



St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

News From The Pews

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." - Luke 2: 7



Love Others As Christ Loves Us!

December 25th, 2020 - Christmas

CELEBRATE OUR FAITH

Connect With Us

Website:
www.stpatrickshamilton.ca

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

Live Stream Mass Schedule

Weekend
Sunday | 11:30am & 7:15pm

Weekday
Tuesday to Friday | 12:15pm

*NOTE: During lockdown, the church is
CLOSED. There are NO public masses.

Sacraments

Please contact the
Administrative Centre
or visit the parish website.

Confession is available by
appointment only during lockdown.

Connect With Us



Parish Office Hours

The Parish office is **CLOSED** during lockdown, but there will be staff answering calls from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM on Mondays to Fridays.

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

Like or Follow us



Parish Leadership Team

Fr. Tony O'Dell, OMI (todell@hamiltondiocese.com)

Sherri Ramirez | De Mazenod Door Outreach Coordinator

Christina Crawford | Music Director

JC Asuncion | EA to Fr. Tony - Youth Ministry Coordinator

Pastoral Team

Sr. Andrea Kowalczyk | Liturgy Workshops

Arthur Kara | Facilities Operator

Br. Dan Dionne, OMI | Music Ministry

Diana Quildon | Volunteer Coordinator

Diane Downey | De Mazenod Door Outreach - Administrative Assistant

Evelyn VanFleet | Assistant Facilities Operator

Ian Ford | Director of Technology

Karen Ford | Office Assistant

Katharine Bennett | De Mazenod 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

THE CHRISTMAS LIKE NO OTHER

"To live charitably means not looking out for our own interests, but carrying the burdens of the weakest and poorest among us." Pope Francis

I have been giving so much thought these past couple weeks, trying to fathom a second lockdown and although very unlike the first one, this one means business. If you're caught celebrating with more than one household, you may face a very heavy fine. The rules have been set in place only for our own good and for the good of all those we love and care about most.

We have all expressed, repeatedly how much we did NOT want to spend Christmas Eve, Christmas day and even ringing in the New Year without our friends and family. Can you even imagine it? How would we ever get through Christmas not being able to be present in the church to welcome Christ? The government must be kidding and we're just not doing it!



All off my thoughts led me to thinking outside the box – to looking at things from a different perspective.

I've thought about the thousands of seniors in nursing homes, hospices, hospitals and residential care facilities with families that have forgotten them. There are also those in prison (including some unjustly); children in the hospital fighting for their lives, without families to be with them; those living on the street or in shelters and those fighting for our freedom. Did you know that there

are 101,000 individuals in our Department of National Defence and Armed Forces? Not including 25,000 Civilian employees? How many of those individuals are deployed far away from their families every holiday, fighting wars in other countries, defending countries on peace keeping missions a world away, or sailing somewhere in the middle of the ocean. There are many scenarios where people cannot see their families during the holidays, not due to Covid-19, but because of 'life'. When was the last time our own parish priests spent the holidays with their families?

So while we all take a moment to be angry at the Government, at the media or at each other for taking precious time away from our family or friends during the Christmas holidays, let's take another moment to think of all those who almost never have that blessing or opportunity. What's more is that they face this situation without ever having resentment or holding a grudge.

Let's instead take this time apart for the sake of our families, our parents or grandparents, for seniors and babies and those who are ill. Let's take a more charitable approach because at the end of the day, what we all really want is to ensure that we are all here to enjoy it when we are able to come together again.



Let's make this Christmas season our mission to pause and to love one another more similarly to how Christ loves us. Jesus remains the reason for the season. He gave His life for us. Surely we can give up a dinner.



De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



Well, we may officially be in the Grey – Lockdown zone, but that doesn't mean that De Mazenod Door isn't hard at work doing what we do every single day! Numbers remain constant and hunger doesn't take a break, so we forge on!

We were visited on Wednesday by Erica and Julie from VCA Canada who came to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and to drop off a donation of chocolate bars and pop for our Christmas day turkey dinner, luncheon & gift bags. Each can had been decorated by their team with a personal message for our guests. Thank you for always taking the time to go the extra mile to ensure the need is filled!



