



Feast of the Holy Family, December 30-31, 2023 Solemnity of Holy Mother of God, January 1, 2024

Mass Intentions for January 1-7, 2024

Prayer Calendar

St. Anne	St. Joseph	Diocese of Hamilton
Monday <u>Solemnity of Holy Mother of God</u> Mass at 9:30 am	<u>Solemnity of Holy Mother of God</u> Mass at 11:00 am	<i>The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i>
Tuesday <u>7:00 pm followed by Adoration</u> † Barbara Shewchuk - family	No Mass	Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.
Wednesday <u>8:00 am</u> Int of those living with cancer – friend	No Mass	Diocesan Priests
Thursday No Mass	<u>8:00 am</u> Int of Parishioners	Rev. Jason Kuntz
Friday No Mass	<u>8:00 am</u> Int of Parishioners	Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino
Saturday <u>4:00 pm</u> † Wilf Corriveau - Parish	<u>5:00 pm</u> † All Souls in Purgatory – Julia Domingues	Rev. David Perrin
Sunday <u>9:30 am</u> Intention of Parishioners & their families	<u>11:00 am</u> Intention of Parishioners & their families	

PARISH INFORMATION

Confession: 6:30pm on Tuesdays before Mass & during Adoration.

Adoration: 7:30pm on Tuesdays after Mass.

Church Offering Report: once a month, in bulletin. Offertory envelopes can be dropped off in the parish mailbox. Please call the office to pick up your Church envelopes.

Pre-Authorized Giving: next withdrawal – January 15th

DIOCESAN VOCATION CORNER

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. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

HOLY FAMILY
Pray for us



Liturgical Readings

December 31 – Feast of the Holy Family

- 1) Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
- 2) Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
- 3) Luke 2:22-40

FOCUS: Imitate the Holy Family, the true model of life.

Even in their holiness, Mary, Joseph, and their child Jesus were not exempt from suffering, and the difficulties of life. Yet they never wavered in their commitment to God or to each other. Theirs was a home where the child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him. Let us strive to make our homes a haven for others to grow in love, virtue, and favor.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Abram puts his faith in God's promise of a child despite his and Sarah's old age. In the second reading the author emphasizes all that Abraham did was by faith. In the Gospel, Joseph and Mary present Jesus at the temple, and meet Simeon and Anna who prophesy about the child.

Liturgical Readings

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

- 1) Numbers 6:22-27
- 2) Galatians 4:4-7
- 3) Luke 2:16-21

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

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

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

WORLD DAY OF PEACE: JANUARY 1

The World Day of Peace was established by Pope Paul VI in 1968 who asked that "every year, this commemoration be repeated as a hope and as a promise, at the beginning of the calendar which measures and outlines the path of human life in time, that Peace may dominate the development of events to come". Each year has a specific theme, chosen by the Holy Father. For 2024 the theme is: Artificial Intelligence and Peace: "We must make sure that Artificial Intelligence is put at the service of peace in the world, rather than being a threat, and that it make a beneficial contribution on humanity future" *Pope Francis*.

FIRST "COFFEE SUNDAY(s)" of 2024!

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the first Coffee Sunday of the new year! At St Joseph, we will meet in the Parish Hall after Mass on **Sunday, January 7**, and at St Anne, we will gather on **Sunday, January 21** in the Church hall after Mass.

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

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 centered 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 for more information.

ST JOSEPH: CWL

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**, let us know if interested. stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com.



ST JOSEPH: CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Please prayerfully consider how you can give some of your time & talents to your community. Some of the ministries of St Joseph where you can make a difference are Altar Servers (Youth & 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 us to let us know can help, stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com.

ST LOUIS - WATERLOO: BIBLE STUDY

THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE STUDY – SALVATION STORY MADE CLEAR. This study is offered at St. Louis Parish in Waterloo (53 Allen St. E) starting in mid January 2024. The Bible Timeline® Study Program is a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins shows how 14 of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and gives the keys to understand the amazing story woven through Scripture. Monday nights at 7:30 pm, starting January 15, **OR** on Sundays at 12:30 pm starting on January 14. Contact St. Louis at 519-743-4101 or stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com to sign up or for more information.

ST MARK - KITCHENER: ALPHA PROGRAM

ALPHA 2024: Join us Thursday evenings, February 22 to May 2 at St. Mark's Parish Hall (55 Driftwood Drive). Alpha is an 11-week program that brings adults together for conversations about life, faith & Jesus. All are welcome! To learn more, contact Denise Case at stmarkalpha@gmail.com.

FROM THE DIOCESE: SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (**January 21**) marks the celebration of Bible Sunday in our Diocese. Our celebration of Bible Sunday is a call to listen to how #TheBibleSpeaks in our hearts and within our communities of faith. Prayer cards and bookmarks will be available for everyone on Bible Sunday to help you on your prayerful journey.

FROM THE DIOCESE: WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, May 26** at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. Registration is now available online at hamiltondiocese.com.

KW RIGHT TO LIFE – PRAYER VIGIL

A prayer vigil will take place on **Thursday, January 4** from 10:00-11:00 am opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St E, Kitchener, for those who wish to pray quietly for those who have no voice but our own. Contact Cathy at kwc.pravervigil@rogers.com for more information. Future vigil dates: February 1, March 7 & April 4.