



St Anne Parish



St Joseph Church



1st Sunday in Advent
December 2-3, 2023

Mass Intentions for December 4 - 10, 2023

Prayer Calendar

	St. Anne	St. Joseph	Diocese of Hamilton
Monday	No Mass	8:00 am Int of Parishioners	Rev. Pierre Caouette, L.C.
Tuesday	7:00 pm followed by Adoration † Barbara Shewchuk - family	7:00 pm followed by Adoration † Erich Clausing – Darlene Clausing † Maria Odete Tinoco – Friends of St Joseph Place	Grandparents & Elderly
Wednesday	8:00 am Int of those living with cancer – friend	No Mass	Order of Preachers (Dominican, O.P.)
Thursday	8:00 am Int of Parishioners	8:00 am Int of Parishioners	Rev. Donald Sanvido
Friday	8:00 am Int of Margaret Schnarr - friends Int of Parishioners	8:00 am Int of Parishioners	<i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Saturday	4:00 pm † Ed Young – Betty & Lynda † Roger & Beatrice Roussy - family Int of Liz Mestyan – family	5:00 pm † Jose de Sousa – Alda de Sousa Int of Deolinda Ferreira Lima - friend	Rev. David Perrin
Sunday	9:30 am † Nancy Ehiorobo & Angelina de Sousa – family † Francisco Pacheco – Judite Pacheco † Ruth Hayek – Hayek family Int of Marc Carrière - mom Int of Mary Matos - family	11:00 am † Manuel Lameira – Fernanda Lameira † Ildebrando Silveira – Maria Silveira † Florence Farwell – A Farwell † Souls in Purgatory – A & A Arruda	

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 – December 15th

DIOCESAN VOCATION CORNER

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Could God's "particular task" for you be a call to a Church vocation? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

This Week's Liturgical Readings

December 3 – 1st Sunday of Advent

- 1) Isaiah 63:16b-17, 64.1:3-8
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
- 3) Mark 13:33-37

FOCUS: We must be active in our hope for Christ's return.

Hope is a theological virtue: "We desire the kingdom of Heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 1817). Hope is an active state of being, not passive. During this Advent season we must be fully alive and fully engaged. We must be committed in our pursuit of the Lord; we must be people of hope!

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah laments that the people have wandered from the ways of the Lord and pleads that God rend the heavens and come down. Paul gives thanks for the gifts Christ has bestowed while the Corinthians wait for the revelation of Jesus. In the Gospel, Jesus exhorts His disciples to be watchful like servants waiting for the return of the lord of the house.

St Anne: 519-745-5302

www.stanneskitchener.ca

stannekitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

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

Diocesan Website

www.hamiltondiocese.com

St Joseph: 519-745-9302

www.stjosephkitchener.org

stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

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

ST JOSEPH: COFFEE SUNDAY and BAKE SALE!



We look forward to sharing time (and treats) with our St Joseph Church community THIS WEEKEND, Sunday, December 3, in the Church hall after Mass. Everyone is welcome. St Vincent de Paul will be having their bake sale at that time. Come and get Christmas treats and help feed the people in our community.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

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

First Eucharist (Gr 2 & up): Reconciliation Session

- Sunday December 3, 6 pm at St Joseph
- Wednesday December 6, 6 pm at St Anne

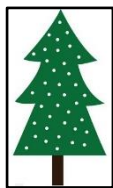
Confirmation (Gr 7 & up): Candidates AND Parents/Caregivers Session

- Sunday November 26, 7 pm at St Joseph
- Wednesday November 29, 7 pm at St Anne.

ST JOSEPH: ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

Please support those in need in our community this Christmas. Please take an envelope off the tree at the side entrance & return it to the collection. Tax receipts will be issued for any donation over \$20. Cheques payable to: St. Vincent de Paul – St. Joseph. You can also donate by e-transferring to ssvp@stjosephkitchener.org.

ST JOSEPH: CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL TREE



If you would like to participate in the Christmas Memorial Tree this year, please include your donation in an envelope with your name & phone number along with the names of your deceased family members. An ornament will be displayed on the Christmas trees during Advent season. You may then take it home & display it on your tree for Christmas.

