



St. Francis Xavier

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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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. 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.*



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 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

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, MARCH 24 + Tom Flanagan	8:00AM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 - Intentions of Nikolas & Emily	8:00AM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 + Luigi Ciprietti	7:00PM
THURSDAY, MARCH 26 + Branka Cepo	8:00AM
FRIDAY, MARCH 27 + Jose & Maria Tavares	8:00AM

PALM SUNDAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 + Edmund Kulak + Osvaldo Di Bacco + Giovanna Lo Presti + Claire Coutou + Harrie Snooren + Liberata Continelli + Giuseppe Romano + Ugo Napoleone + Joe Garofoli & Family + Nicola Racaniello + Michael Rataich + Frank Santo Liota + Gaspare Cino + Adelina Di Croce + Angelo Giglia + Luigi Ciprietti + Archangelo Marzilli + Angelo Trombetta - Special Intentions for Steve & Krystyna Macanowicz - In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered - Special Intentions for Ettore Cianfrini (100th Birthday)	5:30PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 29 + Nazareno Mammone	9:00AM
SUNDAY, MARCH 29 - Mass for the Parishioners	11:00AM

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	\$ 5,089.00
Loose Collection	\$ 768.00
Online Donations	\$ 1,614.88
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$ 7,471.88

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.

MARCH 21 & 22, 2026

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Daniel 13.1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-64; Psalm 23.1-4, 5, 6;
John 8.1-11

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Numbers 21.4-9; Psalm 102.1-2, 15-17, 18-20;
John 8.21-30

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25—ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10; Psalm 40.6, 7-8, 9, 10;
Hebrews 10.4-10; Luke 1.26-38

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Genesis 17.3-9; Psalm 105.4-5, 6-7, 8-9;
John 8.51-59

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Jeremiah 20.7, 10-13; Psalm 18.1-3, 4-5, 6;
John 10.31-42

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Ezekiel 37.21-28; Jeremiah 31.10, 11-12, 13;
John 11.45-56

SUNDAY, MARCH 29—PALM SUNDAY

Isaiah 50.4-7; Psalm 22.7-8, 16-17, 18-19, 22-23;
Philippians 2.6-11; Matthew 26.14—27.66

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.



**HEARING A CALL TO A VOCATION
TO SERVE THE CHURCH?**

Contact Rev. Mark Morley at:

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Tuesday - 24th	8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Card Club
Wednesday - 25th	8:00 am - Mass 7:00 pm - Mass
Thursday - 26th	8:00 am - Mass 3:00 pm - Pierogi Dinner
Friday - 27th	8:00 am - Mass 8:30 am - Adoration 7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross
Saturday - 28th	9:00 am - Easter Egg Hunt 4:00 pm - Youth Choir Practice 4:30 pm - Confessions 5:30 pm - Mass
Sunday - 29th	9:00 am - Mass 11:00 am - Mass

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday	Rev. Zygmunt Baranowski
Tuesday	Most Rev. Matthew Ustrzycki
Wednesday	The Annunciation of the Lord
Thursday	Rev. Lajos Angyal
Friday	Rev. Joseph Durkacz
Saturday	Rev. Tomy Chittinapilly

COVERING OF CROSSES & IMAGES

Crosses and images in the church are now veiled. What is the reason for this? The veiling of crosses and images is a sort of “fasting” from sacred depictions which represent the paschal glory of our salvation. Just as the Lenten fast concludes with the Paschal feast, so too our fasting from the cross culminates in an adoration of the holy wood on which the sacrifice of Calvary was offered for our sins. Likewise, a fasting from the glorious images of the mysteries of faith and the saints in glory culminates on the Easter night with a renewed appreciation of the glorious victory won by Christ, risen from the tomb to win for us eternal life.



PONTIFICAL COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN THE HOLY LAND ON GOOD FRIDAY

The annual Good Friday Collection is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world. The collection helps the Church of the Holy Land to maintain Christian sites, so important for Christians everywhere, and to provide pastoral, educational and social works among the small Christian population.

The Church and our Christian brothers and sisters count on your help to retain a faith filled presence in this land of our Lord. Please give generously during our parish's Good Friday celebrations on April 3, 2026.

If you are unable to attend the service, it is possible to contribute online by going to Commissariat.ca/supporting-us and donating via CanadaHelps or Interac e-transfer. Receipts will be issued.

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!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday - April 2, 2026

NO MORNING MASS AT 8:00 AM

7:00 pm Mass - Intentions for the parishioners

8:00 -10:00 pm Adoration

Good Friday - April 3, 2026

11:00 am Good Friday Service

3:00 pm Good Friday Service

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday - April 4, 2026

11:00 am Blessing of the Easter Food

EASTER VIGIL

Holy Saturday - April 4, 2026

8:00 pm Mass - Intentions for the parishioners

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday - April 5, 2025

8:00 am Mass - Intentions for the parishioners

10:00 am Mass - Intentions for the parishioners

12:00 pm Mass - Intentions for the parishioners

NOVENA FOR THE UNBORN

As we approach the Feast of the Annunciation, how can you say YES to life like Mary did? This year let's all pray this novena - Spiritual Adoption of an Unborn Child (by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen).

The prayers are said for nine months – from March 25 thru December 25.

*Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of
the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted
who is in danger of abortion.*

Pray one decade of the Rosary

*Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn,
pray for us. Amen*

For more information on how you can help with pro-life issues, visit our website Hamiltonrighttolife.org or contact us at 905-528-3065.

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! Local artist, Cristina Palermo will provide guided instructions.

No previous painting experience is required.

Our Paint Evening is:

When: Wednesday May 6
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 May 1

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



BIBLE STUDY ANNOUNCEMENT



Join us for a new Bible Study: **WISDOM – GOD’S VISION FOR LIFE.**

Seek Wisdom and Increase Your Sense of Peace and find God’s Vision for a practical way to live your life.

Scripture and the Tradition of the Catholic Church provide an abundance of wisdom, though it can often be challenging to apply it to our lives. **In this study, Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith examine biblical wisdom as it relates to daily life.** Drawing on the wisdom literature of the Bible—

Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach, and Ecclesiastes—Wisdom will **teach you how to actively seek out sound guidance and increase your sense of peace in navigating life.** In everything from friendships to finances, from making decisions to attaining peace of mind, Scripture offers a vision for happiness and well being. **With this program, you will learn how to gather, gain, and grow in wisdom, and you will experience the joy it brings to your life.**

WHEN: Thursday evenings – Nine (9) weeks
Beginning April 09 and concluding on June 04, 2026
TIME: 7:00pm – approx. 8:30pm
WHERE: St. Francis Xavier Chapel Hall
COST: \$28 for the workbook/journal

To register for this Study or if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Marianne at BiblestudySFX@gmail.com; or by phone 905-870-6554. To help determine numbers, if possible, **please register by Wednesday, April 08th, but its never to late to join us on this beautiful study.**

Join us and bring a friend; everyone is welcome!!

Help Not Harm

We invite the Catholic community to respectfully contact their local Member of Parliament (MP), requesting their support of a Private Members' Bill (**C-218, The Right to Recover Act – an act to amend the Criminal code – Medical Assistance in Dying**) currently before the Parliament of Canada.

What is Bill C-218? Bill C-218 amends the Criminal Code to make it illegal to provide Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) to individuals whose sole underlying condition is a mental illness. It recognizes the importance of Canadians to recover from mental illness and ensures help can be offered, not harm.

WHY IT MATTERS:

- **Every life is precious.** As Catholics, we believe in the sanctity of every human life, from the moment of conception to natural death.
- **A desire to die can be a symptom of illness.** Suicidal thoughts are frequently part of mental illness itself, raising serious concerns about whether consent can ever be truly free and informed.
- **Mental illness is often treatable.** Many mental health conditions improve over time with proper care, therapy, medication, and support. Recovery remains possible, even after long periods of suffering.
- **Gaps in mental health care remain unresolved.** Long wait times, limited access to psychiatrists, and uneven mental health services mean some may seek to end their life due to system failure, not medical necessity.
- **There is an increased risk to vulnerable Canadians.** Individuals navigating mental health challenges are more likely to experience poverty, trauma, isolation, disability, or lack of access to care—factors that may pressure individuals toward assisted suicide.

BACKGROUND ON BILL C-218

What is a Private Members' Bill?

A Private Members' Bill is a piece of legislation introduced in Parliament by a Member of Parliament (MP) or Senator who is not a Cabinet Minister, Parliamentary Secretary, or Speaker. These bills allow individual legislators to propose new laws, or amend existing ones, typically focusing on public policy issues. Bill C-218 has been introduced by the Conservative Party of Canada Member of Parliament for Cloverdale-Langley City, British Columbia, Tamara Jansen.

To pass, this legislation will require support from more than one political party. We believe that many MPs are uncomfortable with the rapid expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) in Canada and in particular, the possibility that MAiD will be offered for those whose primary underlying condition is mental illness. We are asking MPs to vote their conscience, regardless of party affiliation.

The difference in passing this Private Members' Bill could be just a few votes in the House of Commons. It is critical that constituents contact their Member of Parliament asking them to support Bill C-218. If the legislation does not pass, as of March 17, 2027, new laws will take effect to allow MAiD for those whose sole underlying condition is mental illness.

TAKE ACTION AT HelpNotHarmCanada.ca TODAY!

The Bill is scheduled for second reading in early April 2026 with a vote on the legislation expected by mid-April 2026. Please visit HelpNotHarmCanada.ca today where you can send an e-mail directly to your local Member of Parliament in less than 3 minutes. If the legislation does not pass, as of March 17, 2027, new laws will take effect to allow MAiD for those whose sole underlying condition is mental illness.

Chances are, you know someone suffering from mental illness. In any given year, 1 in 5 Canadians experience a mental illness. It may be a relative, friend or colleague. As Catholics and Canadians, we have a responsibility to offer care, hope and protection NOT death for those close to us and those most vulnerable who are suffering.

Visit HelpNotHarmCanada.ca today and ask your MP to support Bill C-218.



SCAN ME

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 bring your form and donation to the Office no later than **Friday March 27 @ 4:00 pm** if you want the names to appear in the Easter Bulletin. We cannot guarantee that there will be time to include your intentions if your form is received past this date.



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**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 7969

PIEROGI DINNER TAKE OUT ONLY

Thursday, March 26, 2026
3:00 P.M. To 6:00 P.M.

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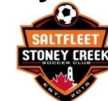
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