



Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Parish, Waterloo

MASS TIMES

Lord's Day

Saturday: 7:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Saturday: 6:40 pm

Weekday Mass

Wednesday & Friday: 8:30 am

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:00 pm

Holy Rosary: Wednesday & Friday: 8:10 am

Confession Times

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,
20 minutes before weekday Masses.

Sacraments

For baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, marriages, please contact parish office.

Anointing of the Sick / Hospital Visitation

If you or someone you know is in need and requesting anointing or pastoral visit, please contact our parish office or see Father after Mass. If the person is in the Hospital and it's an emergency, please have the hospital contact the priest on call.

St. Vincent de Paul

For assistance with groceries and other needs, please call 519-886-0342 ext. 2.

Church door collections - last Sunday of each month.

Food donation bin - back of the Church.



Welcome New Members

Welcome! We're glad you want to join our parish! Please fill out a form from the church lobby or website, drop it in the collection basket or at the parish office. Please call if you would like Father to bless your home.

Offertory Envelopes / Pre-Authorized Debit

To receive an annual tax receipt for your donations you are encouraged to use offertory envelopes and/or to enroll in our monthly debit plan. Offertory envelopes can be requested by filling out a parish registration form, or if you are already registered, simply call the office to request a box. Debit plan enrollment forms are available in the church lobby.

PARISH TEAM

Pastor: Fr. Stephen Murrin
smurrin@hamiltondiocese.com

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Patrycja Wiecek
lourdeswaterloochurch@gmail.com

Music Director: Mr. Bruce Cameron
brucecameron57@gmail.com

Organist: Mrs. April Philpotts aaphilpotts@gmail.com
Organist: Ms. Carolyn Snyder Milke csnydermilke@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Parish Bequests

Keep your love for your parish alive.
Remember **Our Lady of Lourdes Parish** in your will and when recommending expressions of sympathy.




CONTACT US

173 Lourdes Street
Waterloo, ON N2L 1N5
519-886-0342

lourdeswaterloochurch@gmail.com

www.ourladyoflourdeschurchwaterloo.com

 www.facebook.com/OLOLWaterloo

 twitter.com/our_parish



DEC 10 to DEC 15

TUESDAY – DEC 10 Ferial – Advent	7:00 p.m.	+Emilie & Walter Reichelt – Maria Reichelt Smit
WEDNESDAY – DEC 11 Ferial – Advent	8:30 a.m.	+Soul of Thaganala – Earnest & Suja Biber
THURSDAY – DEC 12 Feast – Our Lady of Guadalupe	7:00 p.m.	In Thanksgiving – Naomi & Nevelle de’Rozario
FRIDAY – DEC 13 Memorial – St. Nicholas	8:30 a.m.	+Sheldon & Doris Gross – Family
SATURDAY – DEC 14 Memorial – St. Lucy	7:00 p.m.	+Brian O’Brien – Markus & Jeni Poetzsch
SUNDAY – DEC 15 Third Sunday of Advent	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	+Cindy May Flynn – Claudette Rousseau Living & deceased members of our parish

Parish Finance Report Week of	Dec 1, 2024		Dec 8, 2024	
	Sunday Envelope Collection	\$ 6,420.00	\$ 1,955.00	
Sunday Loose Collection	\$ 732.45	\$ 463.50		
E-transfer	\$ 640.00	\$ 605.00		
PAG/ Direct Deposit	\$ 3,037.50	\$ 3,037.50		
TOTAL SUNDAY COLLECTION	\$ 10,829.95	\$ 6,061.00		
Budgeted	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00		
Net Income /Loss	\$ 4,329.95	-\$ 439.00		

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans. (Loyola Press).

CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTE: During the Holy



Season of Christmas, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes to be placed in the church in memory of deceased relatives and friends.

These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. Forms are available at the church entrance if you wish to make such a tribute. The floral tribute sheets will be placed in the sanctuary in a gift-wrapped box. Those loved ones named will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.

GAUDETE SUNDAY



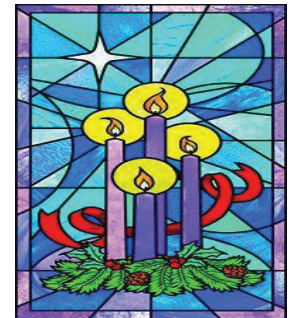
The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. "*Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.*" This is marked by lighting the

pink candle on the advent wreath, as a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy and we are nearing the festivities of the Christmas Season.

ADVENT, O ANTIPHONS

Octave before Christmas

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, Dec. 17-23, with Dec. 24 being Christmas Eve and Vespers for that evening being for the Christmas Vigil.



The importance of O Antiphons is twofold: Each one highlights a title for the Messiah: *O Sapientia* (O Wisdom), *O Adonai* (O Lord), *O Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse), *O Clavis David* (O Key of David), *O Oriens* (O Rising Sun), *O Rex Gentium* (O King of the Nations), and *O Emmanuel*. Also, each one refers to the prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah.

December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!

BLESSING OF A NATIVITY SCENE FOR YOUR HOME.

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Saviour was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Saviour of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING OF A CHRISTMAS TREE FOR YOUR HOME.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Pope Francis has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee Year for the entire Church which will begin on the Feast of the Holy Family, the Sunday following Christmas Day.

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. It is celebrated by the Church every 25 years, and this has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years. The Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015. And the last regular sequence Holy Year was celebrated in the year 2000, on the eve of the new millennium.

During this Holy Year, the theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world.

The beginning of the Jubilee Year is marked by the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. A Holy Door is one of the usually sealed entrances that lead into the major basilicas of Rome, and it is only during a Jubilee Year that these doors are opened. Our parish has a small replica of the Holy Door that will be on display in the church during the year at the altar of St. Joseph, the patron saint of the church.

THE POPE'S DECEMBER INTENTIONS FOR 2024

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Thank you to all who donated dolls and stuffed animals to the CFFC project. Approximately 40 were collected and will be

worked on shortly. I'm still in need of thread to make bags for these. This project is ongoing, all year round but PLEASE contact me before making donations, as some have been unusable and hence donated to Christmas Child. Items needed: fabric (cotton/flannel ONLY). Thread (all-purpose/cotton ONLY. No cones.) Baby dolls and stuffed animals (12" or bigger ONLY). Please do not donate anything else to THIS cause. Thank you. Maryke Mior (519) 885-0109.



HELPING CHILDREN THROUGH OUR

BOWING ANGEL: A long-standing tradition at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is the presence of the bowing angel by the manger scene, who graciously bows her head

after an offering is made. Again, this year, all donations received from the bowing angel will be sent to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Children's Project in Kenya who work with children whose parents have died of HIV-AIDS. Since the bowing angel cannot digest paper, a plate will be by the angel to accept paper offerings. (Cheques should be made payable to "Our Lady of Lourdes Church".)

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!" We are all invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. 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.

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 n 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, *Spes non confundit*.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Once again, this year, students from grades one to eight, along with parent volunteers, are invited to become involved in the Christmas pageant which will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Registration online by filling out the google form. <https://forms.gle/rbvHtfuqLffnAah37>

Deadline to register for the pageant is Sunday, December 8.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS

Tuesday, December 10 & Tuesday, December 17
from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Children and parent volunteers are asked to meet in the church hall on the above dates in preparation for the rehearsal that will take place in the church. "Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words."

attributed to St. Francis of Assisi



Thinking of buying or selling? I can HELP! I have a team of professionals who will make the process go as smooth as possible. I have been a member of Our Lady of Lourdes church for 25 yrs and would love the opportunity to help my fellow parishioners with their real estate needs.

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