The Elmira District Ministerial Association presents **COMMUNITY CHOIRS & CAROLS** on **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 7 p.m. at Floradale Mennonite Church, 22 Florapine Rd, Floradale. Freewill offering in support of Woolwich Counselling Centre. For more information email [office@floramc.org](mailto:office@floramc.org) or call 519-669-2861.

The next **PRAYER VIGIL** is **Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>** from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King Street East, Kitchener, for babies being aborted. If you cannot physically attend, would you devote an hour to praying? Please pray for an end to abortion and pray for the conversion of hearts. Parking is across the road at Schneider Park. Any queries, contact Cathy at [kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com](mailto:kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com) or call 519-742-9025.

**EMMANUEL THE PLEA AND THE PROMISE**, an Advent evening of Reflection led by Fr. Thomas Rosica, C.S.B. on **Friday, December 15, 2023** beginning with Mass at 7 p.m. followed by the reflection at 7:45 p.m. at St. Michael's University Church, 80 University Avenue, Waterloo. Please register on our website or by phone at 519-884-9311.

**MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH** - When asked what matters most to someone who is married, people often answer my wife/husband and children. It is important to see if your actions reflect that belief. Do you spend time together daily talking about your day and important matters? Do you plan a date night with your spouse (even if it is from home), so your children see the love you share? Do you do little tasks that need doing without being asked? Do you compliment your spouse and tell them you love them? What we do tells others what matters – be sure your spouse knows they do!

**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](http://www.resurrectionists.ca)

**VOCATION SEEDS** – The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).

### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**Offertory collection for November 25/26: \$3,713.50**  
**Building & Maintenance Fund Balance: \$120,192.30**  
**Thank you!**

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