



St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

News From The Pews

"For where two or three
are gathered in my name,
I am there among them."
Matthew 18:20



Love Others As Christ Loves Us!

Septemeber 6th, 2020 - 24rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CELEBRATE OUR FAITH

Watch Mass LIVE Online
Sunday | 11:30am/7:15pm
Tuesday - Friday | 12:15pm

Website:
www.stpatrickshamilton.ca

Facebook:
[stpatrickshamilton](https://www.facebook.com/stpatrickshamilton)

Mass Schedule

Weekend
Saturday | 5:00pm
Sunday | 9:00am 11:30am • 7:15pm

Weekday
Tuesday to Friday | 12:15pm

Sacraments

Please contact the
Administrative Centre
or visit the parish website:
stpatrickshamilton.ca/weddings
stpatrickshamilton.ca/baptism

Connect With Us



Parish Office Hours

8:30am-4:30pm | Monday to Friday

Location

Pastoral Centre
440 King St. East, Hamilton, ON L8N 1C6
Administrative Centre
20 Emerald St. South, Hamilton, ON L8N 2V2

Contact info

Phone: (905) 522-9828
Email: parishoffice@stpatrickshamilton.ca
Website: www.stpatrickshamilton.ca

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Parish Leadership Team

Fr. Tony O'Dell, OMI
todell@hamiltondiocese.com
Sherri Ramirez | De Mazenod Door Outreach
Coordinator

Ian Ford | IT Coordinator
Christina Crawford | Music Director
Karen Ford | Communications Coordinator

Pastoral Team

Sr. Andrea Kowalczyk | Liturgy Workshops
Arthur Kara | Facilities Operator
Br. Dan Dionne, OMI | Music Ministry
Diana Quildon | Volunteer Coordinator
Diane Downey | DeMazenod Door Outreach -
Administrative Assistant

Evelyn VanFleet | Assistant Facilities Operator
JC Asuncion | Executive Assistant to Fr. Tony - Youth
Ministry Coordinator
Katharine Bennett | DeMazenod Door Outreach
Louella Lacerna | Office Assistant
Rita Kara | Office Administrator
Lynne Pollard | Sacristan

Oblate Vocation Office

Fr. Jarek Pachocki, OMI
Vocation Director
vocations@omilacombe.ca

BEYOND THE WALLS

What Happens Here Doesn't Stay Here

PARISH MASSES LIVE STREAMING



As many of you are aware, we began LIVE Streaming masses here at St. Pat's the day after the Government of Ontario sent all of us home back in mid-March due to the Coronavirus pandemic. By noon the following day we were ready! Or at least as ready as we could be within 24 hours notice that all churches were being shuttered and masses cancelled. But, like our Parish Mission Statement states, we are St. Patrick Parish!

From those masses of which now at least two of our weekend masses (11:30 and 7:15) are LIVE Streamed, we read every comment. Every message. Every note. Every kind word, including those written between the lines. When someone is hurting and feeling lost or broken, we want whomever is not able to attend in person, no matter the reason; to feel the way they would as if they were kneeling in front of the most holy Eucharist. He is there, and He is present, even when 'we' aren't there in the physical sense.

We wish to welcome every one of these individuals and want you all to know you are not alone, not forgotten and

you are loved. You are at home here, no matter where you are in the physical sense. We welcome every person, those who are near and a regular part of our parish and those who are far beyond our walls.

There have been many changes since that first online mass and we continue to perfect our capabilities, weekly. One thing we are particularly proud of is the many new faceless names that have joined us for almost every one of those masses. For one of these folks in particular, Online mass at St. Patrick's has become a lifeline. Their words, not ours. They have found much needed faith-filled grounding, both mentally and spiritually, not to mention filling that void that's been left when you simply want to enter the church for the peace, the tranquility and the splendor that being in the presence of Jesus, brings.

A special welcome to those individuals who have reached out to tell us how much it has meant to pray together as one church, at almost every LIVE streamed mass as well as to those who have joined our parish, because they now feel at home and a part of our parish family here. To all those who have opened their hearts, bared their souls and requested prayers, thank you for having faith and trust in us. We are so grateful to all of you for choosing St. Patrick's as your home or home away from home. Thank you for coming each day, as you are.



Next weekend I plan on announcing some changes to our Pastoral Team for this coming 20/21 pastoral year. This weekend I want to congratulate and wish Ian Ford every success as he prepares to leave our employment at St Patrick Parish. Ian has accepted a new position with a new company called IMatr. His last day of employment with us is next Friday, September 9th.

