



**St Anne Parish**



**St Joseph Church**



## 4th Sunday in Advent and Christmas Eve

December 23-24, 2023

### Mass Intentions for December 25-31, 2023

### Prayer Calendar

	St. Anne	St. Joseph	Diocese of Hamilton
<b>Monday</b>	<b><u>NATIVITY OF THE LORD</u></b> Mass at 9:30 am	<b><u>NATIVITY OF THE LORD</u></b> Mass at 11:00 am	<b><i>Christmas Day</i></b> <b><i>The Nativity of the Lord</i></b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	No Mass	<b><u>8:00 am</u></b> Int of Parishioners and their families	Chancery Staff
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b><u>8:00 am</u></b> Int of those living with cancer – friend	No Mass	Congregation of the Sisters of St. Anne (s.s.a.)
<b>Thursday</b>	No Mass	<b><u>8:00 am</u></b> † Larry Madore – Darlene Clausing	<b><i>The Holy Innocents</i></b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b><u>8:00 am</u></b> Int of Saida Tamayo – J & S Andrade	No Mass	Rev. Edward Hinsperger
<b>Saturday</b>	<b><u>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</u></b> Mass at 4:00 pm Int of Parishioners and their families	<b><u>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</u></b> Mass at 5:00 pm Int of Parishioners and their families	Rev. Phillip Cook
<b>Sunday</b>	<b><u>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</u></b> Mass at 9:30 am Int of Parishioners and their families <b><u>FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</u></b> Mass at 4:00 pm	<b><u>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</u></b> Mass at 11:00 am Int of Parishioners and their families <b><u>FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</u></b> Mass at 5:00 pm	

### 4th Sunday of Advent Liturgical Readings

December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent
1) 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 2) Romans 16:25-27 3) Luke 1:26-38
<b>FOCUS:</b> God is the font of all blessings and salvation. Today's readings make evident the goodness of the Lord, and that He is the source of all blessings. The Lord promises to build a house for David – one that will last forever. And from the lineage of David comes Jesus, God Himself, to dwell among us. He is our shelter, our bodies are His temple, and His kingdom endures forever. We will soon celebrate the feast of His Incarnation and Nativity, while awaiting still, with joyful hope, the time when He will come again.
<b>LITURGY OF THE WORD</b>
In the first reading, David ruminates on building a house for the Lord. However, the Lord reminds David how He has favored him and states that it is God who will build a house for David. In the second reading, Paul gives glory to Christ, acknowledging the prophets and wisdom through the ages that have all participated in this revelation. In the Gospel, the angel Gabriel announces that Mary will conceive a son – the Son of God – and Mary accepts the honor, saying, may it be done to me according to your word."

### Christmas Eve Liturgical Readings

December 24 – Nativity of the Lord
1) Isaiah 9:1-6 2) Titus 2:11-14 3) Luke 2:1-14
<b>FOCUS:</b> A savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. To follow Jesus means both to rejoice in His coming at His Nativity, as we celebrate tonight, and to continue to wait in joy and hope for the coming fullness of His reign. In the midst of familiar rituals surrounding this holy day, the words of the angel still stand out: the God of all Creation cares enough for <i>me</i> , to come to earth <i>for me</i> ? Indeed, a Savior has been born for us. God has come to dwell with us. He has saved us; He is Christ and Lord.
<b>LITURGY OF THE WORD</b>
The prophet Isaiah speaks of the coming of the Prince of Peace, whose <i>dominion is vast and forever peaceful</i> and who reigns with <i>judgment and justice</i> . Paul writes to Titus, saying that the grace of God has appeared, <i>saving all</i> . In the Gospel, Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where she gives birth to her son. His birth is proclaimed to nearby shepherds by an angel of the Lord, and a <i>multitude of the heavenly host</i> appears alongside and praises God.

**St Anne: 519-745-5302**

[www.stanneskitchener.ca](http://www.stanneskitchener.ca)

[stannekitchener@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stannekitchener@hamiltondiocese.com)

Office: Tuesday – Friday, 8:30-11:30 am

**Diocesan Website**

[www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

**St Joseph: 519-745-9302**

[www.stjosephkitchener.org](http://www.stjosephkitchener.org)

[stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com)

Office: Tuesday – Friday, 12:30-3:30 pm

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

### St. Anne

#### Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 pm (Christmas Vigil)  
Sunday, December 24 at 8:00 pm (Christmas Vigil)  
Monday, December 25 at 9:30 am (Christmas Day)

#### Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30 at 4:00 pm  
Sunday, December 31 at 9:30 am

#### Feast of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 31 at 4:00 pm (Vigil)  
Monday, January 1 at 9:30 am

### St. Joseph

#### Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 pm (Christmas Vigil)  
Monday, December 25 at 11:00 am (Christmas Day)

#### Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30 at 5:00 pm  
Sunday, December 31 at 11:00 am

#### Feast of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 31 at 5:00 pm (Vigil)  
Monday, January 1 at 11:00 am

## ST ANNE & ST JOSEPH: ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Thank you to all who donated to SSVP this season. Your generosity and support mean so much to us and to those in our community. Tax receipts will be issued for any donation over \$20.

## ST JOSEPH: CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL TREE

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Memorial Tree. You are welcome to pick up your memorial tree ornament and add this special addition to your own tree to remember your loved one.

## ST ANNE & ST JOSEPH: SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Families with children who are planning on receiving Sacraments are reminded of the following dates.

### First Eucharist (Gr 2 & up): Reconciliation RETREAT

- Saturday, January 13, 1:00-3:30 pm at St Joseph
- Saturday, January 20, 1:00-3:30 pm at St Anne

### Confirmation (Gr 7 & up): Candidates Session

- Sunday, January 28, 7:00-8:30 pm at St Joseph
- Wednesday, January 31, 7:00-8:00 pm at St Anne

## DIOCESAN VOCATION CORNER

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life & she said "Yes!" and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

website: [hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/](http://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/)

## ST ANNE & ST JOSEPH: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

Mark your calendars! Families with children in JK through grade 5, please o-fish-ally mark your calendars for VBS 2024. This half-day, faith centred camp will run mornings at St Anne for children from St Anne and St Joseph parishes **August 12-16**. Adult and youth leaders (finishing grade 6+) are also needed to make this sand-sational event a success. Please contact our youth minister Mary at [mforcier@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:mforcier@hamiltondiocese.com) for more information.

## ST JOSEPH: CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Do you feel called to serve? Please prayerfully consider how you can give some of your time and talents to your community; it is a rewarding experience. Some of the ministries of St Joseph where you can make a difference are Altar Servers (Youth and Adult), CWL, Conestoga Lodge, Music Ministry, St Vincent de Paul, Social Group, Ministers of the Word, Eucharistic Ministers, Sacramental Preparation Team, Hospitality (Ushers), Children's Liturgy, Building Committee, Decorating Committee, Spirituality group. **"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop", Mother Teresa.** Every ounce of help matters! Contact the Parish office to let us know where you would like to help, [stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com).

## ST JOSEPH: CWL

The Catholic Women's League is a major organization for women; it provides opportunities for social life, service, & support for many parish functions. The membership dues are \$35.00 & will be due in February 2024. If there are any St Joseph parishioners who are interested in joining the St Joseph CWL, can you please email the church office to let us know? We would like to connect with you. Our numbers have been dwindling for some time, & we need to plan for the future of our CWL. A meeting is scheduled for **January 27 at 1:00 pm**, so please let us know if interested. [stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com).

