

MASSES FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 1ST

Sunday, December 31, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 4:00 pm +Elaine Forler; Marg Walter +Jack LeBlanc; Judy & Marcella Furlong
Monday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 11:00 am Our Parish Community 11:00 am Maryhill
Tuesday, January 2, No Mass <i>People aspire to what is beautiful and love it. But what is beautiful is also good. God is good. Everyone looks for the good, therefore everyone looks for God. – St. Basil</i>
Wednesday, January 3, 9:00 am – Maryhill <i>The name of Jesus feeds and revives those who are famished and spiritually hungry. – St. Bernardine of Siena</i>
Thursday, January 4, 12:05 pm +Frank Walter; Estate +William & Betty Walter; Estate <i>God has given each person freedom and forces no one, but only indicates, calls and persuades. – St. Angela Merici</i>
Friday, January 5, 9:00 am – Maryhill <i>To lose ourselves in God is simply to give up our own will to God. When a soul can truly say, "Lord, I have no other will than yours", it is truly lost in God, and united to God. – St. Francis de Sales</i>
Saturday, January 6, 5:00 pm +Rita Graff; Allan, Jane, Jeanne & Steve +Betty Furlong; Theresa Wuersch
Sunday, January 7, Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 9:00 am Our Parish Community 11:00 am Maryhill

READINGS FOR January 6/7

First Reading: Is 60:1-6

Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel Reading: Mt 2:1-12

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Mon., January 1	The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Tues., January 2	Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.
Wed., January 3	Diocesan Priests
Thurs., January 4	Rev. Jason Kuntz
Fri., January 5	Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
Sat., January 6	Rev. David Perrin

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**MON-FRI** Office Closed**MINISTRIES for January 6/7****Eucharistic Ministers**

5pm	Phil Milan, Kathy Ziegler
9am	Dianne McGuire, Iris Miltenburg, Rick Weishar

Hospitality

5pm	Marianne Kieswetter, Sharon Both
9am	John Bruder, Mike & Sharon Noel

	Lector	Commentator
5pm	Tom O'Marra	Patsy Pond
9am	Tracy Kroetsch	Joan Coutu

MASSES FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 8TH

Monday, January 8, 12:05 pm Feast of the Baptism of the Lord +George Brenner; Linda & John Bruder +Rick Pilon; Marcella & Judy Furlong Intentions of Father Peter (25th Deacon Anniversary)
Tuesday, January 9, 7:05 pm +Teresa Day; Bernie & Margaret Gohl +Lise & Mike Monaghan; Colleen Jack <i>The patient and humble endurance of the cross, whatever nature it may be, is the highest work we have to do. – St. Katharine Drexel</i>
Wednesday, January 10, 9:00 am – Maryhill <i>This holy Mass, this eucharist is clearly an act of faith. Our Christian faith shows us that in this moment contention is changed into the body of the Lord who offers himself for the redemption of the world. In the chalice, the wine is transformed into the blood that was the price of salvation. This body broken and this blood shed for human beings encourage us to give our body and blood up to suffering and pain, as Christ did – not for self, but to bring justice and peace to our people. – St. Oscar Romero</i>
Thursday, January 11, 9:00 am +Joanne Moser; Jim & Marilyn Moser & Family +Colleen Weber; Estate <i>It is most important that you choose your career with care, so that you may really follow the vocation that God has destined for you. No day should pass without some prayer to this end. Often repeat with St. Paul: "Lord, what will you have me do?" – St. John Bosco</i>
Friday, January 12, 9:00 am – Maryhill <i>God will give us all blessings which were promised us through Christ. – St. Justin</i>
Saturday, January 13, 5:00 pm +Doreen O'Grady; Irene & Charlie Zettel Intentions of John & Kasa Antonello; Laura & Peter Antonello
Sunday, January 14, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00 am Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass Our Parish Community 11:00 am Maryhill

READINGS FOR January 13/14

First Reading: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19

Second Reading: 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel Reading: Jn 1:35-42