Ian has played a significant role in moving our parish into 21st century technology during his last six years with us. His expertise has been felt throughout all of our social media platforms, including building our brand-new digital phone system. He also designed our new security systems and gave life to our ministry to our inner youth programs. Our parish owes him a wealth of gratitude. As pastor, I have depended heavily on Ian for many ministries launches. He put in very long hours, often seven days a week, rarely getting a weekend off.

I am very happy to say that Ian has accepted a position as retainer, as director of our technologies for the next nine months, June 2021. He will also volunteer to oversee our security systems and do weekend ministry within the parish. So, I guess we can say, he is leaving us but not going far!

Next Friday the Pastoral Team will celebrate with him and at the same time celebrate his birthday! May this new year be filled with new graces and many blessings for him!

FAITH OVER FEAR

This is the story of one mans experience of hardship in life, and his eventual rise from ashes.

So, this is my struggle: a true story about drugs, crime and getting into trouble. My experiences sometimes made me mad, at times happy, but usually sad. Through all these years, there have been many tears. I had no hope that things would get better through the stormy weather. I've experienced loss – of good friends and of family. It was hard to rid myself of the devil that was within me but one day, I somehow found my way. Everything I'm about to say comes from my heart, nothing made up, so now I'm about to start.

Growing up wasn't easy. ADHD was my disability. It made it hard to make it through school. I was always doing bad things to try to look cool. But in all reality, I was the one who ended up looking like a fool. I would tell myself, "That's what happens for trying to look cool, Alex..." That's why I had hard times through school.

Through my late high school years I kicked it into gear. I started getting handcuffed and getting locked up. I had no care for my education, always living each day like a vacation.

I was truly messed up. I would give my mom a hard time by not following the rules. One day, she finally put her foot down – I had to leave the house. So, I packed my stuff and moved on, not knowing where this adventure would take me. The most difficult part of leaving home was that it reminded me of when my son left me. At birth, he was 8 lbs 5 oz and was a spitting image of me. When he was 3, he left because his mother and I separated. With a heavy heart, I moved on to live with my father and grandmother.

Still not growing up and, pardon my language, not giving a "f**k", I would always find myself being stuck. Alcohol became my saviour. It distracted me from the thought that things just wouldn't get better. I was conflicted by all of my experiences. I thought of my son and how I wanted to be a better father, but at the same time, I would still get into trouble and end up in jail. I knew I needed to be a better father. To all fathers: Don't give up – try to be a better father.

I also experienced tough times with trying to maintain relationships. Alcohol and me seemed to be the strongest relationship that I could keep together. With everything else in life, I just couldn't get my gears straight. I was pre-

occupied with my broken past – my own negativity and pain – that I couldn't focus on the life ahead of me. There were only a few relationships that I was able to keep, so when it came time to say goodbye to those, it really hurt. Despite these difficulties, I found myself hoping and praying to find my way. I truly wanted and tried to be a better guy.

Then came the time when I experienced the greatest pain in my life: losing my father. I was not able to properly grieve and that turned me into a monster. Following him were my cousin and my little sister. I spiraled into disaster.

A few years passed and I again found myself in trouble. I was in jail for a year. After that stint, I pulled myself together. I stayed out of trouble for 7 years – I got my son back in my life, held a couple of jobs and got a couple places of my own. But trouble seemed to find me again. On the last year of my second job, I was introduced to "crystal meth." It separated me from my son and my family and myself.

Around the same time, I had to move out of my place. The company I worked at was sold and going on unemployment wouldn't have allowed me to pay my rent and my bills. I had to move from Stoney Creek to Hamilton This brought me closer to my enemy and further from myself. In Hamilton, I continued to use crystal meth for 7 years. During this time, I met a young woman who I felt attracted to. However, we could not seem to get it together in terms of our relationship. We were on and off and never seemed to get it right, but I loved her.

At the end of February 2020, I was kicked out from staying at the YMCA. That was the final straw – I finally decided to turn my life around. I have since not touched any drugs and returned to the woman that I love to make things work. Things are better. I asked her to marry me at St. Patrick's Church (it's the church she was baptized at). We are both so happy.

So there's a quick look through my life. I'm hoping my life will only get better and better.

Sincerely,
Alex



De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



Grand Knight Dave Rogerson from The Knights of Columbus, Council 1454 Columbus Club Catering, donated more than 350 STEAKS for our guests to enjoy an AMAZING lunch of steak on a bun with peppers and onions served with coleslaw this past Friday for Friday BBQ! The funds donated through BBQ sponsorship enabled us to purchase some extra summer treats to go with it. What a fantastic meal this was! 99% of those we serve would never be able to afford the luxury of a steak dinner! What a blessing this organization is! The Columbus Club of Hamilton continues to provide meals regularly for those coming to DMDO out of necessity. We have an incredibly supportive community partnership with these folks and are more than blessed by their regular generosity! If you haven't had the opportunity to see just what they have been doing over the past several months, please take a moment to check out their website at www.columbusclubcatering.com and give them a go!

