




Dates	Time	Mass Intentions and Celebrations	Prayer Calendar
<b>Monday, March 9</b> Daniel 9.3, 4-10 Luke 6.36-38 <b>St. Francis of Rome, (OM)</b>	7:30 am	† Holy Souls in Purgatory	Rev. Francis Trzupek
<b>Tuesday, March 10</b> Isaiah 1.10, 16-20,-27-28, 31 Matthew 23.1-12	7:30 am	† Victor Philips	Rev. Edward Hampson
<b>Wednesday, March 11</b> Jeremiah 18.18-20 Matthew 20.17-28	9:15 am 6 - 6:45pm 7:00 pm	† Pat Viele <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> † Rosaria & Francesco Caponi † Maria Langeveld † Mario Gosgnach † Nella DiMario † Helene Savoie † Luigi Giammarco, Vito & Giuseppe Cuti	Lay Parish Ministers
<b>Thursday, March 12</b> Jeremiah 17.5-10 Like 16.19-31	7:30 am 10:30 am	† Vince Accard <b>Mass at Clarion Nursing Home</b> - † Rosina Zavarella	Rev. Franjo Sprajc
<b>Friday, March 13</b> Genesis 37.3-4, 12-13, 17-28 Matthew 21.33-43, 45-46	7:30 am 8 - 9 am 4:30 - 6:30pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	† Mike & Clara Barone <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> , (Benediction at 9 am) <b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> , (Benediction at 6:20 pm) <b>Evening Mass</b> - † Holy Souls in Purgatory Stations of the Cross - led by the Knights of Columbus	Rev. Peter Meyer
<b>Saturday, March 14</b> Micah 7.14-15, 18-20 Luke 15.1-3, 11-32	8:30 am 4 - 5 pm 5:30 pm	† Antonio LoPresti <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> † Giulio Biagetti † Martin Thien Phu Nguyen † Joey Go † Anna Fucciarelli † Giuseppina Fuca † Rodolfo Pellizzari † Cecylia Kulak † Salvina Chiarelli † Salvatore Cusimano † Giovanni Didiometti † Fiore & Peppina Vescio & Family † Gildo & Celestina Scattolon † Ralph Mascia † Lalia Piccoli In Honour of St. Joseph Intention for Sean Hayag	Rev. Donald Sanvido
<b>Sunday, March 15</b> Exodus 17.3-7 Romans 5.1-2, 5-8 John 4.5-15, 19-26, 39, 40-42	9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	† Antonio Amatucci † Maria Lengeveld Missa Pro Populo	

**"THE TIME OF PENANCE HAS COME, THE TIME TO ATONE FOR OUR SINS AND TO SEEK OUR SALVATION."**  
The Liturgy of the Hours

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

### Lighthouse CD of the Month

#### How to Love Yourself



The words that we speak to ourselves shape our self-perception; how we see ourselves, and how we act. Despite being told perhaps more than any other generation to love and believe in themselves, this generation struggles more than any other with anxiety, self-loathing, and low self-esteem. In this talk, speaker and author Chris Stefanick tackles the lies which hold us captive to these struggles, and boldly shares the Good News of Jesus Christ—that Love Himself has come to redeem us, and destined us for eternal glory. **This CD is available in the Lighthouse Media kiosk in the church Narthex.**

### Parenting Tip of The Month

Lent is an important time in the Church and a great time for parents to talk to their children about it. Lent began on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday, a six week period where we set aside time to reflect on Jesus' suffering and dying, which ultimately led to His Resurrection and eternal life for all who believe and live the faith. Lent is a time for fasting, prayer and reflecting on how much God loves us. Talk to your kids about Jesus and how he tried to change the world; work together as a family to better yourselves as His followers; consider giving something up for Lent and talk about how that small suffering can help relate to how Jesus suffered for everyone. Easter is a time of great celebration, use Lent to help your children understand why!

### Leadership Course in Effective Speaking

Whether you are afraid of public speaking or would you like to take on a leadership role within the parish, the **Christopher Leadership Course in Effective Speaking** can help. The next course begins **Tuesday evening, March 31**, at McMaster University in Hamilton. To register, or for more information, please visit [www.clchamilton.com](http://www.clchamilton.com) or call Frank at 905-662-4076.

### Youth-Led 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. The Youth Stations is 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. 6 - 12** are invited to sign up. Presentation: **Friday, April 10 (Good Friday)** at 7pm. There will be 3 rehearsals in preparation. (Sign-up forms are available at the letter trays in the narthex and on the youth ministry page of the parish website.



### Questions of the Week

**Theme:** Transfiguration - with the Spirit of Jesus living within us, we will be transformed. **Question for Children:** Share about a time when you felt especially close to God or Jesus. **Question for Youth:** Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience? **Question for Adults:** Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your neighborhood or community, who is waiting to hear the Good News?



