



St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

News From The Pews



"Here am I, the servant of
the Lord; let it be with me
according to your word." -
Luke 1: 38

Love Others As Christ Loves Us!

December 20th, 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Like or Follow us

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

Twitter: [@StPatsHamilton](https://twitter.com/StPatsHamilton)

Instagram: [@stpatshamilton](https://www.instagram.com/stpatshamilton)



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

GOOD NEWS

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1: 8

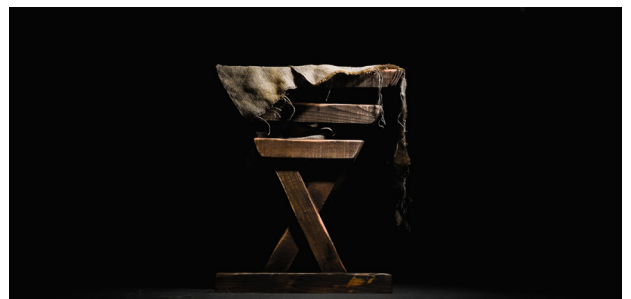
*"He grew up in another obscure village.
He worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty
and then for three years was an itinerant preacher.
He never wrote a book.
He never held an office.
He never owned a home.
He never had a family.
He never went to college.
He never put his foot inside a big city.
He never traveled two hundred miles from the place
where he was born.
He never did one of the things that usually accom-
pany greatness.
He had no credentials but himself.
He had nothing to do with this world except the na-
ked power of his divine manhood.
While still a young man the tide of popular opinion
turned against him.
His friends ran away.
One of them denied him.
Another betrayed him.
He was turned over to his enemies.
He went through the mockery of a trial.
He was nailed upon the cross between two thieves.
His executioners gambled for the only piece of prop-
erty he had on earth while he was
dying, and that was his coat.
When he was dead, he was taken down and laid in a
borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.*

*Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and
today he is the centre of the human race and the
leader of the column of progress.*

*I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies
that ever marched, and all the navies that were ever
built, and all the parliaments that ever sat and all the
kings that ever reigned, put together, have not af-
fected the life of man upon the earth as powerfully
as has this one solitary life."*

This is a reflection written by Dr. James Francis in the 1800's. It is a brief account of the life of Jesus Christ and the profound impact He has had on humanity and the world.

This Fourth Sunday of Advent, we wait patiently for the birth of our Saviour, when we light the Christ Candle on Christmas Eve. It is our reminder of the light that Jesus brings to the world and we celebrate the promise that Jesus' birth brings.



When we put into perspective the real purpose of Christmas, everything else takes a back seat. Even a global pandemic can not take away the love of God sending his own Son to save us from our sins.

The work of Jesus took place beyond the walls of any church. He called his apostles and us to do the same: to go to the ends of the earth and share the Good News.



De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



A BIG shout out of THANKS to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada for their donation in answer to our prayers and funding request enabling us to purchase a new TV and wall mount. Our plan is to use this as a communication tool for our DMDO window where we can stream information for our guests. We want to share Information such as where they can get an evening meal, where they can find shelter assistance, housing information, telephone numbers and addresses to make application for social services assistance, mental health and addiction information - and so on. Thank you Sisters!

Christine, a De Mazenod Door volunteer and past member of the Sisters of St. Joseph, also donated a laptop to finish off the equipment necessary for this to work as we need it to. Thank you, Christine, for your generosity!



On a different note, we have a great need for grocery gift cards. Our storage space has become very limited. Having the gift cards allows us to be able to get what we need and use it right away, without having to worry about how to store it. If you are able to donate some grocery gift cards to our ministry, it would be greatly appreciated!

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

Christmas Luncheon

This year, Christmas falls on a Friday, so we are serving a to-go Christmas Luncheon! This is sponsored by:

- The Hamilton Police Service Charitable Organization, Project Concern



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



Bananas

Eggs



Thank You To Our Sponsors!



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON



GOD'S FAVOURED ONES

"Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you" Luke 1: 28



Wouldn't it be easy if we were all visited by an angel sent by God that would share with us the plan God had for our lives?

