

MASS INTENTIONS

Wed Dec 13 – 9:00am – John DeKleyn
Fri Dec 15 – 9:00am – Jean Benito
Saturday Dec 16 – 5:00 pm- Wallace Khan &
deceased family, Gary Young, Nicholas Ciraolo,
Angeline Patti

Wed Dec 20 – 9:00am— Maxie Bozak
Fri. Dec 22 -9:00 am – Debbie Portillo
Saturday Dec 23 - 5:00 pm – Angelo Marino,
Giuseppini Vincelli , Cathy MacInis & deceased
family, Margaret MacNeil

Nov 25/26 -- \$2,865.00 including loose
Dec 2/3 --\$3,733.00 including loose

We thank you for your continued support.

COME AND JOIN THE ADULT CHOIR for a
Christmas Day Hymn Sing beginning at 10:45 am on
Christmas Day. The Adult Choir has been preparing
songs and hymns for this holy season to celebrate
Christ’s birth. The choir is looking forward to a very
special holiday season and wishes that all of you
would join them on Christmas Day!

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Dec 11-16, 2023

MON – Rev. Andrew Lopatniuk
TUE - Married Couples
WED –Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (C.Ss.R.)
THUR – deceased Rev. Wallace Metcalf
FRI – Rev. Charles Galea
SAT – Rev. Robert Kiffman

Dec 18-23, 2023

MON – Rev. Msgr. Theodore Slaman
TUE - Single Catholics
WED – Voluntas Dei Institute (i.v.Dei.)
THUR – Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
FRI – Rev. Ronald Hodara
SAT – Rev. Donald Wilhelm

The Catholic Women's League of Blessed Sacrament
Church monthly food drive for December is focused on
SOUP! Canned soup, dry packaged soup, any kind of
soup! For Neighbour to Neighbour, our local food
bank. Please drop off your donations in the narthex and
help those who are in need during the cold winter
months.

Waters of Italy Trip! With Fr. Mark Gatto. October 9
to 18, 2024. For more information contact Fr. Mark at
mgatto@hamiltondiocese.com

Meditation for Christmas

And when we give each other Christmas gifts in
His name, let us remember that He has given us
the sun and the moon and the stars, and the
earth with its forests and mountains and oceans
– and all that lives and move upon them. He has
given us all green things and everything that
blossoms and bears fruit and all that we quarrel
about and all that we have misused
– and to save us from our
foolishness, from all our sins, He
came down to earth and gave us Himself.



Sigrid Undset



Thank you to everyone who
participated in this years
Poinsettia Events!

Also, a huge thank you to our
devoted Poinsettia Events

Committee team members, for their creativity,
dedication, time and talents. Laura Luneburg,
Pat & Fred Williams, Christina & Rachel McNamara,
Lucille DiCenso, Judy Adams and Karen Galipeau.

And to all the wonderful volunteers, who helped with
the administration, Narthex, school gym event day set
up, take down and everything in between.

We appreciate you all!

Congratulations! The winner of the 50/50 draw
was ticket # 090224, who won \$797.50

Please bring your copy of the winning ticket to the
church office (Monday to Thursday), to pick up your
winnings. Call the church office at 905-385-3570 to
organize your pick up with Wendy.

The Early- Bird draw for a set of
Pre-Season Ti-Cat game tickets for 2024 was won by
Ticket # 0048

A note from the Poinsettia Events Committee:
We truly appreciate all who purchased a poinsettia,
bought a ticket for the 50/50 draw and who brought
their families to have breakfast with Santa.

This year's events were a great success in bringing our
faith community together to enjoy the start to the
festive season.

Youth Group 7+*****The
Branches of Faith Youth Group will
be on Friday, December 22nd. All
young people in Grades 7+ are
invited to join us. Permission forms
can be found in the Narthex or on our parish website.
Bring a friend.



The 2024 Parish envelopes are available in the narthex. Because of the low demand for parish envelopes, we have only ordered 250 boxes of envelopes. Anyone with numbers from 251 to 300 will be getting a new number for 2024. This does not have any effect on the tax receipts.

PLEASE do not use the 2024 envelopes until next year. Thank you for your generosity. If you would like parish envelopes, please call the parish office and we can certainly help you. You can receive envelopes anytime during the year.

The end of the financial year is Dec 30, 2023.



The holidays are right around the corner and the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton has an opportunity for you to help put children first through the annual Give the Gift of Joy holiday Campaign. Three main groups are being supported: *Helping youth to lead independent lives through education and stable housing.

*Supporting Kin families with the essentials needed for children in their care

*Addressing food insecurity to support families we serve. To make a financial donation call 905-525-2012 ext 3150 check the website www.hccas.ca

Advent Prayer Night for Youth Ministers & Volunteers

All adults who minister to young people in the Diocese of Hamilton are invited to an evening of prayer and fellowship. Join us on Wednesday, December 13th at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Freulton for our Advent gathering. For more information and registration, email youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com.

Vocations Mass and Young Adults Night
January 5th – Hamilton

The Serra Club of Hamilton invites all parishioners to attend a Mass for vocations at 6:00pm. Following the Mass, Fr. Mark Morley invites young adults to attend a night of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in celebration of the Christmas Season. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:30pm), praise night and vocations talk (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Friday, January 5th at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Rd W, Co-sponsored by the Serra Club of Hamilton and the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the



Baby Jesus figurines from nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. We will have the blessing on the Second

Sunday of Advent. The blessing of the 'Bambinelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy.

*You are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on **Saturday Dec 9 - 5pm or Sunday December 10- 11am.** After the blessing of you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day and as you lay Jesus in the Manager, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.*

GRIEF RELIEF

Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? Are you wondering if your feelings are normal? You are not alone! The Diocese of Hamilton will offer a six week grief program starting January 17, 2024. The sessions are held from 1:30-3:00pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or by zoom. To register go to hamiltondiocese.com and look for the start date under upcoming events.

A prayer for Advent

Lord Jesus, you said that you came not to condemn the world but that we might have abundant life. Open my heart to receive the abundant life you offer me this Advent season. Allow me to experience the wonder of a child looking forward to Christmas for the first time. Strengthen my desire for your coming that I might be renewed in heart, mind and spirit as I prepare to celebrate you coming at Christmas. Amen.



A little girl went with her aunt to see the Christmas parade. One float presented a religious scene – the three Wisemen, Mary and Joseph, and the baby Jesus in the hay. "Isn't Jesus every going to grow up?" asked the little girl. "He's the same size he was last year. "