



St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

News From The Pews



“The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing”
(Zephaniah 3: 17)

Love Others As Christ Loves Us!

December 12, 2021 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

CELEBRATE OUR FAITH

Connect With Us

Website:
www.stpatrickshamilton.ca

Facebook:
fb.me/stpatrickshamilton

Mass Schedule

The church is OPEN for in-person masses.
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 Quildon | Volunteer Coordinator
Diane Downey | De Mazenod Door Outreach - Administrative Assistant
Evelyn VanFleet | Assistant Facilities Operator
Ian Ford | Director of Technology
Leon Blais | De Mazenod Door Outreach
Hansel Fernandez | 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

JOY BEYOND THE WALLS

In keeping with the virtues of Advent and the four candle theme, this week we light the beautiful pink candle that signifies joy. The 3rd Sunday in Advent is Gaudete Sunday from the Latin meaning 'rejoice'. Long ago, the Pope would honor a citizen with a pink rose, or a rose rose. Priests would then wear pink vestments as a reminder of the coming joy that is Christ. Advent in itself is such a joyful time, because we know that it tells us that the birth of Christ is near - isn't that the ultimate joy?



However, when we think of life beyond the walls for many in our communities, joy isn't the first thing we think of. For those who visit the De Mazenod Door out of necessity, joy is a struggle to find. For our homeless, our marginalized, our families facing the worst of destitution. Many of these include children and seniors. These are the very people that should be feeling and experiencing joy, but there isn't much joy in extreme poverty.

These have been a really hard couple of years for everyone. Two years of so much unknown and confusion. So much fear. If it's been tough for those of us living "normal", "regular" lives to find joy, just for a moment let your mind wander to those whose idea of "regular" or "normal" everyday living is very different from ours.

There are so many things to feel joyful about as we move through our daily lives. So many reasons. Most of us can so easily find reasons to smile and to laugh. We know and experience kindness and love, happy relationships, good health, a raise, a new car, or maybe just having all of the basic necessities of life, but that isn't the case for all.

As we journey through this season, and try to get rid of all of the extra and unnecessary, we may find ourselves more open. Fill that space with Jesus himself. Joy becomes more than just a warm fuzzy. It becomes a destination and a commitment we make. The Holy Spirit helps us to see that joy is something we must share.

As we celebrate all of the joy that Advent offers and that Christmas subsequently brings, let us take the time to find reasons to spread that joy to all of those we meet. Be it with a smile, a caring word, a loving gesture or simply by being a good and decent human being. At the end of the day, when we lay our heads down to rest, let us be thankful for the many blessings of joy in our own lives and remember to think of & pray for those who have or feel none at all.

May the birth of Christ give them pause, and may He be their reason to be joyful.

By Diane Downey



De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



Our friends at the Shelter Health Network have been setting up on site here every Friday afternoon to hold a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic which many of our staff, guests & parishioners have taken advantage of. Starting on December 17th, those who are 50+ years of age will be able to get a third

booster shot here without scheduling an appointment, as long as it's been at least 6 months or 168 days since their last dose! Please feel free to drop by for yours, if you qualify!

LiUNA! is a steadfast name here at De Mazenod Door and their team had signed up to prepare one meal per month for our guests of the Door. However, it has gone over so well, that they're now supplying a full second meal each month! If you've ever been a guest at an event at LiUNA Station, you can just imagine how well these meals go over and how much they're appreciated. Delicious!



We have very recently been blessed to receive a donation from a new corporate sponsor – well new to De Mazenod Door Outreach! Sergio Manchia from Urban Solutions, Planning & Land Development has reached out with some funds to assist us during these trying times! Thank you!

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

Friday BBQ

Dec 17, 2021

- The Donald Family, in memory of Mary Calamai



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

Salty Snacks



Soft Fruits

Thank You To Our Sponsors!



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON



VOCATIONS REFLECTION

“REJOICE IN THE LORD, I SAY AGAIN REJOICE” (PHIL 4:4)

As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. In fact, the third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday. The word “gaudete” is derived from the Latin words “Gaudium” meaning “joy” and “gaudeo” meaning “rejoice” or “be glad.” Advent is a time of joyful expectation and eager preparation for the solemnity of Christmas.

There are so many reasons for joy. First of all, there is joy in looking forward to the annual celebration of Christmas as well as joy in recalling the birth of Jesus (Christmas). We rejoice because he was born to save us. We must rejoice because “The Lord your God is already in your midst” (Zeph 3:17). So fittingly, today’s first reading from Zephaniah clearly invites the people to shout, sing, be glad and exult. The reason for this rejoicing is their deliverance from enemies.

The joy that Paul advocated is not merely the happiness that comes from enjoyment of life. It is joy in the Lord, joy that is grounded in faith in Jesus Christ. A joy born of conviction of faith and consciousness of God’s love. This is true joy and it is possible even to those who may find the Christmas season itself very distressing. Such a joy is possible even in the most trying of circumstances, even as we contemplate our present world which is threatened by Corona Virus.