God may not have sent an angel to most of us; however, he does have a plan and he does share it with us. We are more like Mary than we think, in that we too must listen and then decide if we will answer God's call. One of the first things that the angel says to Mary is "Do not be afraid." This is interesting to me as there are really two things to be afraid of. The first is the obvious fear of being visited by an Angel; and the second thing to be afraid of was God's request.

This is where we can find our similarities with Mary, we are probably all afraid of what God is asking of us. So much so, we will even go out of our way to not listen to what God is leading us to. In today's culture, we are very used to believing that we are in control of our lives. We make plans about everything we do, which in itself isn't a problem. However, are we taking time to discern what we are being called to? I think often we are not, but the bigger question may be: do we actually go out of our way to ignore what God is trying to tell us? Is it a passive not hearing, or an active act of ignoring?

I'm not sure I believe that if we really want to hear what God is saying to us it would be that difficult. I don't think God wants it to be that hard to discern his plans. I think what likely makes it difficult is that it doesn't always go along with our own plans. Remember that Mary made

her decision for the whole world, for her community. Is this what makes us hesitate? It is definitely harder to decide something when it is for the greater good, rather than what is best for our selves. Yet, this is exactly what we are called to do as Christians and followers of Jesus.

I believe we often don't understand that by doing what is best for our community, we will make the best decision for ourselves. This is how we will be most fulfilled: by using our gifts and talents to serve our brother and sisters. I truly believe we are all God's favoured ones, maybe not in the way that Mary was – in that she was asked to carry the Son of God – but favored in how he loves us unconditionally. And so, my hope is that we can quit ignoring what we are called to, and that we take the time to hear what is being asking of us so that we can find our vocation and say yes to God.

By Serena Shaw
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#OblateVocations

WEEKEND READINGS



1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

2nd Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

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



*NOTE: Masses are live-streamed due to lockdown

Tuesday | December 22
12:15 PM

- Special Int: Roseanne MareLisa and Tina Rubino & Families
- Thanksgiving - Ryan & Louella Maranan
- Petra Furagganan & Family

Wednesday | December 23
12:15 PM

- Special Int: Catherine Peters
- Special Int: Corey Rubino
- All souls in purgatory, especially deceased members of F.O.S.S.

Thursday | December 24
8:30 PM

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

Friday | December 25
11:30 AM

- St. Patrick's Benefactors & Parishioners

Sunday | December 27
11:30 AM

- Special Int: Sionnie Villanueva & Family
- Joseph Nakazi
- Anina & Franciszek Multan

7:15 PM

- Thanksgiving: The Hope Project for providing meals every Thursday night in front of St. Patrick's Parish to the needy and marginalized.

WEEKEND STATS: ATTENDANCE



Dec 12-13, 2020

| MASS | In-Person | Facebook | Website |
|---------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Sat, 5 PM | 55 | - | - |
| Sun, 9 AM | 78 | - | - |
| Sun, 11:30 AM | 109 | 110 | 53 |
| Sun, 7:15 PM | 115 | 79 | 31 |

WEEKEND STATS: COLLECTION



Dec 13, 2020

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Collected from Envelopes | \$6,139 |
| Christmas Donation | \$360 |
| E-transfers | \$269 |
| Canada Helps | \$451 |
| Pre-Authorized Collection | \$3,015 |
| TOTAL | \$10,234 |

ADVENT AT HOME



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Christ child lay in a manger with choirs of Angels singing. Glory shone all around. Mary's eyes gleamed with love and tenderness – she knew that her child would bring eternal love to the world.

With the first three candles burning, light the last purple candle from their flame as your family prays:

R1. O God, we light the fourth candle of Advent.

R2. We hear your angel Gabriel and witness the faith of Mary. Fill us with your grace and light.

R1 & R2. We recall the times we have struggled but said yes. We know times when God has filled us and our world with blessings. We remember...(a family member OR describe a time of great joy, when although it may have begun in struggles, God filled the situation with hope, love or peace).

