



# St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

## News From The Pews



"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

**Love Others As Christ Loves Us!**

December 25, 2021 - Christmas: The Nativity of the Lord



# CELEBRATE OUR FAITH

## Connect With Us

Website:  
[www.stpatrickshamilton.ca](http://www.stpatrickshamilton.ca)

Facebook:  
[fb.me/stpatrickshamilton](https://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](mailto:parishoffice@stpatrickshamilton.ca)

### Like or Follow us

Facebook: [fb.me/stpatrickshamilton](https://fb.me/stpatrickshamilton)  
Twitter: @StPatsHamilton  
Instagram: @stpatshamilton



### Parish Leadership Team

Fr. Tony O'Dell, OMI ([todell@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto: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](mailto:vocations@omilacombe.ca)

# BEYOND THE WALLS

What Happens Here Doesn't Stay Here

## CHRISTMAS BEYOND THE WALLS

So, what does Christmas mean to the many of our community's poor, addicted, mentally broken or the homeless? It might mean another cold and lonely day and night. Another day struggling to find warmth and nourishment or to find someone to share the lonely hours with. To many it is a stark reminder of a time long since forgotten of what their lives used to be. A family they used to be a part of. Christmas can be a very sad season for the poor with nothing merry about it.

As we enjoy the family festivities that begin with the celebration of the Eucharist, there are many who are on the outside looking in - many who don't cross our minds. Many of them may not even know the date, that it's Christmas, and if they do, they celebrate the "gift" of another day - albeit one that may be cold and may be lonely. It is easy to forget that there are impoverished families, many with children, who cannot afford to provide gifts under the tree, dinner on the table or a warm roof over their heads.

Jesus, however, wants us to see our homeless and helpless brothers and sisters, through His eyes. Remember His words? 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.' The gifts that they cannot see or feel at the moment, He promises to give to them. We have been called, as followers of Christ, to ensure that we are doing our part, our very best, to ensure that those beyond the walls feel that sense of community, of faith and of Christmas. Christmas begins with Christ. His birth.

May we do our best to share the beauty of Christmas & Christ's birth with all those we meet, especially with those with no sense of Christmas spirit and who's hunger for a sense of belonging and to be loved, is as deep as that within the pit of their stomach.

By Diane Downey



There are a few things that can restore a twinkle in the eye of a downhearted person. One is a meaningful random act of kindness sprung on a stranger for no apparent reason. Another is a cheerful smile or a laugh that is shared. And then there is the heart-warming story we either live out ourselves, or share about someone who had a life changing experience. From all of these the latter is the one that gives me the most hope this year.

The spirit of giving is not limited to the Christmas season, but let's just call it a remembrance of how the best in us can come out. If we needed a reason to remember to be our best self, let it be Christmas. We call it the Incarnation, when God first appeared, in our lives in the form of a helpless baby. It might seem ironic that God could ever be helpless; yet a baby needs to be looked after and protected. We were all in this situation once and some are feeling a little like that today.

We all have it in us to do something for the poor and outcast in our city. Even if that something is volunteering our time to be a part of something that is helping. Soup kitchens, spare change or a listening ear can go a long way to ease the ache some have to bear. Confusion and helplessness can creep in the midst of addictions, homelessness or mental health and augment an already serious issue. Without coming to any judgments, I hope that this Christmas will be a little kinder. Generosity does not only come from giving something to someone but also giving a gift that is beyond monetary cost. The gifts that we have to give each other would be enough to reach out to this entire city if we all did something. When I say to someone, I will pray for them, I'm sure I can see a little relief flash in their eyes. We can all do this.

This year I am on a mission to be Santa Claus so that I can bring as much cheer and spark as many twinkles in the eyes for those who have lost it. If you would like to help me in my mission this Christmas, come join me as I make my best effort to resurrect the twinkle and appreciate how much like us God was willing to become. The love of a child is only the beginning of the journey; the best is yet to come.

By Br Dan Dionne, OMI



# De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



As 2021 comes to a close, we would be remiss if we didn't take a moment to say a huge thank you to the many incredible volunteers who stood by us through this very trying year. They came regularly to help at the Door, to support our brothers & sisters in Christ. Whether it was to serve, package, cook, or pick up & deliver, each and every one of them so generously came to love the members of our community who visit the Door.. It is our hope that every single one of them knows just how much we appreciate their kindness and their willingness to put others before themselves, even during such trying times. They masked up & gloved up for hours on end and worked tirelessly to ensure that those who were hungry and in need - a dozen different ways - left with some sustenance and a whole lot of caring love.

