

# St Michael Catholic Church

80 University Ave. W., (at Hemlock Street) Waterloo, ON N2L 3C7

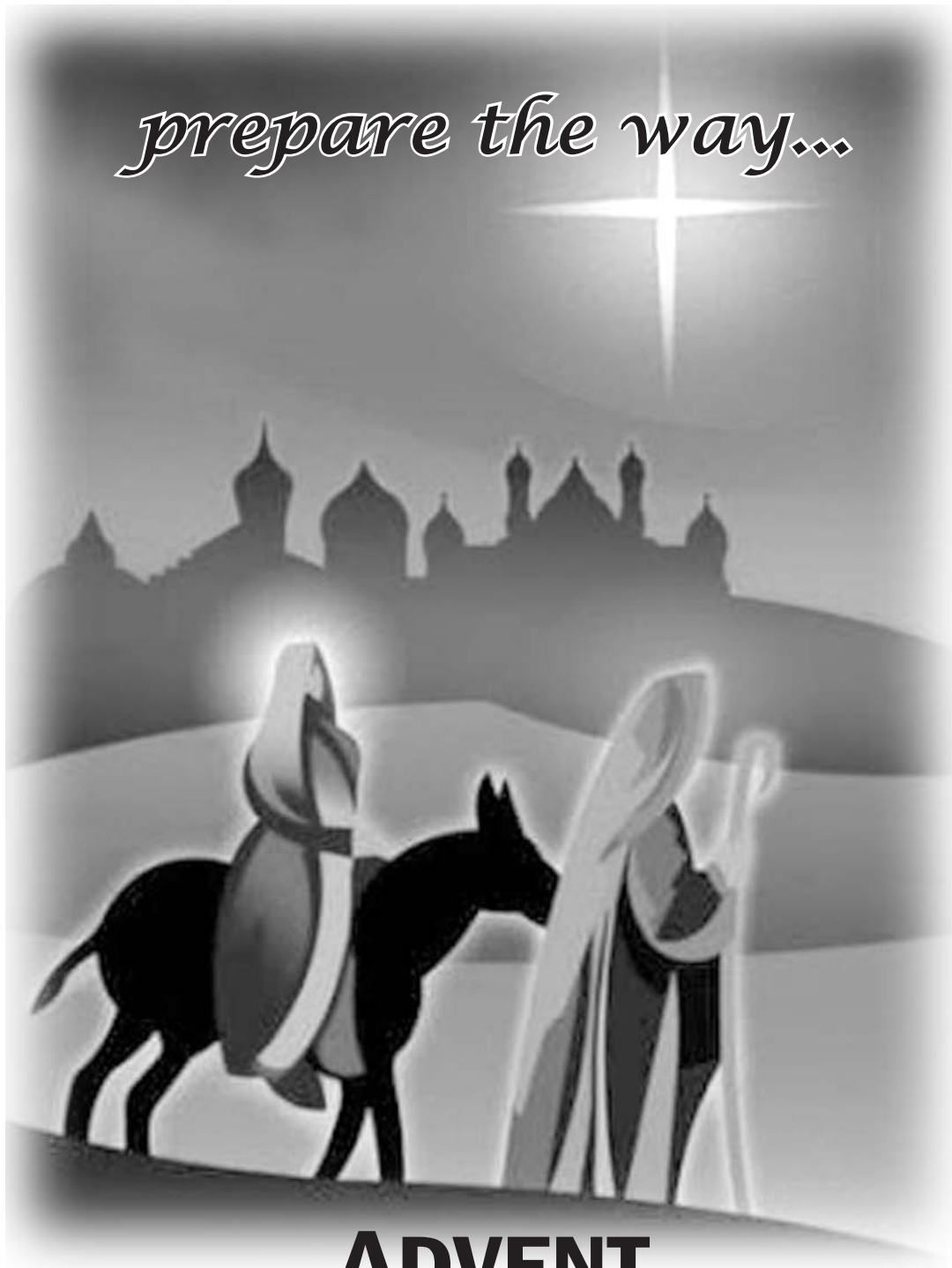
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Parish Office email: [parish@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:parish@stmichaelw.ca)

 @StMikesWaterloo  @StMikesWaterloo

Father Pawel Jamroz, Pastor email: [pastor@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:pastor@stmichaelw.ca)

*prepare the way...*



## ADVENT

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### **DEAR PARISHIONERS,**

*As we celebrate the Birth of our Saviour, may Christ be the Light of our lives and fill your hearts and homes with Joy.*

*Along with the Parish staff, I wish each of you all the many blessings of Christmas and a grace-filled New Year.*

*May Faith and Love be your gifts at Christmas and Hope your treasure in the New Year.*

### **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*Fr. Pawel Jamroz*

### **WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL PARISH**

Welcome, we are glad you're here! For details on our parish life, please see our website: [www.stmichaelw.ca](http://www.stmichaelw.ca)

### **Parish Office Hours**

The parish office is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

### **Sunday Homilies Online**

Sunday homilies are available weekly online in audio and pdf version through our parish website – just click on the button 'SUNDAY HOMILY'.

