

**MASS INTENTIONS
February 20 - 25, 2018**

Tuesday, 20th - *Lenten Weekday*
9:00 am +Helen Keller – Joan Ferraccioli

Wednesday, 21st - *Lenten Weekday*
9:00 am Intentions of June Yendruck – Bill Jeffrey
7:00 pm Intentions of Bridget Azevedo – the Family
Intentions of Maria Amorim – Dorothy MacDonald
+Bernice Meyer – the Family
+Felix Perko – Matt & Anne Kastelec
+Ramon Aguto – David & Sandy Milne

Thursday, 22nd - *Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*
9:00 am +Erwin Preiditsch – Marilyn Alston

Friday, 23rd - *Lenten Weekday*
9:00 am Intentions of Gerry & Dora Lamers – Catholic Women’s League
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross – led by the St. Vincent de Paul Conference

Saturday, 24th - *2nd Sunday of Lent*
5:00 pm +Denise Uffelmann – Eileen & Mary Longo
+Mary Ellen Walsh – Colm & Kay Dignam
+Betty Siegfried & Eileen Raby – the Madlensky Family
+Margaret Druar – Julie Wilkins
+Len Keip – the Keip Family
+Eileen Malleck – Mary Coulson

Sunday, 25th - *2nd Sunday of Lent*
9:00 am +Reno & Tony Ianni – Angela Ianni
11:00 am Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
3:00 pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

February 18, 2018

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

February 10/11 Collection \$6,312.75
2018 Collection to Date \$35,323.53

Looking Ahead to Feb. 25, 2018

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 22: 1-2, 13, 15-18
Romans 8: 31b-35, 37 Mark 9: 2-10

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon. Feb. 19: **Rev. Louis Lenssen, CRSP**
Tues. Feb. 20: **Rev. Alessandro Tirelli, CRSP**
Wed. Feb. 21: **Salesians of Don Bosco, SDB**
Thu. Feb. 22: **Rev. Ranjan D’Sa, OCD**
Fri. Feb. 23: **Rev. David Avila**
Sat. Feb. 24: **Rev. Tim Hingston**

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE PARISH

Monday
Office Closed for Family Day

Thursday
Choir Practice (C) 7:30 pm

Friday
Stations of the Cross (C) 7:00 pm

Sunday
1st Reconciliation Mtg #3 (C) 1:00 pm
Adoration & Benediction (C) 3:00 pm

POPE FRANCIS ON LENT

Check our parish website for a message from Pope Francis as we approach Lent. Francis calls us to be inwardly renewed this season of Lent, and by our own renewal may we bring justice and true peace to the whole world.

Wanted: Retired Teacher to Volunteer

Sr. Anne Marshal, CSJ has been working with a 21-year old refugee to help her complete her secondary education through St. Mary’s CSS here in Kitchener. Sr. Anne is looking for a retired teacher to help the student work through the online course. If you are interested please contact Sr. Anne at 905-528-0138. Thank you for considering this ministry.

BUS TO HAMILTON

On Sun. March 4 at 1:30pm Sandy Milne will receive the Papal honour, Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, along with other recipients, during a Liturgy of the Word at the Cathedral in Hamilton. We are considering hiring a bus to take anyone who would like to attend this service. If you are interested please call the parish office by Fri Feb 23. Cost will be \$5/seat

VOCATION CORNER

Lent: the springtime of the soul...is a time to make a new covenant with God, develop new signs of our relationship with our Creator. Go into your own desert and discover what God is asking of you. If you think God may be calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, contact Fr. Toby Collins CR, Resurrectionist Director of Vocations rvocations@gmail.com or Fr. Michael King, Diocesan Director of Vocations, 905-528-7988 or mking@hamiltondiocese.com
www.vocationculture.ca

AROUND TOWN

Waterloo Catholic District School Board is currently accepting applications for the following opportunities: Occasional Teachers, Uncertified Early Childhood Assistants, Lunch Hour Supervisors. Please visit the website for job details and application criteria at www.wcdsb.ca.

Please join us for a **Benefit Concert** in support of the Children’s Needs Distribution Centre on Sunday, February 25 at 3pm at Highland Baptist Church, 135 Highland Road West in Kitchener. The Jubilation Male Chorus and Highland’s Bell Choir will be performing. Everyone is welcome.

CYO Children’s Fundraiser Please join us as we celebrate another wonderful milestone at this year’s fundraising gala dinner – the 60th Anniversary of the CYO. It was 1958 when the CYO was officially recognized as a non-profit agency for the work we were doing with marginalized children from our inner-city, including children with special needs. Join us on Feb. 22. For information and tickets please contact mel.leggat@cyo.on.ca or 905-528-0011, ext. 3608.