R1. Mary was a young, strong spiritual woman. Even though her life was not easy, she heard God's voice and

said "yes". Her song was a prayer that would uplift those who were downtrodden. Her lyrics shattered the proud and called the world to change. She would bear within her the promised child, Jesus the "Light of the World". This Advent, we respond to God's beckoning to us as well.

Together: Revealing God, visit us, fill us with your Spirit. bring good news to life within us. Give us the courage to carry your light into the shadows and injustices of the world. Amen.

Together: Shine on us, O God of Justice, guide our path through gloom of night. Bear within us Wisdom's glory, Come to us, O Christ the Light.

CHRISTMAS EVE OR CHRISTMAS MORNING

This is the end of our Advent journey this year, but the end of Advent always marks the beginning of our Catholic life. Let us rely on Jesus who came to save us.

R1: Rejoice, people of God! The light has come into the world. (A family member light the four Advent candles). O God now we light the candle of your Nativity. (With the four Advent candles burning, a family member lights the centre white candle).

R2: With the company of heaven and with the sounds of great joy, you come to us. This is a time of light and of resplendent joy. We have known times when God has come and brought life and light to our world. God has been born among us. We remember.. (a family member describes a time, at Christmas or otherwise, when God has been joyfully present or powerfully revealed to our family, church, community or world).

R1: The prophet Isaiah proclaimed a time when those who walked in the shadows would see a great light. "A light

would shine; and a child will be born to us". The Evangelist Luke painted the Nativity sky and repeated the heavenly song of the angels, "Glory in the highest, peace on earth and goodwill to men" John declared that this great light is Christ, the Word made flesh. This great light lives among us. By this light we behold God's glory, full of grace and truth. At Christ's nativity, we now rejoice.

Together: God of Light and Life, thank you for coming among us this night/day. Thank you for touching all of heaven and earth with your splendor. In every corner of the world, shine on the night /day with your grace. Amen. Together: Shine on us, O God of Justice, guide our path through gloom of night, bear within us Wisdom's glory; Come to us, O Christ the Light. Glory be to God and peace on earth. Christ the light is born a child.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: LIVE STREAMED

Hamilton has once again entered into the Lockdown Zone in an effort to bolster the safety of all. This change, although set into motion for good reason, is hard to swallow as it comes right as we are preparing to celebrate Christmas – the coming of Jesus, our Saviour. We had been preparing to welcome parishioners and friends for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day masses, but those are now cancelled. However, that doesn't mean that we can't celebrate! You are more than welcome to join us for our live-streamed Christmas masses from home:

Christmas Eve:

- 7:45 PM Christmas Concert
- 8:30 PM Christmas Mass

Christmas Day:

- 11:30 AM Christmas Mass



You can watch our live stream via our website (stpatrickshamilton.ca) or our Facebook page (fb.me/stpatrickshamilton). Please feel free to spread the cheer and the reason for the season by sharing the live stream links with your family and friends.



CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS: CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF CHRIST THE KING, HAMILTON

His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate Christmas Midnight Mass from the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. The Midnight Mass will be preceded by a Carol Service beginning at 11:30 p.m. Both the Carol Service and the Midnight Mass will be broadcast on Salt+Light Media and shared with CHCH-TV. The Mass will be repeated on CHCH-TV at 8:00 a.m. on Christmas morning.

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

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

IN OTHER NEWS

OUR BEAUTIFUL OUTDOOR DECORATIONS ARE UP!

After weeks of hard work, the decorations outside of our church have been completed! This coming week, we will be completing our indoor decorations - keep an eye out for those!



