MASS INTENTIONS

ASH Wednesday March 5 – 9:00 am at BLESSED SACRAMENT

Liturgy of the Word with distribution of ashes

7:00 PM - MASS - At - SACRED HEART

Friday March 7 – 9:00 am – Ernesto Giardino Saturday March 8 – 5:00 pm- John Rocchi; Connie & Joseph Curto; Eileen Kelly, Frank McCarvell

Wednesday March 12- 9:00 am – special intentions for Maria Lanie Santos

Friday March 14 -9:00 am – Frank Baswick Saturday March 15 – 5:00 pm – Benina Mishony; Ferdinando & Fiorina Mastroianni; Maxine Stauth; Nina Chiodo; Ed Szela

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

March 3-8, 2025

MON – Rev. Joseph Akanbi

TUE - Rev. Charlie Jordan

WED – ASH WEDNESDAY

THUR – Rev. Lourdy Dorismond, O.M.I.

FRI – Parish Staff – World Day of Prayer

SAT – Rev. Hanh Van Tran, O.M.I.

March 10-15, 2025

MON – Rev. Adam Voisin

TUE - Rev. Robert Bulbrook

WED -Permanent Diaconate Candidates

THUR - Rev. Jeffery Oehring

FRI – Rev. Francesco Cucchi

SAT – Rev. Mark Gatto

Donations received – February 15/16- \$ 545.00 Loose- \$ 85.00 February 22/23- \$ 3187.00 Loose \$ 420.00





Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is selling lottery Tickets which will be drawn at the annual dinner/dance in May. Prizes are \$2,000.00, \$1,000.00 AND 4 PRIZES OF \$500.00! THE

TICKETS ARE \$5.00 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20.00. see Karen Corsini for info.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will take place on Fridays during Lent at 10:30am

Starting Friday March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4,11.

<u>'Celebrating the Word'</u> will continue during Lent - Wednesdays - March 5 & 12, 19, 26, 2025 after the morning mass in the Parish hall. All are welcome! Refreshments provided.

The Adult Choir is now accepting new members. We are presently preparing for Lent, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. If you are interested in joining (especially male voices) please call the parish office for details. We look forward to having you!

The Resurrection Choir of Blessed Sacrament Church is looking for new members. The Resurrection Choir is responsible for providing music during the funerals that take place in our church. The time commitment is minimal since practices are held 30 minutes prior to the funeral. If you are interested in participating in this important ministry, please call the parish office for details. All new members are most welcome!

Youth Group: All Grade 7+ students are invited to attend our Friday Evening Gathering on March 28th. This month we will continue reflecting on the Our Father and how we can live out our faith by being

Pilgrims of Hope. Please join us in the Parish Hall for 7:00 p.m.. A permission form must be on file to attend. Bring a friend and let's have some fun!



Confirmadi in your prayers as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation will be celebrated with Bishop Crosby on Saturday, March 22nd 10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Parish and 11:30 a.m. at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish.



All ladies from both Blessed Sacrament Church and Sacred Heart Church are invited to the CWL meeting taking place this Sunday March 2 after the 11am Mass, in the parish hall at Blessed Sacrament

Church. A light lunch will be provided. At this meeting we will be discussing preparations for Lent during this year's Jubilee of Hope.



Most Blessed Sacrament Church will be celebrating its 70th anniversary on the weekend of June 21/22, 2025. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the planning for

this blessed event. Please call the parish office if you wish to volunteer.

World Day of Prayer for 2025

"I Made You Wonderful"
Psalm 139:1-18
Friday March 7th, 2025 at 2:00 pm at
St. Catherine of Siena R.C. Church
620 Rymal Rd E. - all are welcome to attend!

Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board Multi-Year Strategic Plan Survey

In support of its conviction for, "place Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church at the centre" of experiences, students' learning the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board is seeking input into the development of its next Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP). All members of the Catholic community are invited to share their thoughts and encouraged to participate in this important process. Please visit the HWCDSB website to complete the **MYSP** survey: www.hwcdsb.ca. **HWCDSB Community Survey:** Shaping Our Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

Liturgical Ministers of Hope --- During Lent this year, the Liturgy Office invites all Liturgical Ministers to gather for a Lenten retreat on the theme of Liturgical Ministers of Hope. or Saturday, **March 29, 2025**, St. Matthew Parish, Oakville, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday, **April 5, 2025**, Annunciation of our Lord Parish, Hamilton, 10:00 to 12:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? You are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 1, 2025, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is found under Upcoming Events on the home page at hamiltondiocese.com.

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 marked 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.