ST ANNE: CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

Calling all angels and wisemen! Our annual Children's Gospel Presentation is returning for our 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. We are looking for children to participate in all roles, as well as a few older students to be narrators and lectors. An information and sign-up meeting will be held after the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, December 17 in the hall. Our one rehearsal will be Saturday December 23 from 1:00-3:00 pm. For more information contact Mary at the parish office or mforcier@hamiltondiocese.com

ST JOSEPH: CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Christmas Around the World Potluck. Save the date for this parish event - **Saturday, December 9** at 6:00 pm. Bring Christmas food from your family tradition to share with others in the community. Bring your friends and make new friends. The evening ends with a Christmas carol sing-along. Sign-up sheets are at the doors.



ST ANNE: MINI-RETREAT

Please join School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sr Celeste Reinhart and Sr Barbara Paleczny, for a mini-retreat on **Sunday, December 10** from 1:00-3:00 pm at St Anne Church, Parish Hall. The theme, "Waiting in Hope", will explore Mary's life in the Gospel of Luke, with special emphasis on Luke 1:46-55. It is the hope that we are able to build a deeper relationship between ourselves and Mary, Holy Mother of God. Refreshments will be provided. Please contact St Anne Parish at 519-745-5302 or stannekitchener@hamiltondiocese.com to register.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

St. Anne

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 at 4:00 pm
Sunday, December 24 at 9:30 am

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 at 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 24 at 11:00 am

Nativity of the Lord

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Monday, December 25 at 11:00 am (Christmas Day)

Feast of the Holy Family

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ST ANNE: ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Since COVID-19 we have not been collecting Angel tree toys. We will continue to collect monetary donations for the purchase of grocery gift cards. We will also collect gift cards as gifts for the children of the clients we service (eg: Walmart, Mastermind Toys, Dollarama, ToysRus, etc). Gift cards can be dropped off at the Parish Office or in the collection baskets at the Church entrances on weekends. All gift cards will be distributed to the clients we serve within our Parish boundaries, please note these cards must be handed in by Dec 8th! Thank you for your continued support to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul - St. Anne!!!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

On **Saturday, December 9** and **Sunday, December 10**, after Mass, at both parishes, we will provide the opportunity for parishioners to purchase one of our selected K of C Festive decorations. Sales from these items allow Council 1504 to continue to provide financial support for its Parishes and community organizations. Please see the bulletin board for pictures of some of the items we will be offering.

ST MARY'S/ST ANNE: CWL

Greetings & blessings dear ladies! We invite you to join us on **Sunday December 10**, following St. Mary's 11:00 am Mass; please note the different date! This will be our celebration together before Christmas, along with a small meeting. We ask you to please bring one item to share as a potluck refreshment, coffee & tea will be provided. The Second Sunday of Advent is Peace, which will be our Prayer theme. Please join us for this special time of prayer, fellowship, friendship & reflection!

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

For several decades, the Pope has blessed families & their Baby Jesus figurines on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. 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 Jesus from your home Nativity set to Mass the weekend of **December 16/17** to be blessed. Afterwards, take your 'Bambinelli' home & wrap it, and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open, & as you lay Jesus in the Manger. This moment will be a reminder of our great blessings.

ST ANNE: HELP WITH DECORATING

We will be decorating the church for Christmas & are looking for volunteers. Come out on **Friday, December 22** at 9:00 am to help set up the trees, creche, lights, flowers & decorations. Many hands make light work! Please contact the office to let us know that we can count on you, 519-745-5302 or stannekitchener@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 coming 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 tentative meeting is being scheduled for January 2024, so please let us know if interested. stjosephkitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

KW RIGHT TO LIFE – PRAYER VIGIL

Our next prayer vigil is coming up, on **Thursday, December 7** from 10:00 to 11:00 am, opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King Street East, Kitchener. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice but our own. For more information, email Cathy at: kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com.

BOXED ENVELOPES

Boxed envelopes are available for pick up at the church entrances.