To our community partners & offsite volunteers, the Columbus Club of Hamilton, Goodwill Amity, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, LIUNA and the many others in between, we truly don't know what we would do without your regular support, your fine culinary skills and your willingness to share your true spirit of community. Thank you!

To the donors who have kept their faith in this ever growing ministry and who have truly wanted to help those who we serve, there aren't enough words of thanks. God bless you all. Thank you and merry Christmas from our Door to yours.



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

## Friday BBQ

Dec 31, 2021

- Jose Moniz & Family, in Memory of Jose Cabral & Libanna Cabral
- Brian Hinchey

Jan 7, 2022

- Mark & Deborah Fernandes in honor of each other & peace in their families
- Antonio & Eulalia Fernandes in honour of the Fenandes & Medeiros families



## Ways to Help



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



**Donate:** To support this program, go to our website: [www.stpatrickshamilton.ca](http://www.stpatrickshamilton.ca) and click GIVE

## Most Wanted Items

Chips & Popcorn



## Thank You To Our Sponsors!



DIocese of Hamilton





## A RIGHTEOUS MAN

When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. Mt 1: 18-19

Based on religious law Joseph was free to excuse himself from his engagement to Mary. As God's messenger frees him from fear of scandal he moves from the sleep of religious legalism into moral righteousness.

Mary's pregnancy appears to be a scandal. Joseph's intention to divorce her quietly avoided the "trial" that would expose how Mary conceived. Such a trial was to prove if the bride was unfaithful or raped. Either outcome permitted the groom to legally excuse himself from the betrothal contract. This would be traumatizing and embarrassing. Joseph's quiet divorce with no trial is the gentlest legal way of excusing himself.

But this leaves Mary in a real jam.

What is her future in that culture? Because of stigma no one else will want to marry her. She will have to live with her parents and when they die, she will be without support. Men may pressure her for sex since she already gave in once. Her child will have no inheritance either, no dad to follow and learn from.

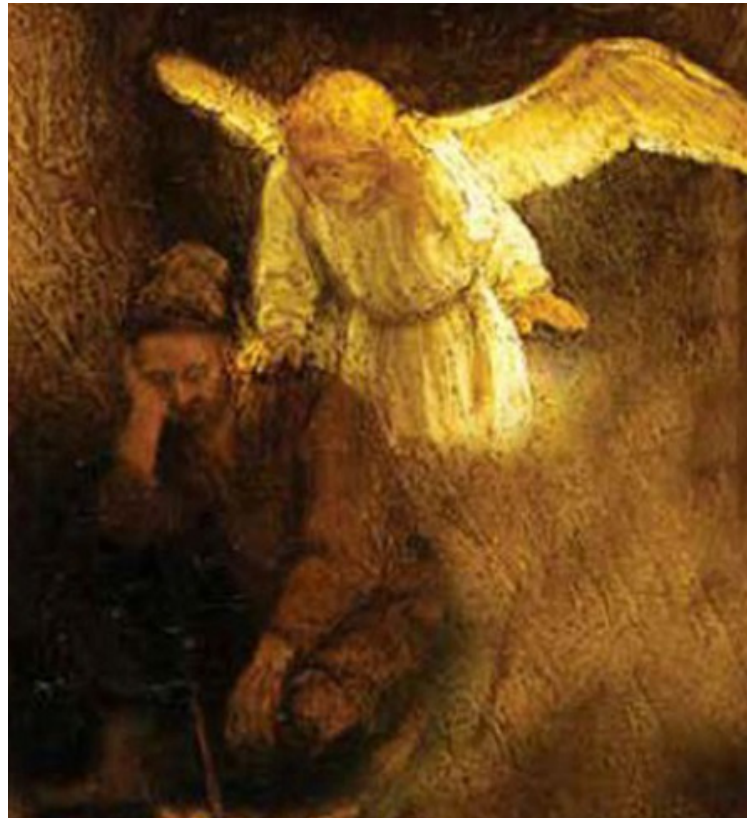
Hmmmm.

Pondering all these things Joseph is open to a poke from God's messenger. The poke awakens Joseph to what is most important here. Religious law is meant to teach and form a community to embody God's justice on earth. But laws are generalizations for which we can usually find excuses. Using law to avoid justice is legalism. Joseph moves from legalism into righteousness.

A young man once shared that he had thought about priesthood for years. I invited him to take a step forward, get a spiritual director and visit the seminary. He said he was waiting for sign from God.

