



St. Francis Xavier

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



FACEBOOK



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www.saintfxstoneycreek.com

WELCOME

To all who gather with us in prayer and worship this weekend; it is a blessing to have you here!

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Offered during 11:00 a.m. Mass
(Sept - June)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: 8:00 a.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m.

ADORATION (1 HOUR)

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

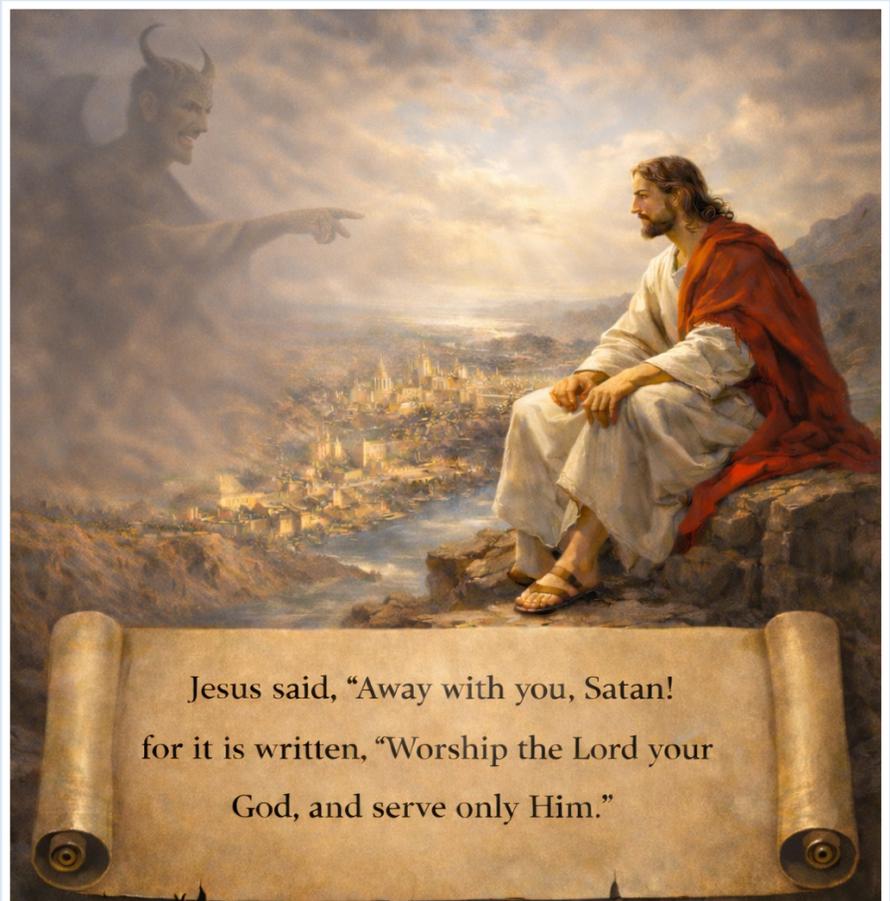
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
**Or by appointment*

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Ross Campbell	Pastor
Fr. Moices Caballero	Associate
Rev. Mr. Gian Girolami	Deacon
Mr. John Obinna Emelle	Seminarian
Mr. Stefano De Feo	Administrator
Ms. Wes Moga	Youth Minister
Mrs. Jean Goobie	Bookkeeper
Mr. Kieran McIsaac	Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
**Closed for Lunch: 12:00p.m. - 12:30p.m.*



Jesus said, "Away with you, Satan!
for it is written, "Worship the Lord your
God, and serve only Him."

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT February 21 & 22, 2026

PARISH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

St. Francis Xavier	(905) 523-2333
St. Martin of Tours	(905) 523-2334
St. Agnes	(905) 560-7616
St. Clare of Assisi	(905) 523-2344
Our Lady of Peace	(905) 523-2330

PARISH SECONDARY SCHOOL

St. John Henry Newman (905) 523-2314

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24	8:00AM
+ Aguinaldo (Aggie) Elias	
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25	8:00AM
+ Aleyamma Joseph	
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25	7:00PM
+ Luigi Cutillo	
+ All Holy Souls in Purgatory	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26	8:00AM
+ Thomas Curran Jr.	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27	8:00AM
- Intentions of Cristina & James Steeles & Family	

