

Dates	Time	Mass Intentions and Celebrations	Prayer Calendar
Monday, March 11 Leviticus 19.1-2, 11-18 Matthew 25.31-46	7:30 am	† Francesco & Rosaria Caponi	Rev. Edwin Lapinski
Tuesday, March 12 Isaiah 55.10-11 Matthew 6.7-15	7:30 am	† Gaspero & Gina DiAdamo	Rev. Patrick McKelvie
Wednesday, March 13 Jonah 3.1-10 Luke 11.29-32	7:30 am 6-6:45pm 7:00 pm	† Forester & Kehoe Families Sacrament of Reconciliation † Giovanni & Michela Liota † Alex Sekula † David Colterman † Domenico Pace † Quinto Sgreccia † Elizabeth & Jamie Ferreira Living & Deceased members of Kovac & Pavao Families	Legionaries of Christ
Thursday, March 14 Esther 14.1, 3-5, 12-14 Matthew 7.7-12	7:30 am 10:30 am	† Elena & Maria Bastani Mass at Clarion Nursing Home - † Emilio Pitoscia	Rev. David Mowat
Friday, March 15 Ezekiel 18.21-28 Matthew 5.20-26	7:30 am 8-9 am 4-5:50 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Special Intentions for Ron & Anita Taylor Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament , (Benediction at 9 am) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament , (Benediction at 5:50 pm) Evening Mass – † Agatha Carpino Stations of the Cross	Rev. Peter Pigott
Saturday, March 16 Deuteronomy 26.16-19 Matthew 5.43-48	8:30 am 4-5 pm 5:30 pm	† Manuel & Maria DeMedeiros Sacrament of Reconciliation † Virginia Allega-DiSanza † Giuseppina Fuca † Carmine Colalillo † Ferdinando Salvatori † Mario Granata † Lorenzo Farrauto † Alfonso Sgro † Raffaele Mascia † Maria Mendola † Dora Gallo † Blaz & Stanka Culig † David Colterman † Maria Soda Special Intentions for Frances Florio † Giulio Biagetti	Rev. Frank Reitzel
Sunday, March 17 Genesis 15.5-12, 17-18 Philippians 3.17-4. Luke 9.28b-36	9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	† Mario Granata † Vince Belletti † Salvatore Alf	



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



SSVP 2019 Soupfest

The Society of St. Vince de Paul at our parish is pleased to announce that our annual Soup Fest will be held on **Sunday March 24th** from **11:30 to 2 pm** in the parish centre. Sample the soups, vote and purchase your favourite soup for \$5.00 per bowl! Take out available. !! Who will dethrone last year's winner – Vince Barbera's Pasta e Fagioli? **Challengers welcome!** If you wish to submit a soup, please contact the office. *"Thank you for helping us serve in hope."*

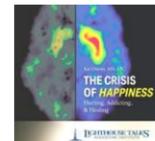
Discover the Riches of the Mass

As Catholics, the Mass is the center of our Faith. God, who loves us beyond comprehension, has chosen to give us His very Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. Few of us fully understand and truly appreciate what is actually happening during the celebration of the Mass and why. Join us as we explore the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and learn their profound significance. Prepare to receive and more deeply draw grace from God's ultimate gift to us every time you come to Mass. Five Sessions: **March 12 to April 9, 7 pm to 8:30 pm in the Chapel Hall.** (Small group discussion / light refreshments / 30 min. DVD). Cost \$28.35. **For information or to register:** email Vera: vfedorik@skylinc.net or call 905-561-9099.



