

February 21 and 28, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

“During this time, the MASSES are celebrated privately (no congregation)”

Wednesday Feb 10 – Marianne Phillips

Friday Feb 12 – Caroline Angarano

Saturday Feb 13 – Roger Settini

Wednesday Feb 17 Ash Wednesday —
deceased parishioners of Blessed Sacrament

Friday Feb 19 – Marie Geraghty

Saturday Feb 20 – Doris Donovan

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR -Feb 8-Feb 13

MON - Rev. Brian Quigley

TUES – Rev. Tim Theriault

WED – Missionaries

THUR – Rev. Murray McDermott

FRI - Rev. Raphael Ma

SAT - Rev. Mussie A. Keflezghi

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR -Feb 15-20

MON – Rev. Thomas Vermiglio

TUES – Rev. Stephen Murrin

WED – Ash Wednesday

THU - Rev. Toby Collins

FRI - Rev. Joseph de Viveiros

SAT - Rev. Jungheon (Francisco) Kwak

Thank you for your on going generosity.

The Office will be closed due to the lockdown of the province.

If you leave a message on the parish phone, someone will get back to you as the secretary will be in the office a few days a week and Fr. Charlie will be checking messages.

Like Us on facebook.com/mstblssdsrmnt! Tweet Us @MSTBLSSDSRMNT! Follow Us @branchesoffaith! We are on social media. Stay up to date, with happenings in the parish, faithful posts, and much more!

Spread the word that we have social media to your family and friends, so they are also up-to-date. See you online!

First Sunday of
Lent

The waters shall never again
become a flood. (Genesis
9:15)



Doesn't it seem odd to begin Lent with the story of Noah's ark? Could it be because Noah spent forty days riding out a hug flood and Jesus endured forty days "among wild beasts" (Mark 1:13)?

Well, that's part of the reason. But beyond that, there is a promise hidden in God's covenant with Noah. By vowing never again to destroy the earth in a flood, he pointed toward a better way to overcome sin and evil: Jesus' death and resurrection. And Lent gives us forty days to prepare for it!

In today's second dreading St. Peter tells us why Noah and his family are perfect Lenten companions for us. Through the flood, they escaped a sinful environment and entered a new life with God—just as we escape sin and enter new life through the floodwaters of Baptism.

If you're preparing for Baptism this Lent, you have a special reason to rejoice. You will be passing through waters into salvation firsthand. But if you are already baptized, you can rejoice too, especially if you spend these forty days renewing your baptismal promises. Renounce the devil and all his temptation. Affirm your faith in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Recall God's covenant with you. As you dedicate yourself to God this Lent, you'll come to know the Lord better. And that will make you more confident in his love and his grace.

So find extra time to pray this Lent. Give more of your time and money to people in need. Choose to fast, either from food, or from a negative activity or habit. You might feel like Noah on the ark sometimes, and it might get messy. But the journey is worth it because when you finally reach the joy of Easter Sunday, you will be stepping into a fuller understanding and experience of God's faithfulness and his salvation.

Lent has just begun. Let's get on the boar!

"Lord, help me follow you into new life this Lent."

FROM THE DIOCESE

PARENTING TIP : Two kinds of love are on display in the month of February this year – one on Valentine’s Day celebrating romantic love and one on Feb. 17th, Ash Wednesday, celebrating the infinite love of a merciful God. When we recognize the depth of God’s love, so powerful that nothing can separate us from it, we feel secure that God is always with us. Both these loves are important and this is a great month to help children understand that God is responsible for both. Talk to them about how He created us to want to be in relationships, care about others and love important people in our lives. Help them to understand that the six weeks of Lent ends with the celebration Easter. Easter, the day we rejoice over Christ’s resurrection and through his love, our ability to spend eternity in Heaven.

MARRIAGE TIP: In February we celebrate Valentine’s Day, a day created to celebrate love and a great month to think back to the days of dating we experienced with our spouses! Days when we flirted, complimented, spent endless hours talking, hated to be apart and planned and went on dates! Now compare it to your time together today – have you given up all or most of these actions? Marriages that continue to have relationships that reflect their dating days feel connected, vitalized and loved. Why not consider making February a month of renewal for your marriage? Purposely create a relationship with your spouse where you give them your time and attention by making them your number one priority and ignite that same spark of love you felt in those early days of dating.

Anniversary Mass 2021 - The Anniversary Mass scheduled for June of 2021 has been cancelled due to restrictions and concerns around COVID-19. We invite you to register your 25, 40, 50, 60 and 60 plus years Anniversary on the Diocesan website at hamiltondiocese.com. We will send you the certificate you would have received from Bishop Crosby at the Mass.

Marriage Support - Is your marriage experiencing more trouble than joy, feeling stagnant or disconnected? **The solution is Retrouvaille**, a program for married couples facing challenges in their relationship. Its purpose is to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. It is a practical program where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves, designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. It also works for couples who may be considering separation or divorce. The next weekend begins March 12, 2021. For more information call 905-664-5212 or email teamrecine@gmail.com.

Struggling After an Abortion? Either your own, or someone else’s? Do you feel alone, emotional, or angry? Project Rachel is here to help. This confidential service allows people to work through their feelings on an individual basis with a trained counsellor, to find hope and healing. **Please contact us at 905-526-1999 or toll free at 1-888-385-3850.**

Re: Start – Starting over after separation or divorce with support, care and tools for the journey - We invite you to visit the Family Ministry Office on the Diocesan website <https://hamiltondiocese.com/> to see the programs offered and to register. If you have questions, call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

First Sunday of Lent – February 21, 2021

Lent: the springtime of the soul.. is a time to make a new covenant with God, and develop new signs of our relationship with our Creator. Go into your own desert and discover what God is asking of you. If you think God could be calling your to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call the diocese of Hamilton at 905.528.7988

Development and Peace (Caritas Canada) Share Lent 2021 campaign.

For over 50 years, Development and Peace has been organizing its Share Lent campaign during the period of Lent. This time of preparation for the celebration of Easter is an opportunity for our organization to raise awareness among parishioners on issues of international solidarity and invite them to practice almsgiving, especially on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, by donation to the special collection for Development and Peace. This collection helps our partners meet the immediate and sustained needs of some of our poorest sisters and brothers through over 100 projects in 30 countries of the Global South.

This year’s campaign theme, *Share Love, Share Lent*, is inspired by the message of love and social fraternity in Pope Francis’s encyclical, *Fratelli tutti*.

If you would like to donate, you can online at dev.org/sharelent OR use an envelope marked Share Lent and drop off at the parish office.

For more information on Development and Peace’s campaign and or see what is happening in the international solidarity, check out the web site devp.org

Kelly DiDomenico/Director of Communications and Campaign, D&P

A Little Humour

“Did you give up anything during Lent?” one woman asked another. “Yes,” was the reply, and utters with a heavy sigh. “I gave up fifty dollars for a new Easter bonnet.”

