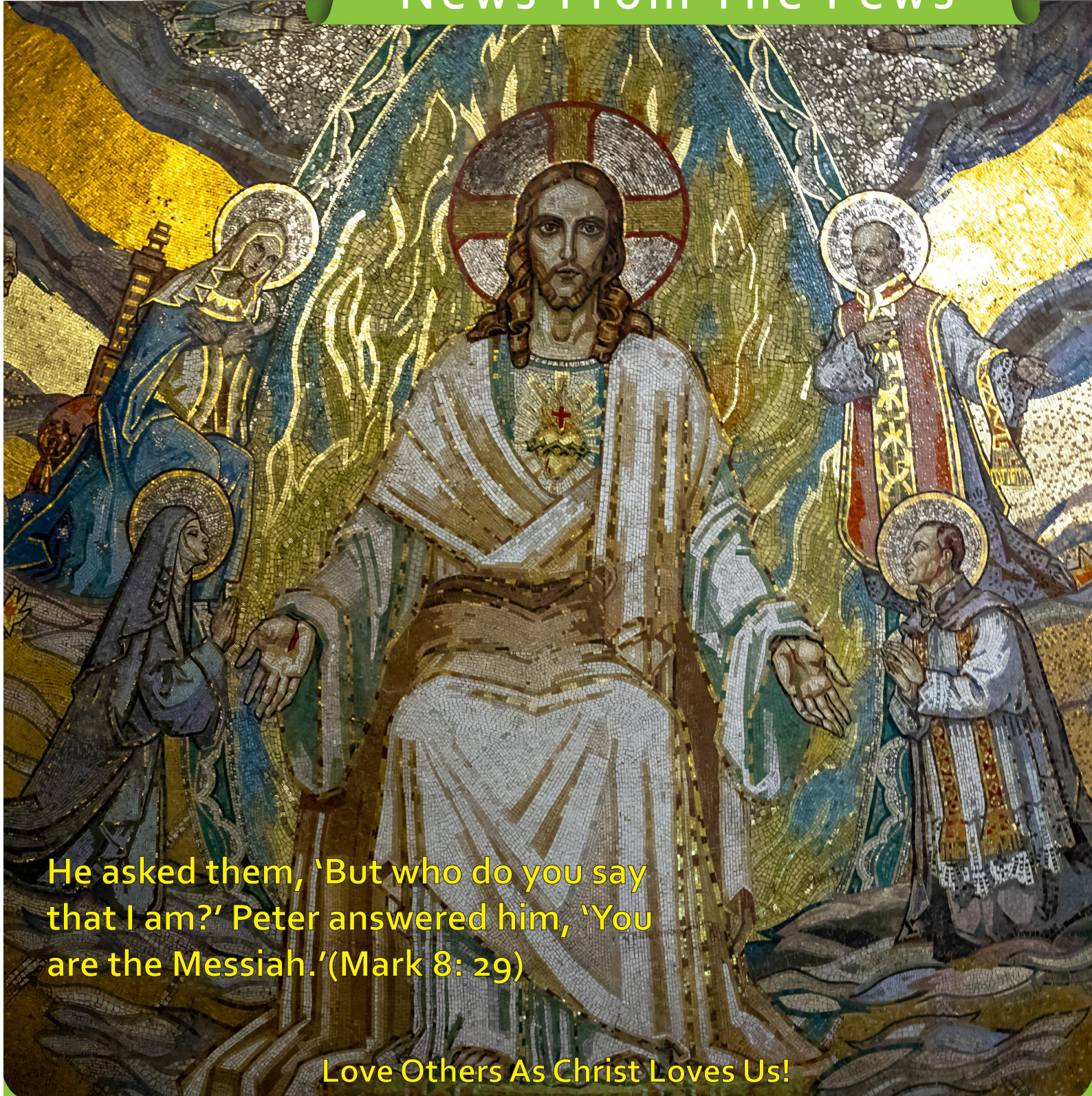




St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

News From The Pews



He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' (Mark 8: 29)

Love Others As Christ Loves Us!

September 12, 2021 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CELEBRATE OUR FAITH

Connect With Us

Website:

www.stpatrickshamilton.ca

Facebook:

fb.me/stpatrickshamilton

Mass Schedule

The church is OPEN for in-person masses to a 15% capacity. Seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Weekend

Sat | 5 PM

Sun | 9 AM, 11:30 AM* & 7:15 PM*

Weekday

Tues to Fri | 12:15 PM*

*Live streamed via our Facebook page and website.

Sacraments

- The sacrament of reconciliation is available by appointment only.
- For more information about booking baptisms, weddings, marriage preparation, or other inquiries, please contact us.