ADVENT CONCERTS: JOHN B. MILLER & FRIENDS

John B. Miller and Friends will be performing Advent concerts this November & December. Special guest *Carrie Guse* joins them again this year. The dates and locations are as follows:

- Dec. 7 – St. John Church, Kitchener
- Dec. 8 – St. Teresa Church, Elmira
- Dec. 13 – St. Joseph Church, Fergus
- Dec. 15 – Basilica of Our Lady, Guelph

All concerts will begin at 7pm and be about an hour long. More information is available at www.johnbmiller.ca. To help support our musicians, a donation is appreciated either at the door in cash, or by e-transfer to john@johnbmiller.ca

ST ANNE: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

St Anne: November Parish Support

Offering/Date	Regular	Loose	Building	Missals	Missions	Unsolicited
5th	\$2,560	\$150	\$369	\$125	0	\$700
12th	\$2,616	\$160	\$190	\$150	WORLD MISSION \$10	0
PAG 15th	\$5,458	0	\$475	0	\$0	0
19th	\$1,120	\$115	0	\$80	0	0
26th	\$1,186	\$165	0	\$65	COMBONI'S \$2,159	0
Total:	\$12,940	\$590	\$1,034	\$420	\$2,169	\$700

ST JOSEPH: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

St Joseph: November Parish Support

Offering/Date	Regular	Loose	Building	Missals	World Mission Sunday	Unsolicited	In Memory	Chairlift Fund
5th	\$1,000	\$330	\$332	\$95	0	\$479.40	\$30	0
12th	\$735	\$260	0	\$90	\$20	0	0	0
PAG 15th	\$3,084	0	\$766	0	0	0	0	0
19th	\$1,040	\$280	\$160	\$50	\$60	0	0	\$1,850
26th	\$645	\$245	0	\$25	0	0	0	0
Total:	\$6,504	\$1,115	\$1,258	\$260	\$80	\$479.40	\$30	\$1,850

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – NEWS

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 & St Joseph parishes. Adult & youth leaders (finishing grade 6+) also needed to make this sand-sational event a success. Please contact our youth minister Mary, mforcier@hamiltondiocese.com for information.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region for their generous grant toward Stellar VBS 2023. Without their support we would not have been able to offer this program, and we are deeply grateful.

World Youth Day 2023: Obrigado!



Dear Parishioners and friends,

This summer, due to your generous support, I was able to travel to World Youth Day to pray with Pope Francis, and with young people from around the world. As each of you were such a special part of this experience, I would like to share of this incredible story.

As a member of our Diocesan delegation, I travelled first to the Shrine of our Lady of Fatima, exploring the homes of the shepherd children, and the apparition site. It is a beautiful place, both in its stillness by day and the crowded candle-lit processions by night.

However, as beautiful as Fatima is, the moment I most cherish from our time there was on our second afternoon. I headed for the basilica for what I thought would be some quiet prayer, but found that a Mass with pilgrims was just ending. As hundreds of college age students spilled back out into the square, they erupted in joyful song. The sound was nearly deafening as they sang, dancing and alternating between country groups and languages in a sort of playful battle. It was raucous and overwhelming, filled with exactly the joy and movement and enthusiasm that Pope Francis calls us to live.

After Fatima, we travelled to Lisbon for World Youth Day itself. If I could only share with you one encouragement that I experienced during these 5 days, it is that our church is ALIVE.

During the opening Mass, as I looked out over a sea of people too large to see the edges of, I was overwhelmed first by the sheer number of young people present, loving Jesus. But almost immediately I remembered you. Each of us in that crowd also came from a family, a local church, and a community of believers. Just as I brought each of you with me in my heart on my pilgrimage, so too did each of the other pilgrims from around the world, making us representatives of the vast Catholic community.

This global reality of our Holy Church hit me again during our late-night Eucharistic vigil with Pope Francis. After hours of walking in the hot sun, over 1 million young people knelt before the Eucharist. We sang and prayed aloud, and then fell silent. Despite the massive crowds, the exhaustion we felt from the heat of the day and the crowded area where we gathered, absolute silence fell. I could hear crickets on the edges of the field. Without language, without words, we were united before our God.



I could tell you countless stories about this small, 10-day period of my life. Pope Francis' affirmation that the church is for all, asking us each to chant in our own language, 'all, all, all'. Seeing and praying before a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, and the exuberant atmosphere that is created by filling the streets of a European city with faith-filled young people. But I can never tell you the full story of World Youth Day, because it will be different for each one of us, connected in the one story of Salvation.

I wish to sincerely thank the parishes of St Anne and St Joseph for allowing World Youth Day 2023 to be part of my story of faith. Without your prayers, encouragement and financial support, this dream of mine would not have been possible. Thank you, Obrigado.

Mary Forcier,
Youth Minister, St Anne and St Joseph Parishes