I said: the church, like Mary, is pregnant but lacks the kind

of men that will enable the flourishing of her potential life. There's your sign. I am still hoping for his reply.



Joseph is the kind of man that rises above excuses and into compassion. With compassion examine your most frequent excuses. Then with courage take action to restore what avoidance has deprived you and the church of. This is how we take Mary and Jesus into our home.

By Mark Blom, OMI

**Fr. Jarek Pachocki OMI**

Vocation Director - OMI Lacombe Canada

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Instagram: @jarekpach

Twitter: @jarekpachocki

Facebook: /jarek.pachocki

#OblateVocations

## WEEKEND READINGS



### Dec 25, 2021

**1st Reading:** Isaiah  
62: 11-12

**2nd Reading:** Titus  
3: 4-7

**Gospel:** Luke 2:  
15-20

### Jan 2, 2021

**1st Reading:** Isaiah  
60:1-6

**2nd Reading:**  
Ephesians 3a: 2-3,  
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](http://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](mailto: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



### Tues, Dec 28 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Michael Bordin
- Special Int: Denis Keane
- Special Int: Ralph & Linda Soseca
- Alex Donald

### Wed, Dec 29 | 12:15 PM

- Marijo, Fuiz & Roza Kelova
- Souls in Purgatory
- Jeremias Loseto

### Thurs, Dec 30 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Larnie Diamante
- For Devotion to Virgin Mary
- Akim Almelo

### Fri, Dec 31

5:00 PM

- St. Patrick's Parishioners & Pastoral Team Members

### Sat, Jan 1

9:00 AM

- St. Patrick's Parishioners and Pastoral Team Members

11:30 AM

- Benefactors and Guests of the De Mazenod
- Door Outreach
- Special Int: Emmanuel Ducay

### Sun, Jan 2

9:00 AM

- St. Patrick Parishioners
- Special Int: Sionnie Villanueva & Family
- Mary Hoang Mau

7:15 PM

- Special Int: Kyle Davidson
- Special Int: Priyanka
- Special Int: Donna Montforts & Family

### Tues, Jan 4 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Brenda Callen and Family
- Kato, Ignjac & Ivan Rataic

### Wed, Jan 5 | 12:15 PM

- M Special Int: Denis Keane
- Good health & happiness - Hartson Family

### Thurs, Jan 6 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Keith Whiteway
- Special Int: Giacomelli Family

### Fri, Jan 7 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Kamil & Emila Pachowicz & Family
- John Seamans

### Sat, Jan 8 | 5:00 PM

- Antonietta Pacenza
- James Robichaud

### Sun, Jan 9

9:00 AM

- St. Patrick Parishioners

11:30 AM

- Special Int: Sr Eileen Brunton, CSSF
- Steven Lowe
- Ee'pedro Amores

7:15 PM

- Special Int: Johanna Hernandez-Chow
- Dale Dobson & Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Mike Tompkins & Family
- Montforts & Family

# CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



*"From my point of view, God is the light that illuminates the darkness, even if it does not dissolve it, and a spark of divine light is within each of us."*  
Pope Francis

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

2021 has been another tough year. As we approach the end of this challenging year, many of us might feel the COVID19 pandemic fatigue, or feel afraid due to the uncertainty of these 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). This affirms Pope Francis' words: "a spark of divine light is within each of us"!

We've seen this spark of light and hope in many of you 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. These ministries welcomed the poor, marginalized and homeless during the pandemic. We've seen the beauty of nature and the environment and we are grateful to those who dedicated their time and talents towards the newly opened De Mazenod Farm. The produce we received in return are a true testament of God's blessings! We've seen resilience and care for others in those who rolled up their sleeves to get vaccinated, and followed all the safety precautions. We've seen the amazing attitudes of hospitality that provided a safe and welcoming environment to all who attended our services in-person. 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 these challenging circumstances. THANK YOU for witnessing your "spark of divine light" and sharing hope with others!

May this season of Christmas and as we enter into the New Year, fill your hearts with a sense of hope and 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! May "a spark of divine light... within each of us" shine brightly in this place and time!

Merry Christmas to all and everyone!