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28	5:30PM
+ Genovefa Kulak	
+ Domenico Albini	
+ Osvaldo DiBacco	
+ Teresa Balestra	
+ Deceased Members of Tarcisio Reginato Family	
+ Deceased Members of Redenta Massignani Family	
+ Emanuele Centofanti	
+ Dino Menegazzo	
+ Allen Stephen McChesney	
+ Pasquale Bagnoli	
+ Maria Luisa Pelosi	
+ Salvatrice Salemi	
- In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered	
- Special Intentions of Mike Boucher	
SUNDAY, MARCH 1	9:00AM
+ Biagio & Anna Di Giovanni	
SUNDAY, MARCH 1	11:00AM
- Mass for the Parishioners	

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Welcomes YOU!

Whether you are new to our parish, or have been with us for many years, your presence leaves a unique mark on the life of our church. As your Pastor, I am excited you are with us today to build an even stronger parish community now and into the future.



Fr. Ross Campbell

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW MUCH TO DONATE?

Historically, Catholic tithing involved offering **10%** of one's income to support the Church and its community. While this is no longer a strict requirement, the table below provides a helpful guideline for considering your contribution to meet the Church's current needs, including paying down our loan and funding the Bell Tower project.

A tax-deductible receipt will be provided for your donation.

<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>% Range</u>	<u>Per Sunday</u>	<u>Annual Contribution</u>
\$20,000	2-4%	\$7.50 - \$15	\$400 - \$800
\$30,000	2-4%	\$11 - \$22	\$600 - \$1,200
\$40,000	2-4%	\$15 - \$30	\$800 - \$1,600
\$50,000	2-4%	\$18.50 - \$37	\$1,000 - \$2,000
\$60,000	2-4%	\$22 - \$44	\$1,200 - \$2,400
\$80,000	2-4%	\$30 - \$60	\$1,600 - \$3,200

OFFERTORY

Envelope Contributions	\$ 5,829.00
Loose Collection	\$ 642.35
Online Donations	\$ 1,741.95
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$ 8,213.30

Thank You!

REMEMBER YOUR PARISH Keep your love for your parish alive. Remember St. Francis Xavier Parish in your will and when recommending expressions of sympathy.

FEBRUARY 21 & 22, 2026

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Leviticus 19.1-2, 11-18; Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 14;
Matthew 25.31-46

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Isaiah 55.10-11; Psalm 34.3-4, 5-6, 15-16, 17-18;
Matthew 6.7-15

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Jonah 3.1-10; Psalm 51.1-2, 10-11, 16-17;
Luke 11.29-32

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Esther 14.1, 3-5, 12-14; Psalm 138.1-3, 7-8;
Matthew 7.7-12

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Ezekiel 18.21-28; Psalm 130.1-2, 3-4, 5-6;
Matthew 5.20-26

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Deuteronomy 26.16-19; Psalm 119.1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
Matthew 5.43-48

SUNDAY, MARCH 1—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 12.1-4; Psalm 33.4-5, 18-19, 20+22;
2 Timothy 1.8-10; Matthew 17.1-9

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday - 24th	8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Card Club
Wednesday - 25th	8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Mass 7:45 pm - Cooking Class
Thursday - 26th	8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - St. Francis Xavier First Confessions 7:00 pm - Bible Study
Friday - 27th	8:00 am - Mass 8:30 am - Adoration 7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross
Saturday - 28th	4:00 pm - Youth Choir Practice 4:30 pm - Confessions 5:30 pm - Mass
Sunday - 1st	9:00 am - Mass 11:00 am - Mass

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday	Rev. Joonbin Lim
Tuesday	Rev. Ralph Diodati
Wednesday	Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, R.S.C.J
Thursday	Rev. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.
Friday	Rev. Kevin Upendran
Saturday	Rev. Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.

2025 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Income Tax Receipts can be picked up in the office.



To receive your receipt via email, please send a request to us including your name, envelope number and home address.

RETRouvaille MARCH 13-15, 2025

Retrouvaille is a marriage program that helps couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. Retrouvaille helps to improve communication, build stronger marriages and helps couples to reconnect.

For more information call 905-664-5212 or email: 1013r@helpourmarriage.org.

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your:
25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+
Wedding Anniversary
in the year 2026?



If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, May 31, 2026** at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance).

Registration is now available online at
hamiltondiocese.com.