### Bible Camp 2020

- save the dates! Bible Camp is offered each summer for students in Grades 2 - 5 (campers), Grades 6 - 7 (leaders-in-training) and Grade 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. This year's camp dates: **Week 1: July 6 - 10** and **Week 2: July 27 - 31**. Participants can choose **one** of two weeks to attend. *Registration forms and more information will be available after the March Break, so stay tuned!*



**This Lent, give from the heart.**

Share Lent 2020 Development and Peace Caritas Canada For our COMMON HOME

### Share Lent 2020

**Yesica: a voice that reverberates from the Amazon to the Synod.** Yesica Patiachi Tayori of the Peru's Harakbut Indigenous community was invited to the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon Region in October 2019. She said, "We, the Indigenous peoples, have been, are and will always be the guardians of the forest. But caring for our common home is everyone's responsibility, not just that of Indigenous peoples." On this **International Women's Day**, let us salute the courage of women like Yesica, who bravely lead the defence of the land, water and people. Watch Yesica's testimony at [devp.org/campaign/yesica](http://devp.org/campaign/yesica)



### Retrouvaille: A Lifeline for Marriages

So many couples struggle alone and confused with their difficulties. Retrouvaille has helped countless marriages and the chance to rediscover themselves, their spouse and restore a loving relationship in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend **March 13**. Call **905-664-5212** or email: [Teamrecine@gmail.com](mailto:Teamrecine@gmail.com) or visit [retrouvaille.org](http://retrouvaille.org).

### Prayers for the Deceased

In your charity, please remember in your prayers those who passed away from our parish community: **† Rosina Zavarella**. Also remember her family in your prayers. **Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.** Amen.



### SSVP Soup Fest

Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul is please to announce our Soup Fest to be held on **Sunday March 22** from 11:30 to 2:00 in the parish centre. Sample the soups, vote and purchase your favourite soup for **\$5.00** per bowl! Take out available. *"Thank you for helping us serve in hope."*

### CWL Spring Luncheon

CWL ladies. Join us for our **71st Anniversary** CWL Spring Luncheon to be held at Liuna Gardens on **Sunday, April 26, 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!



### 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. The devotion is intended to help us, Christ's followers, to join our own sufferings to His. **Join us every Friday evening at 7pm** during Lent for Stations of the Cross, which will take place immediately following the evening Mass on those days.

### Feast of St. Joseph

Thursday, **March 19**, at 6 pm sharp. A meatless meal, (fish, pasta, salad, coffee and dessert). Bring pictures o 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**. Tickets are available at the parish office. Please remember that **the deadline to purchase the tickets is this Wednesday, March 11**.



### Lenten Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word, Communion and Hospitality

Mr. David Dayler, Director of the Office for Discipleship & Parish Life for the Diocese of Hamilton will facilitate a Lenten day or reflection for all Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary ministers of Communion and Hospitality Ministers on **Saturday, March 14th** at St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Burlington and on Saturday, March 14th at St. Anthony Daniel Parish in Kitchener. Please check the Liturgy Webpage under Faith and Formation Events for more information. <https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/liturgy/formation-reflection-events.php>.



As we continue the season of Lent and journey towards Holy Week, we will hear and see many references to Good Friday and the story of Jesus' Passion. Would you like the opportunity to go deeper into this pivotal event in salvation history? You're warmly invited to **"No Greater Love"**, a 5-part video series written and presented by best-selling author Edward Sri. Filmed in the Holy Land, this series guides the way through the last hours of Christ's life and reveals his amazing love for us. Under the direction of Deacon John and Fr. Mariusz, our parish is offering **this study for the remaining 4 Sundays in March from 10am to 10:50am in the Chapel Hall. The next video is entitled: "The Trial before Pilate"**. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Mount of Calvary. Every step of the way, biblical experts reveal how Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. With these insights, Catholics can come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love - drawing closer to Jesus than they ever have before.

- ### Upcoming Events
- Mar. 9 - 7:00 pm - Finance Council Mtg. - RCR
  - Mar. 9 - 7:00 pm - Quest & Epic Groups - GH/CH
  - Mar. 10 - 7:00 pm - Bible Study - CH
  - Mar. 12 - 7:00 pm - RCIA program - SMR
  - Mar. 13 - 7:00 pm - SFX Card Club
  - Mar. 14 - 6:30 pm - Digging Deeper - ROR

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT OUR PARISH WITH THEIR OFFERINGS!**



**Statement from Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto  
re Introduction of Bill C-7  
(An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying))**

The federal government has introduced new legislation expanding the eligibility criteria for euthanasia. The inaccurate term, medical assistance in dying (MAiD), is currently used to describe what this law would allow, but this process is more accurately called euthanasia or assisted suicide. Pain medication and other resources and procedures can be used effectively to medically assist people who are dying, but that is not what MAiD means. It means giving a lethal injection to people who are not dying, so that they will die.