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

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

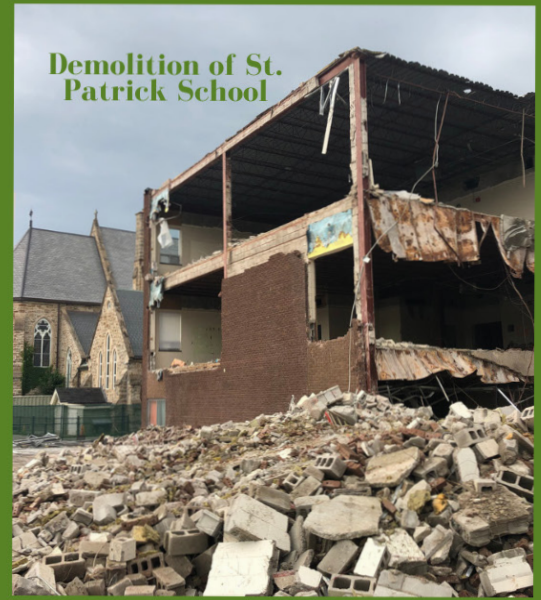




"Catching-up" on the Sacraments



Demolition of St. Patrick School



Mass Streamed from the Farm



# 2021 IN REVIEW

When we take a look back at 2021, the pandemic might be the first thing to come to mind, but here at St. Pat's, we choose to look back on all of the ways we have been blessed and all of the ways that we have shared our blessings. God is ever-present and makes His love known to those whose hearts are open to receiving it.

Br. Dan is awarded the Spirit of St. Patrick



Moving towards Truth and Reconciliation



1st Youth Group Gathering Since the Pandemic





OUTREACH  
MINISTRY  
& VOLUNTEERS



Liver Care Canada



Hearing Solutions



De Marneed Door Volunteers



Community  
Donations



CWL Milk  
Bag Mats



COVID 19  
Vaccine Clinic





# DE MAZENOD FARM





"FOR SURELY I  
KNOW THE PLANS I  
HAVE FOR YOU,  
SAYS THE LORD,  
PLANS FOR YOUR  
WELFARE AND NOT  
FOR HARM, TO GIVE  
YOU A FUTURE WITH  
HOPE."

*Jeremiah 29:11*



VCA Rabies Vaccine Clinic



New Additions to our  
St. Pat's Family



"The Ladies"



Annual  
Pet  
Blessing



# BISHOP OF HAMILTON



Christmas 2021

My dear friends,

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shone!" Is. 9.2*

The fact that we are now dealing with the Omicron variant of the pernicious COVID-19 virus is discouraging indeed. We have worked so hard to do what we can to "manage" the pandemic protocols, but the daily bad news of increased infections, after we thought we were getting ahead of things, makes it difficult to remain positive.

The scripture passages given to us by the Church in the daily readings during the Christmas season remind us over and over again that we are a people of HOPE – darkness does not overwhelm us. The powerful recounting of the Christmas story lifts us up out of darkness, sadness, and sorrow, and reminds us that God has given us a Saviour who is Christ the Lord. This announcement gladdens us and reassures us that the Lord is with us – especially in the darkest of nights. It is the blessing of Christmas!

*May the God of infinite goodness,  
who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world  
and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night,  
drive far from you the darkness of death  
and illumine your hearts with the light of life!*

(From the solemn blessing of Midnight Mass)

Merry Christmas! Enjoy the season.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

*+ Douglas Crosby*, OMI

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI  
Bishop of Hamilton



## IN OTHER NEWS

# NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 31 - New Year's Eve; Vigil for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 5 PM - Vigil Mass - In-person and live-streamed

Saturday, January 1 - New Year's Day; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

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

Sunday, January 2 - Epiphany of the Lord

- 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.

## WEEKEND STATS

### COLLECTION

Dec 18-19, 2021

Collected from Envelopes	\$3,102
E-transfer	\$170
Canada Helps	\$348
Pre-Authorized Collection	\$2,366
Christmas Offering	\$2,430
Christmas Flowers	\$105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,521</b>

### ATTENDANCE

December 18-19, 2021

MASS	In-Person	Facebook	Website
Sat, 5 PM	58	-	-
Sun, 9 AM	80	-	-
Sun, 11:30 AM	118	68	50
Sun, 7:15 PM	110	68	30



## VOCATION SEEDS

*Nativity of the Lord - Dec 25, 2021* | 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.

*Feast of the Holy Family - Dec 26, 2021* | By Baptism we are God's holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained, or consecrated person.

*Mary Mother of God - Jan 1, 2022* | Mary treasured all that God had done for her and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God's gifts and ponder what He wants from you? You may

have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ.

*Epiphany of the Lord - Jan 2, 2022* | "On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name?

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988; Email [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com); [www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/)