



St. Patrick Parish

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

News From The Pews

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" (Luke 3: 4)

Love Others As Christ Loves Us!

December 5, 2021 - 2nd 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

PEACE BEYOND THE WALLS



In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus' birth story parallels John the Baptist's. Months before visiting Mary, Gabriel appeared to Zechariah to announce that Zechariah's wife, Elizabeth, would bear a son to be named John. Because he is so old, Zechariah questions whether it is possible, like Mary's initial response to her improbable pregnancy. But while Mary's question is answered, Zechariah is chastised for doubting, then struck mute for the duration of his wife's pregnancy. The situation and the question are the same, but Mary gets encouragement while Zechariah gets silenced. Why? ...

All manifestations of life seem to originate in the Silence, "The thoughts that rise in you and come to the surface in deed and act, are they not from the Silence?" Quietening one's mind is a gift that brings greater peace. For Zechariah, muteness was imposed. We are called to mute our own thoughts ... With quiet minds and open hearts, we find rest in the peace that surpasses all understanding. It's why I've come to believe Zechariah's muteness was not a punishment but a gift. It's a gift we are all invited to give as well as receive.

—Excerpt by Rev. Kurt Condra

Quietness is a gift to experience peace in a time when the world around us is struggling to know what happened to our calm. Actively seeking peace can certainly be appealing, but where shall we turn? In order to know the answer, we must not turn away from the world entirely but to the peace that has existed since the beginning. The God that created us does

so quietly and the miracle that is life erupts in a wonderful, tiny and yet powerful way to connect us to our creator God. The master of all that lives is at once peaceful, as everything gives way to the nature of he who has loved us to life.

Some of the most potent things that motivate us to be our best are done in the silent resolve of one's mind. O that we could lift our thoughts so that our greatest distress would be a decision away from silencing. However, the calmness that originates and sees us at our best can so easily be derailed but the world in motion. It is the abruptness of our thinking that can spin us out of control, away from the inmost calm that is at our core.

Wherever we can find peace today; whether in prayer, solitude or centering, will help us greatly this advent. I think of the muted silence of a child in the womb or the lullabies sung to babies in quiet moments. I pray for the world to be a little more silent right now; in order to separate the noise from the silence where our inmost calm can lead us to better choices. Now, the same calm that we were created in before the storm seeks to find us.

As we continue to prepare for the coming of Christ, let us not lose the importance of the time we take to prepare our hearts to receive him.

By Br. Dan Dionne, OMI



De Mazenod Door Outreach

The Poor • The Marginalized • The Inner-City Youth



You may have heard that one of our longtime DMDO team members, Katharine (Kat) Bennett's last day at the Door was last Friday. Kat brought a fantastic work ethic, immeasurable compassion & so much laughter to our ministry and team and will be missed by all of our volunteers, staff & guests for a long time to come. God bless you on your journey, Kat. We will miss you!

We are working diligently with a couple of volunteers who've taken the lead on getting our Christmas goodie bags sorted & filled for Christmas morning. We are still in need of a number of items: deodorant (M/F), body wash (M/F), chocolates, candy canes, scarves & feminine hygiene products. If you can help, please contact Sherri (sramirez@stppatrickshamilton.ca.)

Once again we are in great need of Friday BBQ Sponsors! As we get ready to head into 2022, we want to ensure that we are able to continue to provide our guests with their favourite weekly barbequed lunch! Please contact Diane at ddowney@stppatrickshamilton.ca if you would like to schedule a date!

A reminder that next Thursday Dec. 9th VCA Canada Eastside Animal Hospital will be here for a free Rabies vaccine clinic and more. Their staff will be on site from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

**NO COST
Cat & Dog
Rabies Vaccines**

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

Friday BBQ

Dec 10, 2021

- Rosa & John Janicas, in Memory of brother-in-law Carlos Calisto
- John O'Brien
- Loretta Ward



Ways to Help



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



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

Most Wanted Items

Salty Snacks



Thank You To Our Sponsors!



DIocese of HAMILTON



PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD

In today's Gospel, we note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Why does Luke go to such a great length to provide us with this historical data? Scholars identify two motives: by planting the history of salvation firmly in the history of the word, Luke establishes the authenticity of his account. What he writes is not a work of imagination. That Jesus was born, lived, died, and rose in history. Secondly, Luke strongly believed that the message of salvation that Jesus brought was not limited to a particular group or people. "All flesh will see the salvation of God," Luke stresses the universal aspect of God's salvation.

Today we find John the Baptist traveling in the region of Jordan, exhorting, and inviting every Jews to prepare themselves morally and spiritually to receive the Messiah. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. Advent is a season given to us for repentance, renewal, reformation, and reconciliation with our Creator. We are called to experience 'metanoia'- an inner conversion, a turning from evil and turning to good. St Pope Paul VI states, "We must aim above all at an inner renewal, a liberation from the mere following of conventions, a departure in our way of thinking. More than anything else, we must lament our shortcomings before God and the community of our brothers and sisters. We must renew the self-understanding each must have of himself or herself as a child of God, as a Christian, as a member of the Church."