The Beat Goes On! Community Event at St. Mary’s General Hospital for Heart Month. Ensuring equitable and seamless cardiac care across Waterloo-Wellington. Learn how cardiac services will be expanded at St. Mary’s and beyond, get an update on advanced heart rhythm services coming next year, hear why St. Mary’s is among top Canadian cardiac centres for patient outcomes. Tues. Feb. 27, 7-8:30pm at Delta Waterloo, free admission and parking, light refreshments, plan to arrive by 6:30pm. Register by calling 519-749-6536 or at www.supportstmarys.ca/heartmonth.

Entrust Yourself To God’s Mercy! During Lent Blessed Sacrament Parish is offering 33 Days to Merciful Love, a group retreat in preparation for consecration to Divine Mercy. This 6-week DVD program by Fr. Michael Gaitley will take place Thursday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Board Room, beginning Thursday March 1. To Register or if you have any questions, contact Yvonne 519-570-9029.

From the Pastors Desk:

For a few weeks now I have been writing about different spiritual “tools” we use to assist us in our thirst for justice during the Lenten season. Last week I spoke about fasting and abstinence, today let us look at alms-giving.

Alms-giving in the Catholic tradition goes hand in hand with fasting, it is what we might call the other side of the coin. Alms-giving deals directly with a topic that makes many people a little uncomfortable, namely, money and material possessions. Alms-giving calls us to examine the world in which we live and our relationship to the world. Alms-giving calls us to look at the distribution of wealth and resources in our world. What part do we contribute to the poverty of others in the world? Are we part of the unequal power structure in the world? Do we share in the sin of greed in a way that contributes to the impoverishment of a majority of the world? Do we amass possessions, and identify them as a sign of our status? Do we identify problems, such as hunger in foreign lands, as something that does not have anything to do with us? Do we recognize that here in North America we consume by far more natural resources than any other part of the world, even though we are far from the majority of the global population? Alms-giving in the church tradition asks hard questions that should in fact make us feel a little uncomfortable. Alms-giving is intended to help raise our awareness. Lent is a time to ponder the tough questions and discover how to respond in a spirit of alms-giving.

~ Father Tim, CR



CELEBRATING THE WORD

Our **Tuesday afternoon** Celebrating the Word group will begin meeting again on **February 20** at 1:30pm. We reflect on the Sunday Readings and discuss how they connect with our daily lives using *Celebrating the Word*, a publication written by Resurrectionist Priests, including our pastor Fr. Tim Uniac! Please come and see!

SENIORS SOUP LUNCH



All seniors of the parish are invited to join us for a hearty soup lunch on Thursday March 1, at 12 noon in the Parish Hall. (This will be our seniors' luncheon for the month.)

There is no cost; free-will donations will be accepted and will go towards our Share Lent campaign. Join us for some heart-warming company, and soup! Please RSVP when you get a phone call or by calling the parish office by Feb. 26.

JOIN THE “CALL FOR CONSCIENCE” IN THE HAMILTON DIOCESE

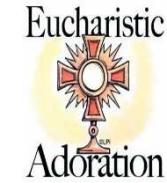
The Government of Canada passed legislation in June 2016, legalizing euthanasia/assisted suicide. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is forcing health care workers to participate in ending the lives of their patients. The Diocese of Hamilton wants to protect the rights of all healthcare workers. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca, write a letter (samples available at the entrance of the church) to your MPP and consider adding your email address to the Conscience Coalitions' network to receive future information.

TAX RECEIPTS for 2017 are available for pick up in the Parish Hall. If you have questions please contact Alice in the parish office.

LENT AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

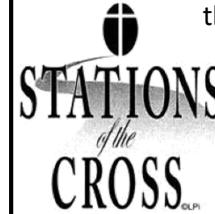
Adoration and Benediction

On the Sundays of Lent we will be offering an hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, from 3-4pm, ending with Benediction. Please join us and spend some quiet time in reflection with our Lord of Mercy. **Sunday, February 18, 25, March 11, 18** (not March 4th)



Stations of the Cross

This Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross Friday evenings at 7pm, in remembrance of that Good Friday when Jesus gave his life out of love for us. Join us as a different parish group leads each evening, **February 23, March 2, 9, 16 and 23.**



Communal Reconciliation Service

Lent is a time for both individual and communal reconciliation. Individually we are encouraged to we make an examination of conscience, go to confession and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Communally we invite the entire parish to pray for reconciliation in our world. We pray for true peace that comes with justice for all. We pray for negotiation and compromise instead of violence. We pray for all peoples to be reconciled with each other. Come and pray with us on **Tues. March 6 at 7pm** at our Communal Reconciliation Service. (Priests will be available for individual confessions following the service.)