We want to take this opportunity to thank each one of our volunteers who, in the midst of all that is happening with COVID, have had our backs and ensured that the Door is always open and food is always hot and ready to go. They are a team of volunteers like no other, following every rule and regulation. We wish all of you and all of our sponsors, donors and community partners a blessed Christmas and a safe & happy 2021!

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

Friday BBQ

Jan 1, 2021

- Abbott Family: In celebration & thanksgiving for family new year, new blessings.

Jan 8, 2021

- Michael Weir & Danielle Wright: In thanksgiving for blessings received
- Chiara Salvatore in honour & celebration of Mario Salvatore's 80th birthday



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 Items



Bananas



Soft Breakfast Bars



Ziploc Bags



Hot Chocolate

Thank You To Our Sponsors!



LiUNA!



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON



ZOOM & SEE: The Courage to Walk in the Footsteps of the Apostles

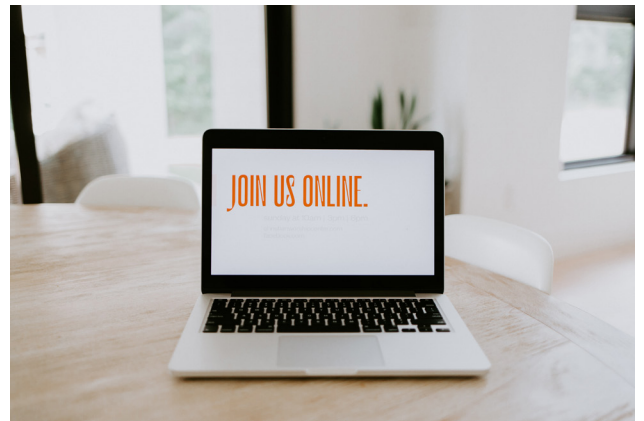
On October 9, 1814, Fr. Eugene de Mazenod wrote to the young priest Henri Tempier inviting him to join the group of missionaries that was being formed in Aix-en-Provence, Southern France: "Happiness awaits us in this holy Society which will have but one heart and soul. One part of the year will be devoted to the conversion of souls, the other to seclusion, study and our individual sanctification. I say no more for the moment; it suffices to give some intimation of the spiritual delights we will taste together. If, as I hope, you wish to be one of us, you will not find yourself in unknown terrain; you will have four companions. If presently we are not more numerous, it means we wish to choose men who have the will and the courage to walk in the footsteps of the apostles. It is important to lay solid foundations."

Fr. Tempier responded to this invitation with enthusiasm and courage, "I understand what is most important in your search for collaborators; you want priests who do not fall into mediocrity and routine. Priests who are ready to walk in the steps of the Apostles. (...) You can count entirely on me." On January 25, 1816 Fathers De Mazenod, Deblieu, Tempier, Mie and Icard formed a community for the work of the missions, which later will be called the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. It was the beginning of the amazing adventure in God's mission that continues today.



Hearing and answering God's call is not always easy. Our OMI Lacombe Canada Vocation Team is ready to accompany inquirers and discerners as they search for

how Christ is inviting them to follow Him. If you are a young Catholic man (18-40 years of age), who is a Canadian resident and are interested in Oblate religious and missionary life, we invite you to "Zoom and See" on January 25, 2021 at 7:00pm - 8:30pm Eastern Time.



You will have an opportunity to meet our Vocation Team and to learn about the mission and charism of the Oblates, especially from the Canadian perspective. There will be also some time for virtual fellowship and Q&A. We invite you to step deeper into the discernment process and spend focused time with us in prayer and reflection. It takes courage to walk in the footsteps of the Apostles... Take the first step!

Please register here: tinyurl.com/zoomandsee

For more info, please contact Fr. Jarek Pachocki OMI - Vocation Director via email vocations@omilacombe.ca Zoom and See!

