

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

January 1, 2023

The Second Vatican Council taught that Mary: "..., a daughter of Adam, consenting to the divine Word, became the mother of Jesus, the one and only Mediator. Embracing God's salvific will with a full heart and impeded by no sin, she devoted herself totally as a handmaid of the Lord to the person and work of her Son, under Him and with Him, by the grace of almighty God, serving the mystery of redemption. Rightly therefore the holy Fathers see her as used by God not merely in a passive way, but as freely cooperating in the work of human salvation through faith and obedience. For, as St. Irenaeus says, she 'being obedient, became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race.'" (Lumen Gentium, 56).

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 1 st <i>BVM – Holy Mother of God</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, January 2 nd <i>St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, January 3 rd <i>Holy Name of Jesus</i>	12 pm	+ <i>Leonard Hergott</i>	By Frances Hergott
Wednesday, January 4 th <i>Christmas</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Daniel & Lucille Kelley (Linwood) Intentions of John & Dorothy Dario</i>	By The Estate By Chris & Barb Runstedler
Thursday, January 5 th <i>Christmas</i>	8 am	+ <i>Annunziata Boccanfuso</i>	By Peter & Ornella Miller & family
Friday, January 6 th <i>Christmas</i>	8 am	+ <i>John Gray</i>	By The Estate
Saturday, January 7 th <i>St. André Bessette</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Evelyn Kuntz</i>	By Bertha & Michael Hehn & family
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>	

Our Saint of the Week: St. André Bessette (1845-1937) – Brother André expressed a saint's faith by a lifelong devotion to Saint Joseph. Sickness and weakness dogged André from birth. He was the eighth of 12 children born to a French-Canadian couple near Montreal. Adopted at 12, when both parents had died, he became a farmhand. Various trades followed: shoemaker, baker, blacksmith—all failures. He was a factory worker in the United States during the boom times of the Civil War. At 25, André applied for entrance into the Congregation of Holy Cross. After a year's novitiate, he was not admitted because of his weak health. But with an extension and the urging of Bishop Bourget, he was finally received. He was given the humble job of doorkeeper at Notre Dame College in Montreal, with additional duties as sacristan, laundry worker and messenger. "When I joined this community, the superiors showed me the door, and I remained 40 years," he said. In his little room near the door, he spent much of the night on his knees. On his windowsill, facing Mount Royal, was a small statue of Saint Joseph, to whom he had

been devoted since childhood. When asked about it he said, "Some day, Saint Joseph is going to be honored in a very special way on Mount Royal!" When he heard someone was ill, he visited to bring cheer and to pray with the sick person. He would rub the sick person lightly with oil taken from a lamp burning in the college chapel. Word of healing powers began to spread. When an epidemic broke out at a nearby college, André volunteered to nurse. Not one person died. The trickle of sick people to his door became a flood. His superiors were uneasy; diocesan authorities were suspicious; doctors called him a quack. "I do not cure," he said again and again. "Saint Joseph cures." In the end he needed four secretaries to handle the 80,000 letters he received each year. For many years the Holy Cross authorities had tried to buy land on Mount Royal. Brother André and others climbed the steep hill and planted medals of Saint Joseph. Suddenly, the owners yielded. André collected \$200 to build a small chapel and began receiving visitors there—smiling through long hours of listening, applying Saint Joseph's oil. Some were cured, some not. The pile of crutches, canes and braces grew. The chapel also grew. By 1931, there were gleaming walls, but money ran out. "Put a statue of Saint Joseph in the middle. If he wants a roof over his head, he'll get it." The magnificent Oratory on Mount Royal took 50 years to build. The sickly boy who could not hold a job died at 92. He is buried at the Oratory. He was beatified in 1982 and canonized in 2010. At his canonization in October 2010, Pope Benedict XVI said that Saint André "lived the beatitude of the pure of heart." St. André pray for us!

WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISING DINNER – A Taste of Portugal - The Diocesan WYD Planning Team warmly invites you to join us for A Taste of Portugal, a fundraising dinner in support of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to WYD Lisbon this coming summer. Hosted at St. Mary's Parish Hall on Saturday, February 04, 2023 at 6:30pm, this dinner promises to be a feast for the senses, with Portuguese food, dancing and music to enjoy! Tickets are on sale for \$75.00 each and can be purchased by emailing us at: wyd@hamiltondiocese.com. Looking forward to having you join us!

BIBLE SUNDAY 2023 – The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time marks the celebration of Bible Sunday in the Diocese of Hamilton. At the conclusion of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis encouraged every Christian community to choose one Sunday a year to renew its efforts to make the Sacred Scriptures better known and widely diffused. Our celebration of Bible Sunday is a call to listen to how #TheBibleSpeaks in our hearts and within our communities of faith.

The Pastoral Offices of the Diocese of Hamilton have prepared a wide variety of resources for youth and adults in celebration of Bible Sunday 2023.

Visit our website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/thebiblespeaks/> for more information.

VOCATION SEEDS – Mary treasured all that God had done for her and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God and ponder what He wants from you? You may have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ. 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. Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., Rev. Piotr Machnacki, S.A.C., Diocesan Priests, Rev. Ranjan D'Sa, O.C.D., Rev. Joseph Ahilan, C.R.S.P., & Rev. Louis Lenssen, C.R.S.P.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION – St. Clements: Operating TBD. Thank you for your generosity!