It was Paul who encouraged Christians persecuted by all kinds of torture to rejoice in the Lord always: “Rejoice in the Lord, I say again rejoice” (Phil 4:4). This means that if my joy is rooted in the Lord, I will smile even when I am chasing my best hat down the street on a windy day. Paul calls the believers to live lives of kindness, of gentle forbearance, of willingness to forgo retaliation.

Whatsoever we beg of God, we also must work for joy. Our future will be different if we make our present differ-

ent. But how? That’s where John the Baptist clearly gives us some guidelines. In response to the question, “What should we do?” John the Baptist challenges the people to carry out their daily responsibilities with concern for others, honesty, and integrity.

The background for this question comes from last Sunday’s reading where John the Baptist said a path must be prepared for the one who brings salvation. We may ask, how can we smooth and straighten our lives into a welcoming highway for the Lord? Today, he tells us that we can make our hearts ready to receive Christ by sharing what we have with those who have nothing. We can welcome Christ by treating others with fairness and respect. In another words, how we behave towards others is a measure of how deeply we have welcomed Christ into our own hearts.

We are all beautiful people, loveable people but we are also vulnerable people especially to selfishness. If in our selfishness we are receiving all the time and not giving, then we will be like the Dead Sea which is dead because it is always receiving and never giving anything out, so the salt content of the water keeps building up.

Joy is also a natural byproduct of a life full of purpose and meaning flowing from having discerned God’s will and vocation for us that utilizes our gifts and talents, and offers us the opportunity to be creative. To make way for joy in the Lord also calls us to surrender ourselves to God in prayer, especially the prayer of gratitude. By making “way” for joy we are making straight the path of the Lord in our lives. Therefore, let us cheer up and share a smile with others. One smile in public is worth ten before a mirror - for it keeps joy in circulation.

Fr. Susai Jesu, OMI
Vocation Team - West

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#OblateVocations

WEEKEND READINGS



December 12, 2021

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18a

2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7

Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

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, Dec 14 | 12:15 PM

- All Souls in Purgatory
- David Whitlock
- Mara, Bara, Barica Barkovic

Wed, Dec 15 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: David Walsh & Family
- Special Int: Dominic McGorian
- Special Int: Fred & Fran O'Brien

Thurs, Dec 16 | 12:15 PM

- Special Intention of the students, teachers & staff of Sacred Heart of Jesus School
- Special Intention

Fri, Dec 17 | 12:15 PM

- Special Intention of the donors, volunteers & guests of De Mazenod Door Outreach
- Special Intention of Patrick & Sandra Ann

Richardson (50th Wedding Anniversary)

- Yelo, Kata, Frenk Kusecek
- Andrew Nowak & Stefania Nowak
- Mary Calamai

Sat, Dec 18 | 5:00 PM

- Antonietta Pacenza
- Betty and Reg Jackson

Sun, Dec 19

9:00 AM

- St. Patrick Parishioners

11:30 AM

- Special Int: JMike & Kim Tolibas and Family
- Maria do Rosario Roque
- Nicholas & Nathan Savard
- Fedele Vario

7:15 PM

- Walter Lopata
- Noel Wickrama

WEEKEND STATS: ATTENDANCE



December 4-5, 2021

MASS	In-Person	Facebook	Website
Sat, 5 PM	76	-	-
Sun, 9 AM	98	-	-
Sun, 11:30 AM	152	56	35
Sun, 7:15 PM	101	59	33

WEEKEND STATS: COLLECTION



Dec 4-5, 2021

Collected from Envelopes	\$2,477
E-transfer	\$270
Canada Helps	\$221
Pre-Authorized Collection	\$3,339
Christmas Offering	\$290
TOTAL	\$6,597

IN OTHER NEWS



"I ask God to rouse us from our disregard for those who are suffering, to shake us from an individualism that excludes others, to awaken hearts that are deaf to the needs of our neighbours. I ask every man and woman, all of us, to overcome the paralysis of fear, the indifference that kills, the cynical disregard that nonchalantly condemns to death those on the fringes! Let us combat at its root the dominant mindset that revolves around ourselves, our self-interest, personal and national, and becomes the measure and criterion of everything."

Pope Francis

RECEPTION OF COMMUNION AT ST. PATRICK PARISH DURING THE PANDEMIC



Regarding the reception of the Communion, the General Introduction to the Roman Missal states, "The communicant (...) receives the Sacrament either on the tongue or, where this is allowed, in the hand" GIRM 161 Both practices are equally respectful and appropriate. In ordinary circumstances, "the choice lying with the communicant." GIRM 161

The COVID19 pandemic brought on us extraordinary circumstances. Even though the memorandum from the Office of the Chancellor of Hamilton Diocese, states that, "communion on the tongue is again permitted" (July 19, 2021) the circumstances in different parishes varies. St. Patrick is located in the inner-city - a "hot-spot" with many vulnerable members of the community. Considering this reality and in compassionate care for all participants, Communion at St. Patrick Parish is to be received by hand ONLY. This is an act of charity to provide a safe environment for all. We will return to the optional reception of the Communion on the tongue when it is safe to do so.

Thank you for your understanding and caring for each other in this time of pandemic.