We thank everyone for their prayers, time, talents and treasures!

Friday BBQ

This week's BBQ is sponsored by:

- The Donald Family in Honour of Alex Donald



Ways to Help



Volunteer: Call the office or email Diana (our Volunteer Coordinator) at dquildon@stpatrickshamilton.ca



Donate: To support this program, go to our website: www.stpatrickshamilton.ca and click GIVE

Most Wanted item this week



Salty Snacks

Thank You To Our Sponsors!



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON



WEEKLY VOCATION REFLECTION

NO ONE IS SAVED ALONE



This week's Gospel reading challenges us to have difficult conversations. Conversations that we often avoid because we don't want to hurt feelings, lay blame, or judge. Jesus reminds us that "whatever we bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." This is dependent on how we interact with one another especially during times of conflict or anger. Jesus shares with us how to address this in the context of community. If you are able to deal with it privately, then you should. However, often our actions are far reaching into the community whether we would like to admit it or not. We should work as community to right our wrongs when we can, so that we can maintain our relationships. Praying in community is how we will ensure that we keep our gaze fixed on Christ. We are blessed to have diverse communities that brings many different perspectives. When we are able to pray together, we can bring all of the gifts of the community together and offer glory to God. It is in this context that we truly grow in our vocation always maintaining the dignity of others in the forefront of all that we say and do. In this manner we grow individually and in communion with one another.

Pope Francis tells us in an interview in 2013 "No one is saved alone, as an isolated individual, but God attracts us looking at the complex web of relationships that take place in the human community. God enters into this dynamic, this participation in the web of human relationships." How do we safeguard this sacred space of community?

We have been reading about how Jesus is preparing

to live his passion; and as the end draws near, he is becoming more explicit in "instructions" on how to live in community. He understands that he won't be with his disciples much longer, and he needs to be clear and intentional at this point. Nothing is more important in our lives than community; how we are in relationship with each other will determine our relationship with God. Jesus knows that in community we will have our greatest joys as well as our greatest struggles, and so it is important that we understand how to resolve conflict as well as how to lift each other up. When we truly give witness to the faith, there is a foundational understanding that every person is a child of God and created in His image. This translates to Jesus urging us to remember that through experiences of conflict, hurt, anger, betrayal, maintaining the human dignity of others is imperative. When we feel we cannot do it all, Jesus encourages us to seek help from others and from the Church. We are never alone!

Knowing all of this, we will naturally have questions. What is our community and how do we fit into it? What role do we play? How will we best serve our community; how will we best use our gifts and talents for the betterment of the whole community. We have many opportunities to form community as Christians. We have our families, we have our friends, our work, our faith communities; these are all opportunities to serve. Just as Jesus was intentional about giving us tools to work together, we too should be intentional about how we live in community and serve one another.

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#OblateVocations

WEEKEND READINGS



First Reading:

Ezekiel 33.7-9

Second Reading:

Romans 13.8-10

Gospel:

Matthew 18.15-20

"If the member listens to you, you have regained that one."

WELCOME



A very warm welcome is extended to our newly registered parishioners:

- **Teresa and Christian Lorentz**
- **Stanley and Chinenye Okpara**
- **Krista McAllister**
- **Alessandro Succi**
- **Marco, April, Julianna, Angelina & Gabriella Almeida**
- **Michelle & Luca Fortino**

We sincerely hope that your faith journey with us will be a fruitful one! For those of you who are interested in registering as a parishioner at the parish, please call our administrative office or visit our website.



MASS INTENTIONS



Tuesday | September 8

12:15 PM

- In gratitude to all supporters & for the special intention of Rest & Hygiene Station guests
- All Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday | September 9

12:15 PM

- Toma Schwarz

Thursday | September 10

12:15 PM

- Special Int: Ryla & Lael
- Alejandra Viquiera

Friday | September 11

12:15 PM

- Wilma Pokolic & Family
- Tinashe Sibunda
- Teresita Salapare
- Alex Donald

Saturday | September 12

5:00 PM

- Special Int: Karen Ford
- Alejandra Viquiera
- John Chou

Sunday | July September 13

9 AM

- St. Patrick Parishioners

11:30 AM

- Special Int.: Tessie & Loy Abugan
- Aida Granata

7:15 PM

- In gratitude for JC Asuncion's dedication in leading the Hygiene/Rest Station
- John Chou

COLLECTION REPORT



August 23, 2020

Collected from Envelopes	\$2,545
E-transfers	\$120
Pre-Authorized Collection	\$2,498
Donation to St. Patrick through the Diocese	\$0
TOTAL	\$5,143