EASTER FLOWERS DONATION 2026

Your Name:

Your Phone Number:

Your Address:

In Loving Memory of:

OR

In Honour of:

Amount of Donation

\$

Envelope Number:

The names of those whom your donation is being made “In Loving Memory of” or “In Honour of” will appear in the **Easter Bulletin**.

Please place this form and your cash donation in a sealed envelope marked “Easter Flowers” and place in the collection basket at Mass OR you can drop it off at the office.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH PAINT NIGHT

Come out and enjoy a fun, relaxed evening of canvas painting as you create your own masterpiece to take home! Guided instructions will be provided by artist Christina P.

No previous painting experience is required.

Our Paint Evening is:

When: Wednesday March 4

Where: Parish Centre

Start Time: 7:30pm following the evening Mass

Length: 2 hours

Cost: \$50.00 per person

Everything is Provided!

Please call the office at **905-662-8593** to register and pay at the office by:

Friday February 27

Join us for a fun filled evening of painting!
Refreshments will be provided.



THINKFAST SOCIAL JUSTICE RETREAT DAY (GRADE 5 AND UP)

THINKfast is our parish's annual social justice event for youth, which aims to help students learn more about issues facing the world's poor and what we can do to make a difference from here in Canada.



This year's theme is "Nourish the North". Through games, simulation activities, videos, conversations, and prayer, we will explore the issues of hunger and food insecurity and take a closer look at how they impact the daily lives of our brothers and sisters around the world, including in the Canadian north. We hope to grow in our understanding of what it is like to live with these struggles and see how our faith calls us to respond.

Participants will also abstain from solid foods while they are at THINKfast as a reminder of those who must go without their basic needs every day and to join with them in solidarity.

DATE: Saturday, March 7 from 9:00am-8:00pm

WHERE: St. Francis Xavier Parish Centre

COST: \$20 for students (\$10 for those in Grade 10 and up who would like to help as leaders)

If you would like to sign up, please visit the Youth Ministry page of the parish website to complete the online registration form by Tuesday, March 3 and bring your payment to the parish office to secure your spot.

2026 SUMMER CAMPS SAVE THE DATES!



This year we are once again looking forward to offering several weeks of summer camp for students!

Bible Camp (for students who are currently in Grades 2-5):

Week 1: July 13—17 from 9:00am-3:00pm

Week 2: July 27—31 from 9:00am-3:00pm

Students currently in Grade 9 can apply to be leaders -in-training, and students currently in Grade 10 and up can apply to be leaders!

Service Camp (for students who are currently in Grades 6-8):

August 10-14 from 9:00am-4:00pm

Registration forms with more details about this year's themes and plans will be available after the March Break - stay tuned!

YOUTH LED STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each year our young people lead the Stations of the Cross for the parish community in the form of a tableaux with prayers, reflections, and music.

Students in Grades 7-12 are invited to sign up as actors and readers! Please consider offering the gifts of your time and talent to help us commemorate the Passion and death of our Lord.

Rehearsals: (attendance at all 3 is important)

- Sunday, February 22 from 6:30-8:30pm
- Sunday, March 1 from 6:30-8:30pm
- Sunday, March 8 from 6:30-8:30pm

Date of Stations: Friday, March 13 at 7:00pm

If you would like to sign up, please visit the Youth Ministry page of the parish website to complete the online



A Helpful Guide for a Fruitful and Faithful Lent

Lent is a sacred season of grace — forty days given to us by the Church to return to the Lord with all our hearts. It is not merely about “giving something up,” but about drawing closer to Jesus Christ through prayer, repentance, sacrifice, and charity. When embraced intentionally, Lent becomes a powerful tool for spiritual renewal.

Below is a practical guide to help make this Lent prayerful, focused, and spiritually fruitful.

1. BEGIN WITH A CLEAR INTENTION

Before choosing what to “do” for Lent, ask:

- Where is God inviting me to grow?
- What habit most weakens my spiritual life?
- What practice would help me love God and others more?

Lent is most successful when it is specific and intentional. Rather than vague goals (“pray more”), choose concrete ones (“pray 10 minutes each morning with Scripture”).

2. DEEPEN YOUR PRAYER LIFE

Prayer is the foundation of Lent. Without it, fasting becomes dieting and almsgiving becomes philanthropy.

