

Dates	Time	Mass Intentions and Celebrations	Prayer Calendar
Monday, January 28 Hebrews 9.15, 24-28 Mark 3.22-30 St. Thomas Aquinas, (M)	7:30 am	Special Intentions of Dodi & Carmen Macabuag	Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto
Tuesday, January 29 Hebrews 10.1-10 Mark 3.31-35	7:30 am	† Pat Di Berardo	Rev. Tim Hingston
Wednesday, January 30 Hebrews 10.11-18 Mark 4.1-20	7:30 am 6-6:45 pm 7:00 pm	† Guerino Volpacchio Sacrament of Reconciliation † Giovanni Piro † Maria Spina † Dr. Elio Ricci † Lina Biancucci † Elio Tirimacco † Msgr. Roger Formosi Intentions of Joe Sardo † Domenico & Lucia Fiorillo	Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ
Thursday, January 31 Hebrews 10.19-25 Mark 4.21-25 St. John Bosco, (Memorial)	7:30 am	† Bill Meek	Rev. David Avila
Friday, February 1 Hebrews 10.32-39 Mark 4.26-34	7:30 am 8 - 9 am 5 - 7 pm	† Jadwiga & Margaret Zarzycka Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, (Benediction at 9 am) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, (Benediction at 7 pm)	Rev. Jersy Tomon
Saturday, February 2 Malachi 3.1-4 Luke 2.22-32 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas	8:30 am 4 - 5 pm 5:30 pm	† Pierina Pin Sacrament of Reconciliation † Angelo Mancuso † Laurence Houlachan † Giulio Biagetti † Onorina Caravaggio † Mario D'Amico † Lina Biancucci † Mario DiStefano † Elio Tirimacco † Olga Dallagassa † Maria & Carmine Fortino & sons & daughter	World Day for Consecrated Life
Sunday, February 3 Jeremiah 1.4-5, 17-19 1 Corinthians 12.31 - 13.13 Luke 4.21-30	9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	† Genuina Ferritto † Mario Medic † Elio Tirimacco	

"To do good, one must have a little courage, be ready for sacrifice, deal affably with all and never slight anybody"
St. John Bosco

If you are visiting our community this Sunday, St. Francis Xavier Parish welcomes you!

Bible Camp 2019

Save the dates!

Bible Camp is offered each summer for students in Gr. 2 - 5 (campers), Gr. 6 - 7 (leaders-in-training) and Gr. 7s who have completed the leader-in-training/Grades 8 and up (leaders). Camp combines a wide variety of activities including prayer, games, group discussions, crafts, sports, music, drama, and science experiments into an overall faith-focused theme. Registration forms and more information will be available after the March Break! This year's camp dates:



Week 1: July 8 – 12

Week 2: July 29 - August 2

Participants can choose **one** of the two weeks to attend. *If you will be 18 years old or older during camp and are interested in volunteering, contact Wes at the church office by **Tuesday, April 30.***

2018 Income Tax Receipts

The tax receipts from \$20 and up are ready to be either picked up, e-mailed to you or post mailed. **If you wish to have your receipt emailed,** please request this by email to us along with your envelope number and address. The balance of receipts will be mailed out by the end of February. To have them mailed to you earlier, please call the office and request your preference.

Stress in Your Marriage?

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Most couples don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. Retrouvaille can help. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend **March 15, call 905-664-5212** or email: retrouvaille.hamilton@cogeco.ca or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.



Lift Jesus Higher Rally

Be inspired, encouraged and healed at the largest single day Catholic event in Canada, the 27th annual. Lift Jesus Higher Rally! The theme of this year's rally is "Hope In the Midst of Suffering." Saturday, March 2nd, 9 am - 5:30 pm Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. W. Hear inspired talks by Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields and keynote guest speaker Father Mark Goring. The adult High Mass (with Sunday readings) will be celebrated by Cardinal Thomas Collins, and the youth High Mass (with Sunday readings) by Father Mark Goring. There will be a separate youth event (13-18 years) with great music, dynamic talks and inspirational skits. Tickets: \$25 for adults and \$15 for the youth. Contact us at (647) 243-9441 or (905) 270-2510. Email: contact@lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca, visit: www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca

Parenting Tip of the Month

Parents often ask their children what they would like to be when they grow up, but the better question to reflect on is 'who' you want to be when you grow up. Lessons learned in childhood, along with the modelling from significant adults in their lives set a foundation for the adults our children become. Do you expect respect, the use of manners, that your children treat others with caring and compassion? Are you modelling the traits of a good parent and spouse? Do you help them to see how God can and does support them as they grow to develop the gifts they have been given to use in our world? Good people are happier and healthier people, so help your child develop the 'who' part of themselves and what they will be will take care of itself.

Marriage Preparation Program



Will be taking place on March 1/2. Letters are out to those couples from our parish who will be getting married in the near future. Anyone wishing more information, please call the parish office at 905-662-8593 or email: saitfx@cogeco.net as soon as possible.