OMI Lacombe Canada Vocation Team contact info: <http://tinyurl.com/VocationsTeam>

Fr. Jarek Pachocki OMI

Vocation Director - OMI Lacombe Canada

Phone: (905) 522-9828 Ext 305

Email: vocations@omilacombe.ca

Instagram: @jarekpach

Twitter: @jarekpachocki

Facebook: /jarek.pachocki

#OblateVocations

WEEKEND READINGS



Dec 27, 2020

1st Reading: Isaiah 62:
1-5

2nd Reading: Acts 13:
16-17, 22-25

Gospel: Matthew 1:
18-25

Jan 3, 2021

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:
1-6

2nd Reading:
Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:
1-12

MORE WAYS TO GIVE



As a parish, we are striving to share Christ and His message of love with everyone. One of the main teachings of the Church is the importance of community - we would not be able to progress in our mission without you. Please consider supporting us financially through the following outlets:

1. Drop off or mail your donation envelopes to the secure mailboxes at the:

- Pastoral Center: 440 King St. East, Hamilton ON, L8N 1C6
- Administration Offices: 20 Emerald St. South, Hamilton ON, L8N 2V2

2. Canada Helps

- Please visit stpatrickshamilton.ca - at the top right hand corner of the page, you will see a tab to "Give." Hover over it and select "Donate Now" - this will take you to the Canada Helps website.
- Choose to give to the "General" fund. This will go towards supporting the parish.

3. E-transfer

- You can transfer your donation right from your bank account to the parish. Please transfer to parishoffice@stpatrickshamilton.ca

4. Pre-Authorized Giving

- This is the easiest method. Your chosen donation amount will automatically be withdrawn from your account at your chosen frequency.
- To set this up, please call our office at 905-522-9828 and ask to speak with Rita or pick up a form at our Administration Office or when you are here for mass.

MASS INTENTIONS



Tuesday | December 29
12:15 PM

- Special Int: Anoumedem Family
- Anna Antoniak
- All souls in purgatory, especially the deceased members of F.O.S.S.

Wednesday | December 30
12:15 PM

- Special Int: Ramona Lacsamana & Family
- Con & Mont McLean

Thursday | December 31
5:00 PM

- St. Patrick's Parishioners
- Benefactors & Guests of De Mazenod Door Outreach

Friday | January 1
11:30 AM

- St. Patrick's Parishioners
- St. Patrick's Benefactors & Parishioners

Sunday | January 3
11:30 AM

- Thanksgiving: Sionnie Villanueva & Family

• Maria Novo
7:15 PM

- Special Int: Lina Smiaroski
- Eduardo Villasenor

Tuesday | January 5
12:15 PM

- Mary McTiernan
- Timothy Coulter

Wednesday | January 6
12:15 PM

- Marc Desmarais

Thursday | January 7
12:15 PM

- Special Int: Anoumedem Family

Friday | January 8
12:15 PM

- Theresa Ostrowski

Sunday | January 10
11:30 AM

- Elizabeth Smith
- Anthony Lieu
- 7:15 PM
- Special Int: Anoumedem Family
- Special Int: Jacob

WEEKEND STATS: ATTENDANCE



Dec 19-20, 2020

MASS	In-Person	Facebook	Website
Sat, 5 PM	69	-	-
Sun, 9 AM	58	-	-
Sun, 11:30 AM	120	105	52
Sun, 7:15 PM	104	110	29

WEEKEND STATS: COLLECTION



Dec 13, 2020

Collected from Envelopes	\$10,145
Christmas Donation	\$2,105
E-transfers	\$200
Canada Helps	\$869
Pre-Authorized Collection	\$2,488
TOTAL	\$15,807

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends of St. Patrick family of faith,

2020 has been a year like no other... As we are approaching the end of this challenging year, many of us might feel the COVID19 pandemic fatigue, or feel afraid in these uncertain times, or grief for the loss of a loved one. But there is HOPE; that's what the Christmas message is all about. "What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:3b-5)