SERRA CLUB: VOCATION SEEDS

Third Sunday of Advent - December 12, 2021
Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? Contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton (905-528-7988).

Email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com
www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

CWL MILK BAG MAT PROJECT



A huge Thank You to the students of Our Lady of Assumption school! Congratulations on exceeding your goal, what an amazing job you have done collecting over 1700 milk bags for us to make into sleeping mats for the homeless of Hamilton. It takes approximately 500 bags to make 1 sleeping mat.

Your dedication to the project and tireless energy are greatly appreciated and will make a huge difference in at least 3 homeless person's lives this winter.

Blessings, St Patrick Parish Catholic Women's League.

IN OTHER NEWS

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

6 PM - Christmas Eve Mass

- In-Person only
- 8:30 PM - Christmas Eve Mass
- Christmas Carols will be sung before mass starting at 8 PM.
- Both the carols and the mass will be in-person and live-streamed.

Midnight Mass

- Christmas Carols will be sung before mass starting at 11:30 PM.
- Both the carols and the mass will be in-person and live-streamed.

Saturday, December 25 - Christmas Day

9 AM - Christmas Mass

- In-Person only
- 11:30 AM - Christmas Mass
- In-person and live-streamed

Sunday, December 26 - Feast of the Holy Family

9 AM - Mass

- In-Person only
- 11:30 AM - Mass
- In-person and live-streamed
- 7:15 PM - Mass
- In-person and live-streamed



*There is no need to register for these masses. Seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis. While you are here, we ask that you help us to maintain the safety of all by wearing a mask (unless medically exempt) and by maintaining social distance.

GIFT-GIVING TREE

All of the tags have been taken from the gift-giving tree! Thank you all for participating. Just a friendly reminder to please return the tags with the gift cards to a staff member in the church or at the administrative office by Dec 15, 2021.

We have already received some of the gift cards back and your generosity has been awe-inspiring! The two families and the vulnerable members of our community will, without a doubt, feel your love and care.



ROUND 2: VIRTUAL FAMILY GAME NIGHT



It's time to sign up for our 2nd annual Virtual Family Game Night! Families are invited to join in on some friendly competition in celebration of the holiday season. There are prizes to be won and some great fun to be had - and you can do it all right from the comfort of your own home.

Round 2 will be on Tues, Dec 28 at 7 PM EST. For more information and to register, please visit bit.ly/stpatsGAMEON (case-sensitive). If you have any questions, please call our office (905-522-9828) or email JC (jasuncion@stpatrikshamilton.ca).



EXCERPTS FROM BISHOP CROSBY'S HEART TO HEART NEWSLETTER (#454)

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY with Indigenous Peoples is celebrated this Sunday, December 12th, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. The 2021 Message for the day, drafted and approved by the Catholic Indigenous Council can be read here and on our website. Additionally, the apology issued to Indigenous Peoples by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is now featured in a YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=M6BazS2PEN0>).

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CCCB and the Bishops' Working Group on Indigenous Initiatives met with the leaders of each of the National Indigenous Organizations (NIOs) to make final decisions about the advisability of the planned delegation to Rome. After careful assessment of the uncertainty and potential health risks surrounding the recent spread of the Omicron variant, it was collectively decided that the delegation to Rome would be postponed. With the heightened hope and expectation, this is a major disappointment for all parties. Pope Francis is committed to rescheduling the visit in the New Year.

THE SYSTEM BOARD FOR THE ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH SYSTEM met virtually yesterday. There was discussion about the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 strain. While the numbers are rising, there is no dramatic increase in hospital bed use, and while the rate of the virus transmission is more rapid, the severity seems not to be as troubling. There are no outbreaks throughout the system, and everyone is watching carefully. We are encouraged to get the "booster"!

THIRTEEN OF THE OUR SIXTEEN SEMINARIANS will gather at the Basilica of Our Lady in Guelph on December 28th to visit and enjoy a day of recollection together. The day will end with the Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate of Seminarian Carlos Diaz by Bishop Wayne Lobsinger. We pray for our seminarians, that God will bless their discernment – and ours.

THE CHRISTMAS GATHERING FOR THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES takes place next Wednesday at Holy Rosary Parish Hall, Burlington. It is a "COVID-19 restrictions" gathering, assuring the safety and well-being of participants. More importantly, it is an opportunity to thank our Catholic Cemeteries staff for the very good work they do – especially given the challenges presented by the pandemic. Their gathering is always the first for the Christmas season. Christmas is soon upon us!

COATS FOR KIDS is a popular program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Ontario State Council. Already this year over five-thousand winter coats have been provided to children throughout the Province! Corporate sponsorship of the program has made it possible to increase the number of coats provided. The children are delighted to receive the coats –and to be warm during these particularly cold days!

Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us.

Ex corde, *+ Douglas*, OMI

WELCOME TO THE PARISH!

We extend a warm welcome to our newly registered parishioners:

- Kyle Davidson
- Jennifer Chigbo and son Zahkye

- Truc Huynh
- Thi La



We are excited to journey with you in faith and fellowship!