

## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

God revealed Himself to the Jews through the Scriptures, and to the Gentiles through nature. Since the Magi were Gentiles, St. Matthew shows them receiving a revelation through astrology. The story highlights the paradox of how the Jews who have the Scriptures reject Jesus, while Gentiles come and, with the help of the Scriptures, find and adore Him. 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. There is little 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 Savior of the Gentiles too. The Second Reading expresses the theological meaning of the feast: God invites Jew and Gentile to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ.

### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 7 <sup>th</sup> <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, January 8 <sup>th</sup> <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, January 9 <sup>th</sup> <i>Ordinary Time</i>	10:30 am	+ <i>Marguerite Ransom</i>	By Murray & Sharon Runstedler
Wednesday, January 10 <sup>th</sup> <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm 4 pm	+ <i>Helen Caroline Benninger</i> <i>Intentions of the Myers family</i>	By the Estate By the Barrett family
Thursday, January 11 <sup>th</sup> <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm	+ <i>William Haffner</i>	By Cyril & Anna Dziak
Friday, January 12 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Marguerite Bourgeoys</i>	-	<b>C A N C E L E D</b>	-
Saturday, January 13 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Hilary</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Silvana Rebellato</i>	By Peter & Ornella Miller + family
Sunday, January 14 <sup>th</sup> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in OT</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	-

**History of the Catholic Church (#18)** – First of all, there were the favorable material conditions afforded by Rome’s dominance of the Mediterranean world. After four centuries of expansion, the Roman Empire by this time completely encircled the Mediterranean Sea and stretched from the Euphrates River in Syria to the Thames in Britain, from the Rhine and the Danube to the sands of the Sahara. And it bound together this vast medley of peoples of many races and languages with its marvelous system of roads and shipping. This greatly facilitated the work of the Christian missionaries, who were able to travel the length and breadth of the Empire with relative ease. Moreover, the Romans promoted the spread of a common culture derived from Hellenism. This meant that the missionaries could preach the Gospel in Greek in almost all the large cities and be understood.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION THROUGH VLCFF** – The Diocese of Hamilton is proud to partner with Dayton University’s Virtual Learning Community for Adult Faith Formation (VLCFF) to offer certificate programs for ministry and enrichment for adult faith formation. Three and five week e-seminars are available at a discounted rate for all adults in the Diocese looking to further their learning. For more information about our programs, and how to register, visit us at [www.hamiltondioceselearns.com](http://www.hamiltondioceselearns.com)

**SMART STEPS** – Are you a parent or stepparent adjusting to blended family life? This program is designed to offer practical insights and suggestions on how to make the relationships work well for all. Sessions are held at Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph, 28 Norfolk Street. TIME: 9:15AM - 3:30PM. PRICE: \$50 per person (includes lunch). DATE: Saturday, March 9, 2024. Register on line at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com) and look under Upcoming Events. For more information, contact the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

**SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD** – The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (January 21, 2024) 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 2024. Visit our website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/thebiblespeaks/>

**RESTART** – Refresh, Renew, Revive. Struggling after divorce or separation? Join us for learning, support and fun on a Friday evening. Held the 2nd & 3rd Fridays of each month. These get-togethers offer continual support and insights for people as they journey through the divorce/separation process and beyond. Join in-person (700 King St. West, Hamilton), or by ZOOM. Register for the sessions here: <https://sites.google.com/view/hamilton-restart/home>, or contact Sarah at [familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com), or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 if you plan to attend in person and for the zoom link if joining online. We look forward to seeing you!

**DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR** – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. David Reilander, Sisters of St. John the Baptist (C.S.J.B.), Rev. Franjo Sprajc, Rev. Matthew Durham, & Rev. Aurimas Paulius Rudinskas.

**VOCATION SEEDS** – The Son of God was first manifested to the world through the visit of the magi. Today, God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church. If you think that God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com) Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

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