Prophet Baruch, St. Paul and John the Baptist are all pointers to God's salvation. Am I a pointer, too? Do my words, deeds, point to God for those who come into our everyday lives? We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

Advent is a time of hope, and of openness to change - a change not only in our outfits or approach but a true renewal of hearts and minds. In the words of Cardinal Newman: "To be human is to change. To be perfect is to have changed often." The Advent season reminds us that we must be always ready to receive the Lord when he comes. We must prepare a straight path for the Lord, removing all obstacles which stand in the Lord's way preventing him

from coming. Let the season of Advent be a time when we look forward with great expectation to the coming of the Lord, trusting that He will do great wonders in our life. Let us prepare ourselves morally and spiritually to receive him.

Behold your God, he is coming.



By Vijay Deivanayagam, OMI
Vocation Team - Central
(431) 373-6342
vijayreia@gmail.com

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



December 5, 2021

1st Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9

2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6

"All flesh shall see the salvation of God."

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 7 | 12:15 PM

- Deceased Members of the Walsh & Power Families
- Antonietta Pacenza
- Marion Taylor

Wed, Dec 8 | 12:15 PM

- Elaine Ditner
- Alejandra Viquiera

Thurs, Dec 9 | 12:15 PM

- Special Int: Kevin & Geraldine Walsh

Fri, Dec 10 | 12:15 PM

- Special Intention of the students, teachers & staff of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Elementary School
- Special Int
- Fero, Bara, Marko Barkovic

Sat, Dec 11 | 5:00 PM

- Deceased Members of the Castonguay Family
- Rosemary Mule
- Damien Evans

Sun, Dec 12

9:00 AM

- St. Patrick Parishioners
- 11:30 AM
- Special Int: Jojo, Anabelle & Josh Austria
- Francis, Isabel & Dale Richard

7:15 PM

- Special Int: Lito Abaday
- Walter Volpata

WEEKEND STATS: ATTENDANCE



Nov 27-28, 2021

MASS	In-Person	Facebook	Website
Sat, 5 PM	84	-	-
Sun, 9 AM	79	-	-
Sun, 11:30 AM	142	44	41
Sun, 7:15 PM	145	69	39

WEEKEND STATS: COLLECTION



Nov 27-28, 2021

Collected from Envelopes	\$2,715
E-transfer	\$120
Canada Helps	\$1,526
Pre-Authorized Collection	\$2,346
TOTAL	\$6,707

IN OTHER NEWS



Our stats hold steady early on in this season of Advent. They are:

- Target: \$500,000
- Total Pledged: \$668,800 (133.8% of target)
- Number of pledges: 173
- Parishioner Participation: 41.6%

Let us all pray together that we may experience a blessed advent season and a joyful Christmas!



SERRA CLUB: VOCATION SEEDS

Second Sunday of Advent - December 5, 2021
Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister to help our world of today to truly "prepare the way of the Lord"? 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



Thank you to everyone who has been helping with the CWL Milk Bag Mat project, which aims to provide handmade sleeping mats to people experiencing homelessness. Last weekend was our last in-person milk bag collection for 2021, although we will continue making mats throughout the winter. We will resume in-person collection in the spring. Until then, please continue to save your milk bags. You may leave them in the collection bag inside the front door of the church.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY (3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

For the past several decades, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the 'Bambinelli' – as they are known in Rome – reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy.

All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to the 11:30 AM mass on Sunday, Dec. 12th to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day and as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.



IN OTHER NEWS

ROUND 2: VIRTUAL FAMILY GAME NIGHT



It's time to play! We invite all families in our parish and community to sign up and participate in our 2nd annual Virtual Family Game Night! There will be games, there will be prizes, there will be big laughs, there will be music and more! It will all be great fun with your family and others, right from the comfort of your own home!

This year, we will be hosting the game night 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@stppatrickshamilton.ca).

GIFT-GIVING TREE

The Gift-Giving tree is up at the back of the church! Thank you to those who have picked up a tag! There are some left so there is still time to participate. Just a reminder to please drop off your tag with the gift card, either to a staff member at the church or the administrative office, as soon as possible. We hope to have all the gifts collected by Dec 15.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sat, Dec 11th

- 6 PM - St. Dymphna Group (Mental Health Support Group)

Sun, Dec 12th

- 3rd Sunday of Advent (Bambinelli Sunday)

Sat, Dec 18th

- 2 PM - Youth Group Gathering

Sun, Dec 19th

- 4th Sunday of Advent
- 2:30 PM - Mom's Group
- 5 PM - Young Adults Group Gathering

**If you have any questions about any of these events, please call us at 905-522-9828. For masses & religious gatherings, vaccination status is not checked but safety protocols (mask-wearing & social distancing) remain in place.*

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



On Wed, Dec 8, the Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Immaculate Conception is a dogma of the Catholic Church, meaning that it is a major and infallible teaching. Specifically, this dogma teaches that the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived without sin. This upholds her purity and holiness as the Mother of God. If you would like to learn more about Mary, check out this video where Fr. Donald Calloway, of the Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, speaks about Mary as God's Masterpiece: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhdAiEVme0I&t=1s>

This solemnity is also an important celebration for the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate as she is the namesake of their congregation!

Celebrate this day with us by joining us for mass, in-person or live-streamed, on Wed, Dec 8 at 12:15 PM.