Those who oppose euthanasia expressed concern in 2016, when it was first legalized, that once the state legally provided death for some, it would only be a matter of time before the criteria for that would be expanded. This was dismissed as a slippery slope argument; we were told that “safeguards” would protect the most vulnerable. Now, less than four years later, we are far down the slope, and the criteria for euthanasia have been radically expanded.

There is no longer a requirement that the person receiving euthanasia be terminally ill. Under this legislation, any serious incurable illness, disease, or disability would render one eligible for euthanasia. Additionally, without any further study or direction from the courts, the new legislation would legalize euthanasia where consent is obtained by an advance directive. This is a new chapter of death on demand. Canada has cast aside restrictions at a far quicker pace than any other jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia.

As our legislators and country consider the legislation presented this week in Parliament, we should be mindful of the following:

- In 2016, the government indicated that before any new legislation would be introduced, there would be a thorough five-year review of the impact of euthanasia in Canada – no such review has taken place. Yet the government moves forward without such critical analysis, even though it is reported that since 2016 at least 13,000 people have died from lethal injection.
- Where is the political will to push forward on palliative care for all Canadians? Only 30 per cent of Canadians have access to quality palliative care even though we know that pain and loneliness are among the biggest fears of those who are suffering. Palliative care can address these issues. If all Canadians had access to quality palliative care, fewer would seek lethal injection. Instead of developing an overall culture of care, we are rushing towards death on demand. The same



doctors who are trying to care for their patients will now be called on to endorse euthanasia for them.

- Under the proposed legislation, disabled Canadians with no terminal illness will now be eligible for lethal injection. People with disabilities already face substantial challenges relating to employment, housing, appropriate medical care and support. Their lives matter. They should never be seen as a burden to our society. We should be alarmed that those who have struggled for decades to be treated with equality may well be pressured, whether from family, friends or even their own health care professionals, to “ease their burden” and end their lives. These people need assisted living, not assisted death.

I invite all Canadians concerned about this legislation to contact their Member of Parliament to voice their concerns. We should also take time to be truly present to those who may feel that they are on the margins in our community. Those who feel that their life no longer has value must be assured by all of us that this is absolutely not the case – there is dignity within each human life, not just when we are young, healthy and able, but even more so, when we are fragile and vulnerable.

It is up to every Canadian to foster a culture of care and love for one another. The answer is not assisted death in its many forms; it is accompanying our family, our friends and even strangers to assist them in life, recognizing the inherent dignity of every person.

Cardinal Thomas Collins  
Archbishop of Toronto  
February 25, 2020



## BISHOP OF HAMILTON

March 4, 2020

Dear Reverend Monsignor,  
Dear Reverend Father,

Recent news reports regarding the spread of the COVID-19 virus have prompted questions about various liturgical practices. I am happy to provide the following common-sense directives for our Diocese.

**Handwashing** – The advice of health care experts is that one of the most effective means to prevent the spread of viruses is frequent and complete handwashing. Parishes may wish to consider making hand sanitizers available to parishioners at the entrances of Churches, Halls and Parish Offices. Parish Priests and Pastoral Ministers may want to be especially attentive to regular handwashing, particularly between Masses or before and after visiting the sick.

**Sign of Peace** – There is no prescribed gesture for the Sign of Peace. Handshaking is not necessary. Pastors may advise their Parishioners to exchange the Sign of Peace with those near them by bowing and greeting with a simple “Peace to you.” The Sign of Peace is not to be omitted from the celebration of the Eucharist.

**Reception of Holy Communion** – The option to receive Holy Communion in the hand, or on the tongue, is up to the Communicant. During a viral outbreak people may wish to receive Holy Communion in the hand, but they are not to be denied if they choose to receive on the tongue. At this time there is no need to discontinue Communion on the tongue in the Diocese of Hamilton.

**Communion from the Chalice** – Holy Communion offered under both Species is a fuller sign of our faith in the Lord’s Eucharistic Presence. People who are sick with cold or flu, or other ailments should refrain from receiving from the Chalice. At this time, there is no need to discontinue Communion from the Chalice in the Diocese of Hamilton.

For those who bring Communion to the sick in Health Care Institutions, please follow the directions of the Institution you are visiting.

Further communication regarding the reception of Holy Communion may become necessary in the event of a major viral outbreak.

Let us be united in prayer for one another at the start of this Lenten Season. Let us pray also for all the sick, for their families and care-givers.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

*+ Douglas Crosby, OMI*

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.,  
Bishop of Hamilton

/cd