Connect With Us



Parish Office Hours

Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

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

Like or Follow us

Facebook: fb.me/stpatrickshamilton

Twitter: @StPatsHamilton

Instagram: @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, RCIA

Pastoral Team

Sr. Andrea Kowalczyk | Liturgy Workshops

Arthur Kara | Facilities Operator

Br. Dan Dionne, OMI | Music Ministry

Diana Quidon | Volunteer Coordinator

Diane Downey | De Mazenod Door Outreach - Administrative Assistant

Evelyn VanFleet | Assistant Facilities Operator

Ian Ford | Director of Technology

Katharine Bennett | De Mazenod Door Outreach

Leon Blais | 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

A LEAP OF FAITH

Hello, My name is Caelin Bautista. I am a new Catholic and parishioner here at St.Pat's I want to share a piece of my faith journey that led me to the RCIA program. I hope it will encourage those who might be drawn to the Catholic faith to take the next step in their faith journey and trust that God has a plan that is all for GOOD!

Growing up, I was raised in a non denominational Christian household. As kids, my siblings and I have fond memories of singing in church choir, VBS (Vacation Bible School) camps, and volunteering in our community. We loved participating every Sunday and it was something we all did together as a family. We were encouraged to pray (a lot) and as I grew older, I appreciated the reminder. Life progressed and as it guarantees, things got hard. We moved away, our parents got divorced, and our church life shrunk down to once or twice a year, until eventually we stopped going altogether.

The subtle separation from God forced my relentless curiosity - Was God even real? Is God an idea that everyone has a different opinion about? Why was religion created if the only purpose it serves is to divide? My questions grew into frustrations and I needed an answer - something I could see for myself, something to affirm my questions and give me what I was looking for. I had a Bible, but I didn't read it. I had access to a church community, but I didn't bother to walk through the door. I was angry with God and was internally proud to be so. It affected my life in destructive ways and I depended on relationships to fill the void God so desperately wanted to fill instead.

After High school I attended school for Massage Therapy. I felt an undeniable pull towards that industry and I wanted to help people. A few weeks into my classes, we began to unravel the vast world of what I was told was 'Spirituality'. Energy healing, chakra cleansing, and crystals were regularly incorporated into our regimen. We were encouraged to think about

the human body from an energetic point of view and that idea inspired me. It was all so new and exciting and tangible. It gave me a sense of control and power over my life and that was what I felt I needed to be happy. So, I spent a lot of my time, money, and energy incorporating these spiritual practices and ideals into my daily life. I set high expectations for the results but often found myself disappointed.

Soon after I began practising as a Licensed Massage Therapist. In addition, I pursued a relationship with a man who was living in Toronto at the time. After a few short months I relocated to Canada, got married, and had a son (i know,i know) all within a year and a half. Things shifted rapidly and my faith life began to stir.

My husband, Justin, is Catholic and raising a son in a Catholic family was foreign to me. Why did he need to be baptized before he could walk? Why are there so many rules and regulations to follow? It all felt so organized and wrong to me. I was still angry with God and I knew stepping into the Catholic Faith would be uncomfortable at best. So I did everything in my power to keep my spiritual life free of religion and to no avail - I was constantly in a state of doubt which eventually catalyzed my depression and anger. My marriage was stifled and I felt desperate to find something, anything, to justify my situation.

Eventually, my husband and I separated and while we were apart, I had a conversation with a woman of very strong faith who had been my church mentor growing up. After reminding me of John 4:18, she encouraged me to pray again and ask God to clarify a path for my family. He did. My husband and I reconciled and we began to reform our marriage into one that was Christ centred. We felt closer and more connected to God as a family and I could sense the desire from Justin to have me step into the Catholic faith.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

BEYOND THE WALLS

What Happens Here Doesn't Stay Here

At first, I was hesitant and skeptical. I did not understand any of the prayers, I did not understand the repetition, or even the point for any of it. Why was communion reserved for Catholics alone? Why does this all feel so exclusive, like only the sinless can step foot into a Catholic church? Could I not just have my own personal and private relationship with God?

My husband encouraged me to start with the Rosary. I appreciated the tactile and functional nature of the beads. It was like a break from the world to focus on the wonder and mystery of God and all His creation. The prayers were the foundation of my conversion and by the third full rosary I prayed, I was overwhelmed with Our Lady's gentle and warm presence. It was as if a huge weight was lifted off my shoulders and I was eager to learn more about the life she led as Jesus' mother and spouse to Joseph. I felt that she was the purest female role model, and as a new mom, I was relieved to have her to intercede for me.

Soon after I found myself in Confession with Father Tony. Admittedly it was nerve wracking and painful to think about admitting the ugly truths of my past, but I was refreshed by Father Tony's uplifting spirit. I knew I was doing the right thing. Although I was not yet catholic, Father heard my full confession and I appreciated his encouragement and blessing.