Lighthouse CD of the Month
The Crisis of Happiness

When you hear the word "Addiction", what typically comes to mind? Needles? Alcohol? Pills? As Jim Owens, MA, LPC explains, addiction is much simpler, including everything from substances to technology, screen time, work, shopping, and even sugar. Addictions and distractions are used to manage pain—but in the process, end up damaging our brains, our relationships, and our ability to find lasting happiness. Jim gives scientific evidence and practical advice for overcoming wounds, to help hurt people become healed people. **This CD is available in the Lighthouse Media kiosk in the church Narthex.**



Youth Stations of the Cross

Each year on one of the Friday evenings of Lent, youth from the parish lead our parishioners in the Stations of the Cross, presented in the form of a tableau, with actors playing the roles of Jesus, Mary, the disciples, soldiers, and others that Jesus encountered along his journey to Calvary. Readers also have an important role and lead reflections on Jesus' experiences and how they relate to our own lives as we move from Station to Station. **Students in Gr. 7 - 12** are invited to sign up. Presentation: **Friday, April 19** at 7pm. There will be 3 rehearsals in preparation. (Sign-up form is on our parish website).



Months of preparations are leading us to the next step of the One Heart, One Soul Campaign for the Diocese of Hamilton. A public kickoff Mass will be held at noon on Monday, March 25, Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, and followed by a reception at the Cathedral. The campaign's Pilot Wave parishes will be holding kickoffs for their own efforts in April. Three additional waves over the next two years will allow every Parish in the Diocese to participate. Most of the funds from the three-year campaign will go to Parish projects, with a special emphasis on the Parishes most in need. A number of diocesan ministries will benefit as well. A series of Frequently Asked Questions about the campaign can be found on the campaign website – www.oneheartonesoul.ca.

Stress in Your Marriage?

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, frustrated or angry in their marriage. This program has helped countless couples experiencing marital difficulty. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on March 15, 2019, call 905-664-5212 or visit the website at www.retrouvaille.org.

Grief Relief

Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you wondering if these feelings are normal? You are not alone! "Grief Relief" – is a six week educational and support series dealing with grief, offered on Wednesdays, April 24 to May 29th at the Chancery Office, Hamilton, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Facilitator: Karen Hulley, RP. Cost is \$35. You are free to attend all sessions, or any one or more as you are able. To register call the Family Ministry Office: 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, or go to www.hamiltondiocese.com.

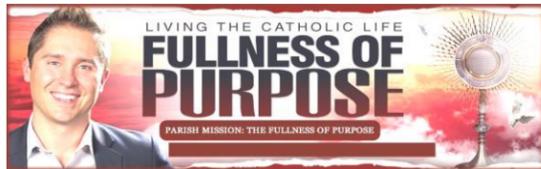
Are You Separated and/or Divorced?

Has a separation or divorce caused you to feel upset, or like you are on a roller coaster? Would you like to minimize the impact on yourself and feel stronger? LEARNING TO COPE (Level 1) is a ten week support program offered in both Hamilton and Kitchener starting Tuesday, March 19 and running from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. The locations are as follows: In Hamilton: At the Diocesan Chancery Office, 700 King St. W, Hamilton

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 12 – 7:00 pm – Bible Study – CH
- Mar. 12 – 7:00 pm – Finance Com. Mtg. - RCR
- Mar. 13 – 7:00 pm – HarmonKnights - SMR
- Mar. 13 – 7:00 pm – Parish Council Mtg. – SMR
- Mar. 14 – 7:00 pm – RCIA - SMR
- Mar. 15 – 7:10 pm – SFX Card Club – GH, SMR
- Mar. 16 – 6:30 pm – Digging Deeper - ROR

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.



Lenten Save the Date

Parish Mission: The Fullness of Purpose, April 7th & 8th at 7 pm. Could there be more to our faith experience, than what we have come to know? Dynamic speaker and author Ken Yasinski will be leading a 2 day parish mission here at St. Francis Xavier designed to help answer life's most meaningful questions: **1) Why have I been created? 2) Where is Joy found? 3) Does my Catholic faith matter?** This mission is Catholicism in everyday simple language that will make relevant the timeless truths of our faith. Come be inspired to live your full potential in life. Want a free introductory talk by Ken! Text the word FREETALK to 1-855-969-5300

"The Word Among Us"

The Word Among Us is a Catholic devotional magazine based on the Daily Mass Readings. It is intended to assist people in reading, meditating on, and understanding scripture to provide sound, practical advice for Catholics in living out the Christian life. For anyone who would like to read and reflect on daily Scripture readings, **the Lenten edition** is still available for you in the Narthex of the Church. A free will offering is accepted to cover booklet cost.



