



MASSES OF THE WEEK

Monday, December 19 – Ferial - Weekday
7:30a.m. – Maria Carmela Alpe, Patrick & Joan Timson,
Deceased Members of the Seifred Family

Tuesday, December 20 – Ferial; Weekday
7:30a.m. – Denise Brazolot, Gerard Hundt,
Peter Louchran

Wednesday, December 21 – Ferial: Weekday
7:30a.m. – Violet, George & Paul Cartledge,
Mary McDonald, Lanny & Eleanor Sorbara

Thursday, December 22 – Ferial: Weekday
7:00p.m. – Sandy Fowlie, Frank & Rita Kocher &
Deceased Members of the Kocher & Illerbrun
Families, Robert Mann

Friday, December 23 – Ferial: Weekday
7:30a.m. – Nancy, M. Carmela & Domenic Cosentino,
Harold Wilcox, John & Marie Krusky

Saturday, December 24 – Feast: Vigil of Christmas
5:15p.m., 8:00p.m. & Midnight

Sunday, December 25 – Feast: Christmas
9:00a.m. & 11:00a.m.

Stewardship of Treasure:

*Thank you for your gift of \$12,789.25 in support of
your parish community in gratitude for God's
blessing.*

**+We offer our prayers and sympathy to the families of
William Doucette, Mary Cabeke and Fred
Chamberlain who were called to eternal life. May they
rest in eternal peace with God.**

**+We offer our prayers and congratulations to Frank
Cursio and Caitlin Harper on the recent celebration of
their marriage.**

WELCOME

We welcome into our Catholic Faith Family through Water and the Holy Spirit in Baptism: James Edward Jackman; Grayson Calvin Muma; Abigail Lynn Navarra; Clara Marie Service and Henry Michael Vecchiarelli. We congratulate their families.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: "PREPARE THE WAY"

Christmas Masses attract large numbers of people from diverse backgrounds who bring with them a variety of faith experiences. Among those who celebrate with the Church at Christmas are faithful parishioners, their relatives and friends, those who are irregular in their participation in the liturgical life of the Church and complete strangers. It is important that all are made to feel welcome so that as God's people, they will be united in the prayer of the Church and give thanks and praise for the salvation offered to them in Christ. The Christmas Mass continues to be the principal way for us to express our joy and gratitude for the mystery of the Incarnation.

PARISH NEWS

TREES OF LIFE FOR ADVENT

At the Sacred Heart Altar the Tree of Life is for those who have died in the past year to the present and were born to eternal life. You may put a paper ornament provided on the tree with the name, birth date and death date of your loved one. At the St. Joseph Altar the Tree of Life is for those baptized into new life in Christ during the past year. Take a moment to look and pray for those on our Trees of Life.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our Council's goal is to have every woman in this parish belong to the Catholic Women's League of Canada (CWL). Your membership adds your voice in support of local and national work for the rights of the unborn, as well as other social justice issues. We invite every woman in this parish to join! See our brochures in the tower entrance or visit us at www.cwl.ca.

CHURCH ENVELOPES

You will find your 2017 Church Envelopes in the alcove behind the altar. We ask you to pick them up and be sure not to use them until the new year. They will not be available Christmas Day. We recommend you put your name on the envelope for the month of January. We are grateful to those who support our parish through their Stewardship of Treasure.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2016**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday, December 17th . 4:00p.m. to 5:00p.m.
 Tuesday, December 20th . 8:00a.m. to 12Noon; 1:00p.m. to 5:00p.m.
 Wednesday, December 21st . 6:30p.m. to 7:30p.m.
 Saturday, December 24th . 11:00a.m. to 12Noon

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, December 24th . 5:15p.m. . 8:00p.m. . 12Midnight
 Sunday, December 25th . 9:00a.m. . 11:00a.m.

ADVENT MISSION

Thank you to Father Michael Prieur for conducting our parish mission and to all who attended. This has been a wonderful way to prepare spiritually for Christmas.

OTHER NEWS***SUNDAY SMILE!***

At Christmas time the children brought gifts for the teacher. The supermarket manager's daughter brought the teacher a basket full of assorted fruit. The florist's son brought the teacher a bouquet of flowers. The candy-store owner's daughter gave the teacher a box of candy. The liquor store owner's son brought up a big heavy box. The teacher lifted it up and noticed that it was leaking a little bit. She touched a drop of the liquid with her finger and tasted it. "Is it wine?" she asked. "No," the boy replied. She tasted another drop and asked "Champagne?" "No," said the boy, "it's a puppy."

VOCATION SEEDS

Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. When Joseph awoke from sleep, he died as the angel of the Lord commanded him. Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister contact Father Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation of the Diocese of Hamilton at 1-905-528-7988 or email: mking@hamiltondiocese.com.

JUST A THOUGHT!

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

EUTHANASIA/ ASSISTED SUICIDE – DID YOU KNOW?

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/ euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object to helping kill their patients see a direct referral as being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/ assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. 8 other provinces in Canada have adopted protocols to protect doctors and institutions. Visit www.canadiansforconscience.ca to learn more and to write directly to the Ontario government.

EMBRACING THE WISDOM OF MONKS & MYSTICS

This 6-part workshop/ study session will be offered starting Wednesday, January 11th from 1:30p.m.-3:30p.m. at the Chancery Office in Hamilton and will explore the lives of twelve great monks & mystics from the Christian tradition in new and creative ways. This course will be facilitated by Sister Mary Heather MacKinnon SSND. The cost will be \$35 and includes the text *Illuminating the Way* by Christine Valters Paintner. Please register by December 22nd. Contact Monica at mverin@hamiltondiocese.com or call 1-905-528-7988 ext. 2238.

RESPONSIBLE STEWARDS OF CREATION; FROM BISHOP CROSBY

Close to five million litres of water are taken from Wellington County daily for a water bottling plant. This extraction of large amounts of water adversely effects the ecological balance of nature over a large area while depriving those who rely on wells of their right to water. Close to seventy-five percent of plastic bottles end up in land fill sites, thus contributing to contamination of the soil for thousands of years. All parishes of the Diocese of Hamilton are encouraged to refrain from using bottled water in church facilities effective January 1, 2017. As stewards of Creation may we be leaders in the responsible use of our sacred mandate.

**CENTER
 your Christmas
 in
 CHRIST**