After the first few weeks of RCIA, my husband and I began a Novena prayer to St. Joseph. We have an altar in our room equipped with blessed candles, statues, images that we prayed at every night. The altar is located on a wooden shelf on a wall in our room and on one particular night, we noticed something as



we were praying; the blessed mother candle we had lit (and many times before) was burning much brighter. The flame was longer and wider and was producing a thick black smoke that rose up to the shelf above it. We continued on our prayer and after we

were finished the flame was back to normal and we both shrugged it off as if it was a fluke: "Candles just do that sometimes!" The next day I felt the urge to check out the candle and upon arriving at the altar I noticed something on the wood above. It looked like soot from far away, but as I approached it, I noticed what looked like a cross. I got my phone, turned the flashlight on and this is what reflected back to me.



I was in shock. The thick smoke from the candle etched this image in the wood. I rushed downstairs to show Justin and we immediately felt the overwhelming presence of God in the room that day. We didn't need to explain it, we both knew that the Holy Spirit was showing and affirming us of our actions to live a life in reverence for Christ. I was at peace for the first time in a long time. I had fresh eyes to see and new ears to listen. The questions that lingered in my heart were put to rest and I was given the opportunity of a fresh perspective. The RCIA program structured my faith and renewed my love for God. I was able to see myself and others as Christ does and I have never felt more joy in being a part of the St. Pats community and all the incredible ministries that come from here. My faith is transformed into meaningful action and I feel worth and purpose being alive and serving others. Do not be afraid to take a leap of faith and as they say here at St.Pats, "Come as you are!"

By Caelin Bautista



De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



A few months ago our staff was approached by a guest, who kindly shared with us that her mother was near death. She was quite distraught at losing her mother and so we said a prayer for her and for her mother. Sadly, not long after that day, her mother passed away. What made the situation more difficult for our guest was that she was not a part of any arrangements or decisions the family made concerning a funeral or burial. It was decided by her family that her mother was to be cremated and her ashes were to be buried months later. When the burial date was set our guest returned with a most simple, genuine and heartfelt request.: "Would you get some flowers for me to put at my mom's grave?" She tearfully asked for some pink flowers to be put in the arrangement and a pink ribbon that said "Mother". A simple floral arrangement was put together for her and it moved her to tears. She said, "Mom would have loved this."



Kindness does not have to be complicated. You certainly can do small things with great love!

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

Friday BBQ



September 17, 2021

- Siobhan Thompson
- Dr. Cynthia Cupido
- Anonymous

Ways to Help



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



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

Most Wanted Items



Hot Chocolate

Juice Crystals



Ziploc Sandwich Bags

Thank You To Our Sponsors!



DIocese of HAMILTON



VOCATIONS REFLECTION

I CAME TO BRING FIRE TO THE EARTH

This Summer, we were bombarded by messages concerning climate change. "The world is on fire!" Weather specialists presented global maps with red markings showing where there were raging fires, and where the stifling heat on parched land was suffocating fauna and flora as well as human life. I kept thinking, "What if all this red ink could be transformed into an illustration of the love of brothers and sisters all over this world which is groaning in pain waiting for the completion of Jesus' redemptive mission. What a Pentecost this would be!"

Today, Peter's wavering and inconsistency before Jesus' question: "Who do you say I am?" confronts us with our own wavering and inconsistencies as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ. The Spirit of God brings Peter to confess that Jesus is the Christ. As Jesus continues to teach who he is and what his Mission is about: about being rejected from the elders, chief priest and scribes and even getting killed as a result, Peter panics. (I don't think Peter really heard the last part), "and after three days will rise again." We know that it would take some time for Peter to really encounter Christ and be transformed. His eyes, ears and heart started to open at the lake side after the Resurrection of Jesus, when asked, "Peter, do you really love me?"

Peter takes his Master aside and rebukes him, only to be chastised by Jesus, "Get behind me Satan! For you are thinking not as God does, but as humans." Peter's vision is turned upside down.

James tells us with some "in your face" facts about our faith and about our behaviour, as Disciples of Christ. We are all of the same Body of Christ, rich or poor, pleasant or unpleasant, wearing clean clothes or dirty rags, fragrant or smelly... we are all part of the Body of Christ; all deserve to be treated with dignity and love. Yes, it is necessary to pray, to pray for the needy; but are we ready to give of ourselves, to give up some of our "precious time" for our brothers and sisters, do we carry in our hearts Christ's fire of love and deliver this compassion and warmth especially for those who are shunned by, or invisible to most of society, and for those who are seldom addressed by their name.