"Pilgrim Sundays" for celebrating the Holy Year 2025

At the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King 714 King Street West, Hamilton

In addition to the Pilgrim Sundays, you are welcome to attend Sunday Eucharist at the Cathedral. Masses at the Cathedral Basilica are (Saturday) 5:00 pm; Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am – pilgrim stamps will be available for Jubilee Passports.

Sunday March 30, 2025

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.- Cathedral opens & pilgrims enter, passport stamp available

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Jubilee of Hope - reflection 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Prayer at the Cross following the Taize format

Parenting Tip for the Month of March ** Parents are the most influential people in their children's lives. They watch every move, take in every word and see how you navigate the world - then they become the mini version of you, their parents. All the traits they take in become part of who they are for life! Help them to be the best people they can be by looking inward and asking yourself if you are doing enough to raise them to be the adult you would like them to be. If not, change how you interact and help them grow strong in mind, body and spirit. (Family Ministry Office)

Marriage Tip for March ** March is the start of Lent, a time when we reflect on our faith and our commitment to living as we are called to as disciples of Jesus. It is a perfect time to discuss as a couple how your marriage, considered both a Sacrament and Vocation by the Church, is fulfilling its mandate to be the visible sign of God's invisible love. Do you strive always to treat each other as God loves, in total self-giving, with mercy and forgiveness acting as strong pillars of your marriage? This Lent, make your Lenten journey a time to pray together and to work as a couple to strengthen one of the most important parts of your life, your marriage. (Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

Preparing Before Lent Begins

<u>Lent</u> is a time of renewal

Lent is the time to get serious about the cross. Today's readings focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Deeper than that, Lent is about embracing the cross. Our Lenten journey goes through the cross to the resurrection.

I have always found talk of the cross scary. I don't like to suffer and am reluctant to ask God to give me more of it. However, we don't need to go looking for the cross. It will find us. No one escapes suffering. The issue is what we do when the cross comes into our lives.

We need to pray, fast and give alms. They call us to become humble, to recognize that God is great and we are not. They also help us prepare for the day the cross arrives on our doorstep. Will I rebel against the cross? Or will I welcome it as an opportunity to share in God's redemptive love?

Jesus showed us what love is. It is neither a feeling nor a yearning for the beloved, although it can start there. Love is the decision to put our desires and self-interest on hold so others can live more fully. That's what Jesus did on Calvary. That's what we must do when our cross shows up unbidden.

(Glen Argan – Edmonton, AB)

A Catholic in good standing (presuming one is healthy) will fast and abstain from meat at least on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday.**

It doesn't' take a lot of time to prepare for Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. We can give God more of a space to touch our hearts if we begin to establish some simple patterns.

These 40 days of Lent give us time to do just that in three traditional and helpful ways:

Prayer, Fasting, & Almsgiving.

<u>PRAYER</u> helps us to renew and deepen our relationship with Him.

<u>FASTING</u> allows us to simplify our lives – which is always good for the soul. Put

Jesus Christ ahead of all other desires!

ALMSGIVING the primary attitude for

Jesus' disciples, tells us over and over again to share "time, talent & treasure"!

Calendar of Saints

March 4 – Saint Casimir – patron saint of Lithuania and one of partrons of Poland.

March 7 – Saint Perpetua & Saint Felicity

March 8 – Saint John of God – partron saint of hospitals and the sick .

March 9 – Satin Frances of Rome – patroness saint of widows.

March 18 – Saint Cyril of Jerusalem – a biblical scholar and cleric in the church of Jerusalem

March 19 – Saint Joseph – a carpenter Declared a patron saint of the universal Church and is principal patron saint of Canada

March 25 – Annunciation of the Lord This ancient feast, celebrating the Incarnation of the Word, is a joint celebration of Christ and the Blessed Virgin: of the Word who becomes the Son of Mary and of the virgin who becomes the Mother of God.

WEDDING OFFER -- During the wedding rehearsal, the groom approached the pastor with an unusual offer: "Look, I'll give you \$100 if you'll change the wedding vows. When you get to the part where I'm supposed to promise to 'love, honor and obey' and 'be faithful to her forever,' well, I'd appreciate it if you'd just leave that out." He passed the minister a \$100 bill and walked away satisfied.

On the day of the wedding, when it came time for the groom's vows, the pastor looked the young man in the eye and said: "Will you promise to prostrate yourself before her, obey her every command and wish, serve her breakfast in bed every morning of your life, and swear eternally before God and your lovely wife that you will not ever even look at another woman, as long as you both shall live?" The groom gulped and looked around, and said in a tiny voice, "Yes," then leaned toward the pastor and hissed: "I thought we had a deal." The pastor put a \$100 bill into the groom's hand and whispered: "She made me a better offer."