PURCHASE A MASK TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

The pandemic continues and the safety rules and regulations that come with it remain in place. One of those is the requirement of wearing a mask whenever you are in an indoor public place. 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! These masks would make a great gift for your loved ones (and why not yourself as well!). 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

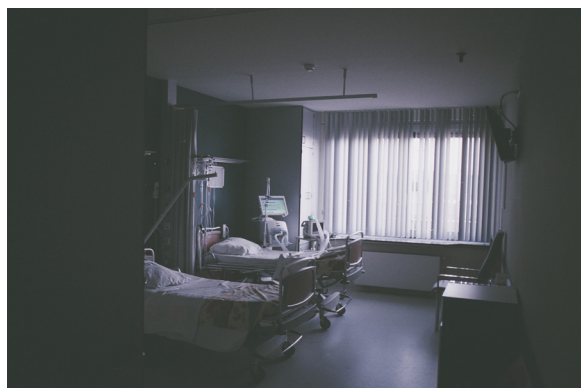
Be sure to let them know that you are a parishioner of St. Patrick Parish!



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/rEZ3Tl8PhKA>

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/>



SERRA CLUB: VOCATION SEEDS

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!"...and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton, 905-528-7988 ext. 2246. Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com
Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

CHRISTMAS LITURGY RESOURCE

The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis and the Liturgy Office of the Diocese of Hamilton has released a Christmas Liturgy resource to draw families together in prayer and thanksgiving. This resource will help guide a parent to lead a simple Celebration of the Word, and invites His Excellency, Bishop Crosby into the homes of the faithful to proclaim the Christmas Day Gospel and share a reflection from the heart. Visit: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/christmas2020/>

CATHERDRAL HIGH SCHOOL: VIRTUAL GRADUATION

This past month, Cathedral High School held a virtual Graduation Ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2020 and in a special way commend them for their resilience as they completed their secondary education and graduated during the additional challenges of life during a pandemic. The entire ceremony, including the inspiring valedictory address and words of blessing from Fr. Jarek and Bishop Crosby can be seen at the CHST-VNew Youtube channel or at this link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suKIFIYxQRo>

As you watch, you may see many familiar faces of the young people who we have seen grown up around the parish as they received their sacraments, acted in Christmas plays or were altar servers or volunteers at DeMazenod Door. We wish them all the best as they embark on this new path on their journey.

Many graduates were recognized for their academic, extra-curricular and athletic accomplishments in their four years at Cathedral, and we would like to congratulate in a special way four of our parish young people who were recognized for their faith life and excellence in religious studies.

Frances Banguis was the recipient of many graduation awards including the Catholic Student Award, from the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario, the Knights of Columbus, Father Mascari Council 8380 Bursary, for academic excellence in Religious studies and a Christian attitude throughout their years at school and the Presidents' Council Bursary.

Ava Dineen also received many recognitions including the J.G. Ponikvar Memorial Award for demonstrating true Catholic values throughout their years at Cathedral, the Knights of Columbus, Father Mascari Council 8380 Bursary, for academic excellence in Religious studies and a Christian attitude throughout their years at school and the Living the Spirit Award

Pedro Santos received the Reverend Edward Anthony Lawlor Memorial Award, awarded to the graduate who has contributed to the Catholic Spirit of the school.



Anthony Vu was the recipient of multiple graduation awards including those for top marks in Physics and Mathematics and the prestigious Schulich and Horatio Alger National Scholarships. However, Anthony also excelled in Religious Education, meriting the Reverend Leo G. Burns Scholarship Award, awarded to a graduating student with the highest mark in Religion

and the Charity of Hope award for service in the school and community. It is rare to have a student excel in these challenging academic areas and also devote time to enriching the study of their faith and serving the community and Anthony is to be commended for his success!

Congratulations to the entire class of 2020 including the following graduates from our parish:

- Alfredo Cortez-Garcia
- Alyssa Richards
- Andrew Domingues
- Ashley Maio Marques
- Baron Diaz
- Benjhay Aldrich Bernardo
- Christian Drzewicki
- Claudia Camara
- Dallan Van Suylekom
- Delilah Levac
- Dylan Ovando
- Edward Bui
- Eliana Bennett
- Emily Sanchez
- Ericson Suarez
- Jean Shukuru
- Laurie Haining
- Lucas Ferreira
- Margaret Flores
- Melissa Carvalho
- Nickolas Montgomery
- Noah Hey
- Selena Soberano
- Solange Sardinha
- Tyler Lopes
- Zelothe Sadi