Milk Bag Mats

Welcome back to the Mat Making session for the new year. Volunteers are always welcome to help cut milk bags and weave them into mats in the Chapel Hall here at St. Francis Xavier Parish, 7 pm to 9pm. Please contact **Luisa at 905-379-9830** or email lconti@cogeco.ca. Students can earn community service hours. Upcoming sessions are:



Monday, January 28, Monday, February 11, & February 25

Development and Peace 2019

This Lenten season **Development and Peace** and **Pope Francis** invite us to reach out and encounter migrants and refugees, to make a commitment to really go toward others, to stop, listen and really see them. To learn how to foster a culture of encounter in your parish or school join us for a **SHARE LENT WORKSHOP, Tuesday Feb. 19, 7-9 pm.,** Annunciation Parish Hall, 280 Limeridge W.

E-Books

The Bishop Farrell Library & Archives offers a wide selection of eBooks on topics related to the Catholic faith including scripture and bible study, family and relationships, ministry, social justice, and church history, accessed via the Hamilton Diocese website - hamiltondiocesebf.overdrive.com. The eBook collection provides 24/7 access to our Library resources and can be used by anyone regardless of location. More information can be found at - bflhamiltondiocese.wordpress.com or call the Library at 905-528-7988 ext. 2270. All are welcome to benefit from our resources!

World Day for Consecrated Life

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

Prayer for Vocations:
Holy God, with gratitude in our hearts, we praise you for your love and your fidelity. You have shown us the way to holiness through Mary and Jesus and many faithful witnesses. You continue to call men and women to dedicate their lives through the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Give them courage to respond generously to your call with "Here I am, send me!" Blessed by your Spirit, may we always proclaim your love with our lives. Amen.

World Day of the Sick

Mass with the Anointing of the Sick for all those in our parish community who are in need of this sacrament of healing will be offered on **Saturday February 16th at 8:30 am** here at St. Francis Xavier Parish. The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. February 11 (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

A Lenten Pilgrimage, March 26th - April 2nd, Please consider joining Fr. Luke Kopaniak and Deacon Randy Matters on this pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico. For information, email: randalmatters@gmail.com or visit pilgrimdeaconrandy.com

Find Your Voice!!

Whether you are afraid of public speaking or would like to take on a leadership role within the parish, the Christopher Leadership Course in Effective Speaking can help. The course begins Tuesday evening, **February 12,** at McMaster University. To register or for information, please visit clchamilton.com or call Frank at 905-662-4076.



Upcoming Events

- Jan. 28 - 7:00 pm – Mat making session - CH
- Jan. 29 - 7:00 pm – Bible Study – CH
- Jan. 31 - 3:00 pm – K of C 7969 Pierogi's - GH
- Jan. 31 - 7:00 pm – RCIA program – SMR
- Feb. 1 - 7:00 pm – SFX Card Club – GH + SMR
- Feb. 1 - 6:30 pm – Digging Deeper – GH, CH

Thank you to all who support our Parish with their financial offerings – your contributions assist in the spiritual, pastoral and practical work of the Parish and the upkeep of St. Francis Xavier Church.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord



*"There is one sacred day that should not be lost in avalanche of the "winter holidays." **February 2** – the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – deserves more attention than just being the absolute final day for the Christmas decorations. After celebrating the Nativity of our Lord, with its splendor in both the Church and the popular culture, it would be easy for one's mind to drift and overlook the significance of the fortieth day after the Lord's birth. But we should look beyond our hustling to banish the decorations to the attic, the obsession over the days remaining in this strenuous winter, and endless chatter about Super Bowl Sunday. With Candlemas we celebrate the coming of the Light of the World."*

The Feast of the Presentation is called **Candlemas** for the traditional blessing and distribution of candles on that day. It is customary to bring candles from home to be blessed that one uses for devotional purposes, during the Sacrament of the Sick, and during times of trouble. In our parish, candles will be blessed at the beginning of daily Mass, **Saturday, February 2nd at 8:30 am.**

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating your **25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2019?** If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 9th,** at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 1:30 p.m. Go to www.hamiltondiocese.com or call the parish office to register by May 19.

Pierogi & Kielbasa Dinner & Take Out

Thursday, January 31, 3 pm to 7 pm. Adults: \$10. Children: (8 & under) \$6, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Bishop Ryan Assembly 868. All Welcome! Tickets available at door.

Memorial of St. Blaise

Saint Blaise's protection of those with throat troubles apparently comes from a legend that a boy was brought to him who had a fishbone stuck in his throat. The boy was about to die when Saint Blaise healed him. The blessing of throats will be offered after all Masses on **Sunday, February 3rd.** By offering this blessing we pray in a special way for protection from afflictions of the throat and from other illnesses. The blessing of Saint Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and the sick.



Serra Club of Hamilton Dinner

The 16th Annual Celebration of Priesthood & Consecrated Life Dinner to honour and express gratitude to our Priests who are celebrating their 50th Anniversary of ordination, and to our Consecrated men and women who are celebrating their 50th Anniversary of professing vows. Candidates who will be ordained to the priesthood and profess final vows in the year 2018 will also be in attendance. The Dinner takes place on **Tuesday April 30, at Liuna Station, 360 James N. Seating will be assigned on a first paid basis;** you are encouraged to register early. Call Margaret Carreiro at 905-628-5682 or check celebrationprl.wixsite.com/dinner.