Consider:

- Daily Mass once a week in addition to Sunday
- Spending 10–15 minutes a day with Scripture (perhaps the daily Gospel)
- Praying the Rosary regularly
- Making a weekly Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament
- Attending Stations of the Cross on Fridays

If your prayer life has been inconsistent, start small — consistency matters more than intensity.

3. EMBRACE MEANINGFUL FASTING

Fasting trains the heart in discipline and reminds us that God alone satisfies.

The Church calls us to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent. Beyond this, consider:

- Fasting from social media
- Reducing screen time
- Giving up unnecessary snacking
- Fasting from complaining or negative speech

True fasting should create space — space for prayer, for silence, for charity.

4. PRACTICE GENEROUS ALMSGIVING

Almsgiving is not only financial. It is any act of self-giving love.

Ways to grow in charity:

- Support a local or international charity
- Visit or call someone who is lonely
- Volunteer within the parish
- Offer forgiveness where it is needed
- Perform hidden acts of kindness

Lent teaches us that love must be concrete.

5. GO TO CONFESSION

A successful Lent always includes the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is not a sign of failure, but of courage and trust in God’s mercy.

Plan ahead. Mark a date on your calendar. Prepare with an examination of conscience. Allow the Lord to renew your heart.

6. SIMPLIFY AND CREATE SILENCE

Lent invites us to quiet the noise of our lives.

Consider:

- Turning off music in the car and driving in silence
- Putting the phone away during meals
- Creating a small prayer corner at home
- Reading a spiritual book instead of scrolling

Silence helps us hear the voice of God more clearly.

7. KEEP YOUR EYES ON EASTER

Lent is not meant to leave us discouraged. It leads to joy. Every sacrifice, every prayer, every hidden act of love prepares our hearts for the Resurrection.

If you falter, begin again. The Lord is patient. The goal of Lent is not perfection, but conversion.

A SIMPLE LENTEN PLAN

To make this practical, choose:

- One prayer commitment
- One fasting discipline
- One act of charity
- One date for Confession

Write them down. Keep them visible. Revisit them weekly.

May this Lent be a time of renewal for our parish family — a season where we return to the Lord with deeper faith, stronger discipline, and greater love. If we enter Lent with sincerity, Easter will not simply be a celebration on the calendar, but a resurrection within our hearts.

Let us walk this journey together.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Way of the Cross, also known as the Stations of the Cross, are a way to pray and meditate on Christ's sacrifice for us. It is divided into fourteen stations from the time He was condemned to His burial.

7 BENEFITS OF PRAYING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

1. It gives us a way to make a spiritual pilgrimage.
2. We can gain a plenary indulgence to shorten our time in Purgatory.
3. Praying the Stations of the Cross helps inspire deep prayer.
4. We can look at suffering from a different perspective.
5. Praying this devotion helps us grow in our love for God.
6. Praying the stations helps us to become holy.
7. We learn to hope in the promise of salvation.

Join us in praying the Stations of the Cross every
Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm



Society of
Saint Vincent de Paul
Hamilton, Ontario

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Members of our Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Francis Xavier are taking part in the Coldest Night of the Year – a wintery, family friendly fundraising walk in support of those who are hungry, hurting and homeless in Hamilton. Funds go to Hamilton's Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Please consider joining our team or sponsoring one of our walkers. To donate or register visit:
<https://secure.e2rm.com/registantTeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1041728>

You can also watch a short promo video at:
youtube.com/watch?v=-oBVKaWT5Z4

Thank you for helping us serve in hope.

WELCOME KIERAN

We are delighted to welcome Kieran as our new custodian! We are grateful for his willingness to serve our parish community and to care for our church with dedication and pride. His work helps ensure that our parish remains a welcoming, clean, and safe place for worship, fellowship, and prayer.

Please join us in offering Kieran a warm welcome and keep him in your prayers as he begins this new role among us. We are thankful to have him as part of our parish family!



HEARING A CALL TO A VOCATION
TO SERVE THE CHURCH?

Contact Rev. Mark Morley at:

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

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Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club



Soccer Programs For Our Community

Programs Available:

Youth Recreational, Youth Advanced Development, Youth Competitive,
Adult Recreational and Competitive, Special Needs Programs

Summer and Fall Outdoor Programs:

Locations: Lower and Upper Stoney Creek
Sherwood Park or Heritage Green Park

Winter Indoor Programs:

United Sports Centre



www.saltfleetstoneycreekscc.ca

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