Feast of St. Joseph

Tuesday, **March 19**, at **6 pm** sharp. A meatless meal, (fish, pasta, salads, coffee and dessert). Bring pictures of loved ones, & statues you have of St. Joseph for the St. Joseph Table. Donations are also welcomed to defray our costs. Price **\$25 ea.** & only 150 tickets are available at the parish office. **Remember, tickets sell out quickly!**



Stations of the Cross

Praying the Way of the Cross as a devotion began in Jerusalem, with Christian pilgrims tracing the spots linked with the Passion and Death of Jesus. When travel to the Holy Land became difficult, churches began including fourteen stations on their walls where the faithful could make the "stations of the cross" spiritually. This devotion is intended to help us, Christ's followers, to join our own sufferings to His. Join us every Friday evening at **6:30pm** during Lent for Stations of the Cross, which will take place immediately after the evening Mass. **"There is no practice more profitable for the entire sanctification of the soul than the frequent meditation of the sufferings of Jesus Christ."** - St. Alphonsus de Liguori



CWL Spring Luncheon

CWL ladies. Join us for our **70th Anniversary CWL Spring Luncheon** to be held at Liuna Gardens on **Sunday, April 28, at 1 pm.** Tickets may be purchased from Josie Merolli (905-643-2970), Mickie Puglia (905-662-5304) or the Parish Office. Price is **\$35.** Plan on attending and invite a friend!



Alpha Course

Would you like to explore life, faith and God in a friendly, open and informal environment? St Francis Xavier Parish is going to be running the **Alpha Series** this spring. **What is Alpha?** Food has a way of bringing people together, it is no different with Alpha, all sessions start with food. **Talks** that are engaging and designed to inspire conversation around faith, beginning with the basics of Christianity, "Who is Jesus?", "Why do I pray?" and "How does God guide us?" **Discussions** are the sharing of thoughts and ideas without being corrected or judged. Alpha is being used by thousands of Catholic parishes in over 70 countries around the world. Join us Sunday nights from **March 17th to June 16th** starting time of 5 pm. If you are interested in attending or just have questions, please contact the Parish office and someone from the Alpha team will contact you.



Holy Hour of Prayer

Bishop Crosby decreed on January 4, 2019 that on the Second Sunday of Lent each year there is to be observed in every Parish in the Diocese of Hamilton a Holy Hour of Prayer for Victims of Sexual Abuse. At the Bishop's request the Holy Hour of Prayer for Victims of Sexual Abuse will take place this year on **Sunday March 17**, beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:30pm concluding with Benediction at 3:45. As a parish, we gather to pray for the healing of victims and their families and for an end to all abuse to those who are vulnerable.



THINKfast

THINKfast is a sleepover where participants learn about a particular social justice issue and spend 24 hours fasting from solid food as a reminder of those who are in need around the world. This year's focus is **forced migration and the refugee crisis.** Lots of fun and interactive activities. Come out for a fun and faith-filled experience and learn more about this important issue and how you can help! Age Group: Grade 5 and up, **Friday, March 22 (6pm) – Saturday, March 23 (7:30pm).** Cost: **\$20.** Registration deadline: **Mon., March 18.**



Effective Speaking

Christopher Leadership Course can help you whether you are afraid of public speaking or would you like to take on a leadership role within the parish. Course begins **Tuesday night, March 26**, at McMaster University. To register or for information, visit www.clchamilton.com or call 905-662-4076.



Questions of the Week

Theme: Lent is time to open our hearts more fully to Jesus.
Question for Children: When you feel tempted to do wrong, how do you remain strong in your faith?
Question for Youth: What is one thing you will do during Lent to become more open to God in your life?
Question for Adults: As you come to understand the temptation of Jesus in the desert, which one of the devil's offerings is hardest for you to resist?