

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 8, 2023

For St. Matthew, the story of the Magi becomes an anticipation of the fate of the Good News of salvation, a fate that he knew in the aftermath of the resurrection. God revealed Himself to the Jews through the Scriptures and to the Gentiles through nature. Hence, St. Matthew shows the Magi (who were Gentiles) receiving a revelation through astrology. The story highlights the paradox: the Jews who have the Scriptures reject Jesus, while Gentiles come and, with the help of the Scriptures, find and adore Him. There is nothing to be gained by speculating where the Magi came from and what exactly the star was. The star was only the means by which a great mystery was revealed – the revelation of Christ as the Saviour of the whole world. The Second Reading expresses the theological meaning of today’s feast: God invites Jew and Gentiles to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 8 th <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, January 9 th <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, January 10 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm	+ <i>Rita Black</i>	By Angela Voisin-Smydo
Wednesday, January 11 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Clara Herteis</i> + <i>Margaret Karley (Linwood)</i>	By the Estate By the Estate
Thursday, January 12 th <i>St. Marguerite Bourgeoys</i>	8 am	+ <i>William Haffner</i>	By Mary + family
Friday, January 13 th <i>St. Hilary</i>	8 am	<i>All Souls in Purgatory</i>	By Anonymous
Saturday, January 14 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Joseph Strauss</i>	By Dianne Strauss
Sunday, January 15 th <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	

Our Saint of the Week: St. Hilary (315-368) – this staunch defender of the divinity of Christ was a gentle and courteous man, devoted to writing some of the greatest theology on the Trinity, and was like his Master in being labeled a “disturber of the peace.” In a very troubled period in the Church, his holiness was lived out in both scholarship and controversy. He was bishop of Poitiers in France. Raised a pagan, he was converted to Christianity when he met his God of nature in the Scriptures. His wife was still living when he was chosen, against his will, to be the bishop of Poitiers in France. He was soon taken up with battling what became the scourge of the fourth century, Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ. The heresy spread rapidly. Saint Jerome said “The world groaned and marveled to find that it was Arian.” When Emperor Constantius ordered all the bishops of the West to sign a condemnation of Athanasius, the great defender of the faith in the East, Hilary refused and was banished from France to far off Phrygia. Eventually he was called the “Athanasius of the West.” While writing in exile, he was invited by some semi-Arians (hoping for reconciliation) to a council the emperor called to counteract the Council of Nicea. But Hilary predictably defended the Church, and when he sought public debate with the heretical bishop who had exiled him, the Arians, dreading the meeting and its outcome, pleaded with

the emperor to send this troublemaker back home. Hilary was welcomed by his people. Christ said His coming would bring not peace but a sword. The Gospels offer no support for us if we fantasize about a sunlit holiness that knows no problems. Christ did *not* escape at the last moment, though he did live happily ever after—after a life of controversy, problems, pain, and frustration. St. Hilary, like all saints, simply had more of the same. St. Hilary pray for us!

KW RIGHT TO LIFE - Saturday, January 28, 2023 Candlelight Prayer Vigil in front of City Hall (skating rink). 6:00pm for 1 hour, Kitchener City Hall 200 King St. W. As well, join us on Sunday, January 29, 2023 at St. Boniface, Maryhill, for Rosary for Life after the 10:00 am Mass.

MASTERING YOUR MONEY: A Financial Wellness Presentation for the Diocese of Hamilton - Financial worries are the top source of stress for all Canadians, ranking above work concerns, health worries and even relationship struggles. The need for financial literacy has never been more pressing. Join us for this special zoom session on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 from 7-8:30 p.m., presented by Mr. Fred Masters, President & Founder of Masters Money Management Inc., and the author of the critically-acclaimed new book 'Lessons on Mastering Money'. He has delivered dozens and dozens of personal financial literacy presentations and is a sought-after media commentator on financial literacy. This is a free virtual event, but you must register at www.hamiltondiocese.com under Upcoming events, or call 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, to receive the Zoom link.

REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL – Join us for a special discussion and film screening to raise awareness and understanding of Indigenous Reconciliation, January 26, 2023 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM . The film Doctrine of Discovery, Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts is a challenging, truthful documentary, meant to educate people about the historic policy, which established a justification for colonization and seizure of land. The legacy of the Doctrine and the impact on the current state of Indigenous affairs is discussed. Understanding the Doctrine of Discovery and its manifestations are important as we strive for reconciliation. Special discussion following the screening with Rev. Val Kerr, Indigenous Elder, and former Archdeacon for Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Ministry for the Anglican Diocese of Niagara, Sarah Guinta, Coordinator Office of Justice and Peace, Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton, and Christina Mines, Director of Evangelization and Catechesis, Diocese of Hamilton. The screening and discussion will be hosted online. R.S.V.P. and view our full schedule of events at: <https://reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com/> A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the Reel Justice Film Festival shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustice.

VOCATION SEEDS – “On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ’s name? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister or consecrated virgin, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto, C.S.Sp., Sisters of St. John the Baptist (C.S.J.B.), Rev. Allen Varlaki, Rev. Jerzy Tomon, & Rev. Aurimas Paulius Rudinkas.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION – St. Clements: Operating: Dec. 25 \$6,417.00. New Year’s Day \$1465.00, Sunday Jan. 1 \$2,140. Thank you for your generosity!