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Mon., January 8	Baptism of the Lord
Tues., January 9	Rev. David Reilander
Wed., January 10	Sisters of St. John the Baptist, C.S.J.B.
Thurs., January 11	Rev. Franjo Sprajc
Fri., January 12	Rev. Matthew Durham
Sat., January 13	Rev. Aurimas Paulius Rudinskas

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**TUE, Jan 9th** C.W.L. Meeting - Hall

MINISTRIES for January 13/14**Eucharistic Ministers**

5pm Sharon Both, Tim Baillargeon
 9am Sandi Hutchinson, Barb Vodicka, Ray Denomme

Hospitality

5pm Kieran & Geoff Kelly
 9am Pat & Linus Ditner, Ron Stemmler

Lector

5pm Kevin Dupuis
 9am Mike Noel

Commentator

Marianne Kieswetter
 Iris Miltenburg

Children's Liturgy

Jan 7 Anna Jakeman, Ken Gallipeau
 Jan 14 Linda Bruder, Teresa Mendler

Sign Ministry

Jan 2 Pat Ditner
 Jan 8 Jim McInnis

LIVING ROSARY INTENTION

For persons with disabilities – We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

FOODBANK NEEDS

Baked Beans, Canned Pasta and Hamburger Helper

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. It is a reminder of the role she played in the salvation of humankind. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer".

Next weekend we welcome Deacon Bob Grynol who will be preaching on the theme of Diakonia which is the greek word for service.

In the liturgical calendar, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord signifies the end of the Christmas season. The Baptism of the Lord is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God. This event is documented in all the gospels except John. This year the Feast falls on Monday, January 8th. We welcome you to come to Mass at noon to celebrate the feast. Also, this day is my 25th Anniversary of becoming a Deacon. I feel honoured in my role as your pastor to serve in this parish. Let us celebrate together.

Thank you for your prayers, cards and thoughtfulness over the Christmas Season. May God continue to grow and be more alive in your lives, families and other activities.

I would like to thank all those involved for putting on the Christmas Pageant this year. It was very inspiring to all those who attended.

Fr. Peter

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – Please pick up your box of Offertory Envelopes for the Year 2024, which are available in the hallway. For those who are donating electronically please also pick up your set of envelopes as they have only

the envelopes for special collections. If you wish to receive a box of envelopes place your name and address in the collection basket.

RESTART: REFRESH, RENEW, REVIVE – Join us for learning, support and fun on a Friday evening, held on the 2nd and 3rd Fridays of each month. These get-togethers offer continual support and insights for people as they journey through the divorce/separation process and beyond. Join in-person (700 King St. West, Hamilton), or by ZOOM. Contact Sarah at familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com, or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 if you plan to attend in person and for the zoom link if joining online. We look forward to seeing you!

The next set of groups/workshops presented by Woolwich Counselling Centre are below. Please see the bulletin board for more information about each group/workshop.

- **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**, adult session, no cost, in-person sessions on **Thursdays, January 4, February 1, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, 2024** from 1 – 2 p.m.
- **STAND TALL**, ages 7-9, in-person group on **Mondays, January 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 2024** from 5-6 p.m. Fee is \$100. Further subsidies are available if needed.
- **HELPING TEENS MANAGE ANXIETY**, no cost, virtual workshop on **Wednesday, January 17, 2024** from 7-8 p.m.
- **SLEEP HYGIENE: CBT STRATEGIES FOR A RESTFUL SLEEP**, adult workshop, no cost, virtual workshop on **Tuesday, January 23, 2024** from 7 – 8 p.m.
- **LET'S TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH: LEARNING SKILLS TO SUPPORT OTHERS**, adult workshop, no cost, virtual workshop on **Wednesday, January 24, 2024** from 7 – 8 p.m.
- **COPING WITH THE WINTER BLUES**, adult workshop, no cost, virtual workshop on **Thursday, January 25, 2024** from 1 – 2 p.m.

Learn more and register by calling 519-669-8651 or by emailing info@woolwichcounselling.org or drop by at 65 Memorial Avenue, Elmira for any of the above groups/workshops.

VOCATION SEEDS – 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 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 If God is calling you, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Offertory collection for December 16/17: \$11,904.30
Building & Maintenance Fund Balance: \$120,877.13
Thank you!