In a society that claims comfort, fun, self-indulgence at all cost, it is easy to slip into a lifestyle that takes all our time... and never allows us to serve generously, and to sit and listen to our brothers and sisters, to accompany them, letting no fear or revulsion take over. Let the zeal

and boldness of our commitment to the mission given us in our Baptism repeated in our commitment to religious, consecrated life indeed, set the world on Fire, a fire that purifies, a fire that heals, a fire called LOVE.



"Whoever wants to become my follower, let them take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake and for the sake of the Gospel, will save it."

Elizabeth M. Nagel, a professor and Theologian, writes: "The cost and core of discipleship.... [is] whoever wishes to follow him must "deny", "disown" or "renounce" him- or herself for Jesus' sake. Disciples must accept that their life will somehow unfold like his did.....Jesus' disciples must to aim to lose their life in his risen life, so that he can continue his mission on earth through them...."

What are we ready to sacrifice to answer to Christ's wish: "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed!" (Luke 12: 49-55) Following this, Christ invites us to interpret the signs of time....as we do the appearance of earth and sky.

By Margot Lavoie - Oblate Associate

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Twitter: @jarekpachocki
Facebook: /jarek.pachocki
#OblateVocations

WEEKEND READINGS



September 12, 2021

1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 5-9
2nd Reading: James 2: 14-18

Gospel: Mark 8: 27-35

"The Son of Man must undergo great suffering."

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 stpattickshamilton.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@stpattickshamilton.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



Tues, Sep 14 | 12:15 PM

- Special Intention
- Manuel Antonio Valentim

Wed, Sep 15 | 12:15 PM

- Vivienne McGrath
- Karim Lasi

Thurs, Sep 16 | 12:15 PM

- Diego Gagarin Sr.
- Dorothy Ray Dailey Petrulis

Fri, Sep 17 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Angelo Josh Hernandez
- Robert Mahler, Bernadette & Adam Mahler
- Dorothy & Jimmy Toole, Josie & Innio Corsini
- Bianca & Armando Ferroni

Sat, Sep 18 | 5:00 PM

- Sal Giulione
- Ava Isabella Silveira

Sun, Sep 19

9:00 AM

- St. Patrick's Parishioners

11:30 AM

- Joao Carvalho
- Artur Pereira
- Alejandra Viquiera & Jeremias Tazon
- Special Int: Cecilia Abaya Ducay

7:15 PM

- Special Int: Anoumedem Family
- Tom Troy

WEEKEND STATS: ATTENDANCE



Sep 4-5, 2021

MASS	In-Person	Facebook	Website
Sat, 5 PM	54	-	-
Sun, 9 AM	72	-	-
Sun, 11:30 AM	108	80	52
Sun, 7:15 PM	149	50	28

WEEKEND STATS: COLLECTION



Sep 4-5, 2021

Collected from Envelopes	\$1,977
E-transfer	\$345
Canada Helps	\$250
Pre-Authorized Collection	\$3,172
TOTAL	\$5,744

IN OTHER NEWS



There are no new updates regarding the campaign this week. Please continue to join us in prayer for the special intentions of those who have responded with generosity to this campaign for our parish. We also pray for those who are still discerning about supporting this campaign, that God may lead them to His will. Finally, we pray for our Diocese, that the funds raised through this campaign may aide in the growth and flourishing of the churches and ministries within.

NOVENA TO LITTLE ST. THERESE

The Sisters of the Carmel of Saint Joseph will pray for you during the Novena to Little St. Therese, September 23rd to October 1st, 2021

Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support? You can participate in the Novena to St. Therese. Send your prayer intention slip with your name and address to:

Carmel of Saint Joseph
1127 Carmel-Koch Road, R.R. #1
St. Agatha, ON N0B 2L0

GOD BLESS OUR NEW MOM'S GROUP!

Our newest ministry, the Mom's Group, is having their first meeting this weekend! We pray that the moms (and kids) find support in each other. May they be filled with the Spirit and may Our Blessed Mother walk with them on this journey.

One thing is for sure, the moms have plenty of resources to access right of the bat - and pretty ones too!

FOSTER/ADOPTION INFORMATION NIGHTS

The Hamilton Catholic Children's Aid Society (CCAS) is hosting 2 nights of webinars where you can learn more about fostering and adopting children. Fostering and Adoption is a beautiful way to build family! The webinars are as follows:

Foster Care Webinar, Wed, Sep 22, 2021, 7-8:30 PM

- The CCAS is looking for skilled individuals and families who are interested in fostering adolescence, children with complex needs, and racialized children.

Foster/Adoption Information Webinar, Wed, Oct 13, 2021, 7-8:30 PM

- Anyone interested in fostering or adopting can join this online information session to learn more about the opportunities to foster and adopt through the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton. This will be an interactive webinar where you can join the conversation and ask questions.

Contact Jennifer Veenstra for more information and to register (905-525-2263 or jennifer.veenstra@hamiltonccas.on.ca)