### **The Church is Open for Prayer**

The Church is open for quiet prayer Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

### **Prayer Intentions**

Prayer intentions are placed at the front of the Altar and are remembered privately at Mass during the Prayers of the Faithful. You can also have your request shared with our prayer group ministry. Please go to our website [www.stmichaelw.ca](http://www.stmichaelw.ca) and click on Request a Prayer or contact the parish office by phone or email.

### **Parish Email List**

All parishioners are welcome to join a parish email list. If you are on this list, you will be notified of upcoming parish events including funerals. To join the list, please sign up on our website at <https://www.stmichaelw.ca/contact-us>

### **Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2025**

Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2025 for current envelope users are available in the narthex. If you are not currently using envelopes but are interested in obtaining Sunday Offering Envelopes, please contact the parish office. All are invited to consider Pre-Authorized Giving as a method to support our parish - forms are available online.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### **Tuesday, December 24, 2024 Christmas Eve**

**5:00 – Mass with Children's Pageant**

**7:00 pm**

**12:00 Midnight**

#### **Wednesday, December 25, 2024**

**9:00 am**

**11 am**

**No 12:15 Mass**

#### **Thursday, December 26, 2024**

**12:15 pm + Anna Skwarek - Steve**

**+ Souls in Purgatory – Carol-Ann Lorentz**

#### **Friday, December 27, 2024**

**8:00 am + Leslie Molnar Jr. – Rita Molnar**

**+ Special Intentions of Carol-Ann Lorentz**

**+ Louise Kirvan – Ron Kirvan & Family**

**8:30am - 9am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

#### **Saturday, December 28, 2024**

**5:00 pm + George Chrysler, Jr. – The Family**



## The Earthiness of Christmas

Christmas means many things, but, at its heart, lies the ... idea that God takes on human flesh ... becomes physical. At Christmas, “*the Word was made flesh.*” Among the many things we celebrate at Christmas therefore is the sacredness of our own lives, in all their physicality. What’s made holy by Jesus’ birth? ... nature, our homes, our kitchens, our workplaces ... our own bodies ... Spirit too, of course, is blessed and made holy by the incarnation, but the Word was already spiritual. At Christmas, it “was made flesh.” (*Fr. Rolheiser*)

## How long does Christmas last?

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with **Christmas Eve** and concludes on the feast of the **Baptism of the Lord** - this year, **January 12th**. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into the world and into our hearts and reflect on God’s love for us. Jesus was born to die for us and in this way to “*save His people from their sins*” (Mt 1:21).

## Year End Giving

An important reminder that donations **must be received at the parish office by Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>** in order to be included in your 2024 income tax receipt. For online donations through our parish website please allow a minimum of 3 business days. This year that means that the **online donation must be made no later than December 26<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for your generosity toward the financial needs of our Parish.

For an instant tax receipt, the Diocese has provided all parishes with a secure, online giving option through [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org). This allows you to make a donation directly to St. Michael Parish and receive your tax receipt from Canada Helps instantly. You may search St. Michael Parish, Waterloo or simply click on the following link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450RR0014-st-michaels-parish/>

## Office Christmas Hours

The parish office will be closed on December 25 and 26. The church will be open on December 26 for 12:15 Mass only.

## Christmas Sharing

Thank you for supporting the St. Michael Social Justice Committee's Christmas Sharing Project. HUGO, UA, and House of Friendship's ShelterCare were very grateful for all the items.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve** – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

**5 pm with Children’s Pageant**

**7 pm and Midnight (12am)**

**Christmas Day** – Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

**9 am and 11 am**

## Christmas Season Mass Times

**Feast of the Holy Family**

Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup> **5 pm**

Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> **9 am, 11 am, 7 pm**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**

Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> – **5 pm**

Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – **9 am and 11 am**

## JUBILEE OF HOPE 2025

The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as “**Pilgrims of Hope!**” ... Six churches have been designated as pilgrimage sites across the Diocese, welcoming you as a visitor over the course of the Jubilee to come and pray. Resources, information and locations of the pilgrimage sites are all made available on the Diocesan Website: [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com).

Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Peter’s in Rome on Christmas Eve, inaugurating the Jubilee Year. In Cathedrals around the world and in our Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, the Holy Year will be inaugurated on **December 28-29, 2024**, the Feast of the Holy Family. The year will be officially launched in each Parish in the Diocese on this same day. The Jubilee **Year of Hope** will conclude on January 6, 2026.

*“In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring... may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope.”*

Pope Francis



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