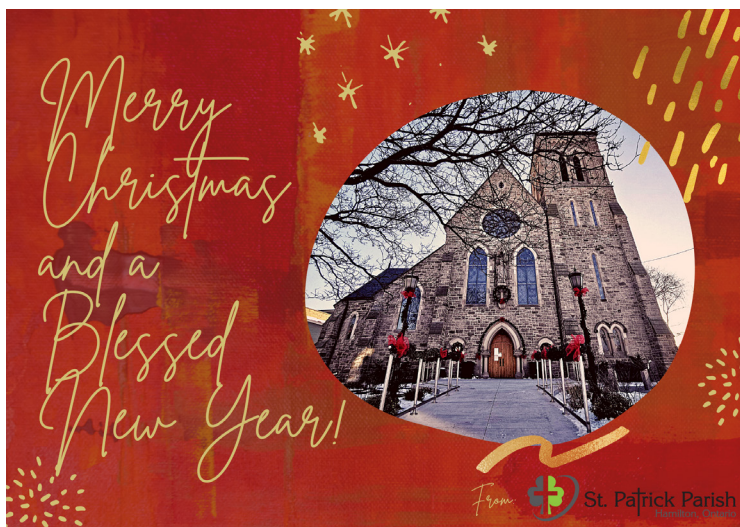


It's not a coincidence, but rather a God-incident, that at the end of this infamous year we witness the miracle of nature call the Bethlehem Star. Although Saturn and Jupiter are planets their closeness in the sky appear bright as a star. This is the closest they have been since 1226.

As we look at the Bethlehem Star, we are reminded of the light that shines in darkness. We see these stars of blessing as they light up the dark skies of this year. We've seen the dedication and generosity of the volunteers and benefactors of De Mazenod Door Outreach and the Rest and Hygiene Station where we welcomed the poor and homeless during the pandemic. We've seen the amazing attitudes of hospitality that provided a safe and welcoming environment to all who attended our services in-person during the limited opening of the church building. We've seen a growing and caring digital community through our LIVE streamed masses, praying together, supporting each other and giving all a sense of belonging. We've seen people's kindness in reaching out to the most vulnerable, creativity in expressing love, and efforts in spreading hope and positivity during this year's circumstances. The sky is lit up with many stars of HOPE!

"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.'"
Matthew 2:1b-2

May this season of Christmas and as we enter into the long-awaited New Year, fill your hearts with the sense of belonging! May Christ being born unite us as one family, as brothers and sisters, where no one is estranged or lonely! May the welcoming spirit of the Nativity be our guiding light in the mission and ministry of this faith community!



On behalf of the Pastoral Team and Staff of St. Patrick Parish,
Your leaders in service,

Fr. Tony O'Dell, OMI
Fr. Jarek Pachocki, OMI

IN OTHER NEWS

LOCKDOWN LIVE STREAM MASS SCHEDULE

While in lockdown, churches are to remain closed. This means that we can no longer accommodate faithful who wish to come to masses in-person. However, we continue to live-stream our masses:

- Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday at 12:15 PM
- Weekend Masses: Sunday at 11:30 AM and 7:15 PM

This year, our New Year's masses will be streamed as follows:

- New Year's Eve: Thurs, Dec 31 at 5 PM
- New Year's Day: Fri, Jan 1 at 11:30 AM

You can access our masses through our website (stpatrickshamilton.ca) or our Facebook page (fb.me/stpatrickshamilton).



CONTACTING OUR OFFICE DURING LOCKDOWN



The parish office is closed but we have staff working remotely to answer your calls. If your call is not answered, please leave a voice message and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

There are secure drop boxes at both our Pastoral Center (440 King St. E) and our Administration Office Building (20 Emerald St. S) where you can drop off donations and offering envelopes.



SERRA CLUB: VOCATION SEEDS

We celebrate the birth of our Lord into our world; however, many have not received the birth of our Lord into their hearts. If Christ lives in your heart and you would like to help others discover the Lord, you may be called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon. If God is calling you, call Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton, 905-528-7988 ext. 2246.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

BULLETIN RELEASE SCHEDULE

While in lockdown, we will release our bulletin every 2 weeks rather than every week. We invite you to continuously refer to our website for the latest news of the happenings within the parish. Alternatively, you can subscribe to our bulletin-release emails. Give our office a call to leave your email or send an email to llacerna@stpatrickshamilton.ca to indicate that you are interested in subscribing. You can unsubscribe at any time.

