

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

December 31st, 2023

On this feast we think of the Holy Family. But we also think of our own families. And we think of the human family, and of the family of the Church. The family is very fragile in our times. It is under many stresses and difficulties. There is no such thing as a perfect family. Every family goes through rough times. Every family has to make sacrifices. The Holy Family had to struggle and to make sacrifices too. We are all called to holiness. And holiness is the fruit of sacrifice and struggle.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 31 st <i>Holy Family</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, January 1 st <i>Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	-
Tuesday, January 2 nd <i>St. Basil & St. Gregory Nazianzen</i>	10:30 am	<i>Intentions of Amanda Fonseca</i>	By Wayne & Donna Vollmer
Wednesday, January 3 rd <i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Lawrence Glofcheskie</i> + <i>Teresa Hilker (Linwood)</i>	By Millie Eckert By the Sherrer family
Thursday, January 4 th <i>Christmas</i>	8 am	+ <i>Edwin & Betty Kienapple</i>	By Murray & Sharon Runstedler
Friday, January 5 th <i>Christmas</i>	8 am	<i>Intentions of Fr. W. Kuźma</i>	By Bob & Linda Myers
Saturday, January 6 th <i>Christmas</i>	6 pm 7:30 pm	<i>Adoration & Confession</i> + <i>Marino Rebellato</i>	By Peter & Ornella Miller + family
Sunday, January 7 th <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	-

History of the Catholic Church (#17) – the rapid spread of the Gospel among the pagans, on the other hand, constituted the greatest religious revival in the history of man. How do we explain such a phenomenon? No doubt our explanation will vary according to our particular philosophical or religious bias, but certainly all would agree that the expansion of Christianity owed much to general political, social, and cultural trends. And so, it is a miracle itself that God chose to send His only Begotten Son exactly in those times.

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS – Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, May 26, 2024** 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.

WHEN LIFE CHANGES – The Hamilton Diocese is offering a new grief program. Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? You are not alone! Our six-week grief program starts **January 17** and will be held from 1:30-3:00 pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or by zoom. To register go to hamiltondiocese.com and look for the start date under upcoming events on the home page.

SEPARATED / DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP WATERLOO – Life changes are never easy. After a separation or divorce, you may be feeling isolated or need of support and healing to adjust to your new life? Come together with others to realize there is a 'second act'. Join us on the 3rd Tuesday of every month - 7:30-8:30 pm – January 16, February 20, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18. Feel free to come early and join our Parish in prayer - 7:00pm Mass. We will meet in the Parish Centre (basement) at 7:30pm. To register: Phone 519-884-9311, or Email: parish@stmichaelw.ca

PRAYER VIGIL - Thursday, January 4, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St. E., Kitchener, for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking - across the road, Schneider Park. Any queries, please contact Cathy at: kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR – Please remember the following in your prayers: Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., Diocesan Priests, Rev. Jason Kuntz, Rev. Gabriel Morais Catarino, & Rev. David Perrin.

VOCATION SEEDS – By Baptism we are God's holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION – St. Clements: Operating Dec. 24 \$2,985.00. Dec. 25 \$10,760.00. Thank you for your generosity!

Happy New Year!