IN OTHER NEWS

OUR INDOOR DECORATIONS ARE ALL UP!

How we wish that you could be here to see all of our indoor decorations - they are beautiful! We thank the decorating team who put in a lot of hours and a lot of hardwork. The beauty of the decorations undoubtedly point to the beauty of our faith and the true meaning of Christmas.



JOIN US FOR VIRTUAL FAMILY GAME NIGHT!

During this very unique Holiday season, cheer might be hard to come by. That is why we are hosting our very first Virtual Family Game Night! Your family is invited to join us for some friendly Christmas-themed family-vs-family fun. There are games to be played and prizes to be won! GAME ON!

JOIN US ON TUES, DEC 29, 2020, 7 PM EST

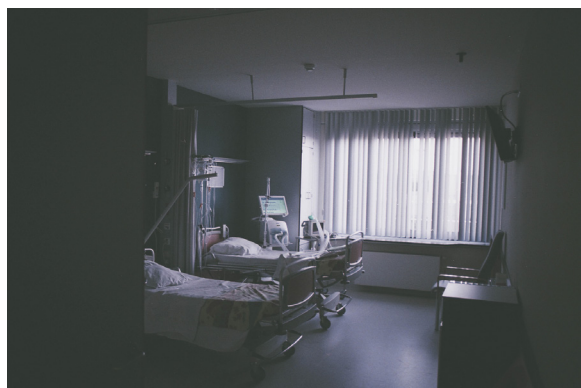
You can find more information, as well as register your family (for free) at: bit.ly/stpatsGAMEON (URL is case-sensitive). You need a minimum of 2 players. There is no minimum or maximum age limit.



IN OTHER NEWS

AMMENDMENTS TO MAID LEGISLATION

MAID: Medical Assistance in Dying



The Minister of Health David Lametti accused those who wouldn't support Bill C-7 in the legislature of representing the "religious right". What a sad day for Canadians that those who oppose euthanasia are dismissed in this way! There are tens of thousands of individual Canadians who have written in opposition of euthanasia through the Coalition for HealthCARE and Conscience website since 2015. These are not the voices of a fringe group, but the voices of concerned Canadians who care for the vulnerable.

While Parliament has passed Bill C-7, it still needs to be passed by the Senate before it becomes law. The debate continues this week in the Senate around this bill. NOW is the time to send them the message that Canadians don't want this Bill passed and that we don't want them to further endanger the lives of the vulnerable!

A Canadian Psychiatrist shared with us his concerns about the news that a number of Senators are seriously considering amending the draft legislation to allow people with mental illnesses to be euthanized. Mental illness was specifically excluded in the draft legislation, but we fear the calls to remove this exclusion will be successful, unless Canadians speak up.

Watch this compelling video of Dr. Ehmann's concerns for his patients: <https://youtu.be/rEZ3TI8PhKA>

If you haven't emailed your MP yet, please write them now at canadiansforconscience.ca/federal_government. Then write the Senate at canadiansforconscience.ca/writesenate.

Once you've emailed them, we ask you to call your MP's office to let them know of your concerns. You can find their phone number and contact information at <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en>. This follow up phone call will increase the impact of your voice exponentially!

Coalition for HealthCARE And Conscience
<http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/>



PURCHASE A MASK TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

The pandemic doesn't seem to be slowing down as we have again entered into lockdown. This just means that it is so important, now more than ever, to continue to adhere to all safety regulations - mask-wearing included. Lifted Thinking Co. makes excellent masks that both keep you safe and looking your best! For every \$20 mask purchased from them, \$5 will be donated to St. Patrick Parish. You can choose from standard designs and even customize your own mask! You can visit their website to view their products at liftedthinkingco.com

If you are interested in purchasing from Lifted Thinking Co., call/text 647-233-4120 or send an email to liftedthinkingco@gmail.com

Be sure to let them know that you are a parishioner of St. Patrick Parish!