For your Health & Wellness...

What are the health benefits of using Epsom salt? The wonders of Epsom salt have been well known for hundreds of years and, unlike other salts, Epsom has beneficial properties that can soothe the body, mind, and soul. Some of the countless health benefits include relaxing the nervous system, curing skin problems, soothing back pain and aching limbs, easing muscle strain, healing cuts, treating colds and congestion, and drawing toxins from the body.

One of the simplest ways to ease stress and stress-related problems is to soak in a tub full of hot water with a few cups of Epsom salt up to three times a week.

You can read more about all the suggested uses on line under "Epsom Salt Uses and Benefits". Epsom Salts are inexpensive and available at most grocery stores or pharmacies. Check it out and enjoy!

DAYS FOR GIRLS

St. Francis of Assisi CWL members invite women and girls to our next meeting on **Wednesday, March 21** for a presentation from DAYS FOR GIRLS, a grassroots non-profit organization that is creating a more dignified, humane and sustainable world for girls and women through advocacy, reproductive health awareness, education and sustainable feminine hygiene kits. Some of our Muslim sisters will be attending the meeting as well. It begins at 7:30 p.m. in the parish. Please join us!

“May the sick always be shown love in their fragility and respected in their inviolable dignity.”

~ @Pontifex, February 11, 2018



Card & Games Party Tuesday February 27 at Forest Hill United. 1:00 pm – 4:00 p.m., starting with dessert buffet. Tickets \$15 from Forest Hill Church office (mornings) or Margot White 519-742-6047. Bridge, Euchre, Hearts, Cribbage.... come join the fun! Proceeds support an adopted child overseas.

Prayer Vigil Thursday, March 1 from 9 to 10 am in front of Freeport Hospital for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking across the road at Schneider Park. Any queries, Cathy at: kwc.prayervigil@rogers.com

2018 Ecumenical World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer (previously World Day of Prayer for Missions) has its roots in an ecumenical Christian women's mission movement which began in North America in the 1800s and which now involves women all over the world. Each year an order of service is created by the women of a certain country; the program material this year was prepared by the Churches of Suriname, with the theme, "All God's Creation is Very Good". Even though the focus of the World Day of Prayer changes each year, the power of women praying with women around the world is the common thread woven through the years. Services will be held in Kitchener, at the following Churches at the times stated on **Friday March 2nd**:

- St Peter's Lutheran Church, 59 Queen Street North, at 11 AM
- Calvin Presbyterian Church, 248 Westmount Road East, at 11 AM
- St James Rosemount United Church, 171 Sherwood Avenue North, at 2 PM
- St John's Catholic Church, 85 Strange Street, at 2 PM

Refreshments follow all the services. Please join us in solidarity and prayer.

Adoration for Life Come, let us adore Jesus in the Eucharist and pray for respect for the sanctity of life. Three Locations: Sun. Feb. 25, 10:30am in Spanish followed by Holy Mass, St. John's, Kitchener; Fri. March 2, 6—7pm St. Teresa of Avila, Kitchener; Sat. March 3, 11am-12noon, St. Mary's, Kitchener.

Bus To 26th Annual "Lift Jesus Higher" Rally Saturday, March 3rd, bus leaves the parking lot of St. Mark's Catholic Church at 6:50 AM (55 Driftwood Drive, Kitchener) to head to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Bus tickets are \$15/person (includes snacks and driver gratuity). For bus tickets please call Anna at 519-577-8519. For rally tickets or info, visit: www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca

Lenten Retreat: A Time for Renewing our Faith Where is my faith? What am I most grateful for when it comes to faith? How can I dispose myself more to this precious gift? Facilitated by Rev. Toby Collins, CR. Fr. Toby is a professed member of the Congregation of the Resurrection, a community reaching out to people through pastoral-educational ministry and joining in solidarity with people diminished by unjust structures. He is also responsible for the ministry of "Creating a Vocation Culture." and is the Spiritual Animator for the WCDSB. Join us for this enlightening retreat, Sat. March 3, 10 am - 1 pm at St Anne's Parish, Kitchener.

St. Agatha Parish CWL St. Patrick's Day Card Party on Sun. March 11 at 2pm. Come out and bring a few friends! Door prizes, draws and a delicious beef stew luncheon. Admission \$10/person includes stew, rolls, beverage and dessert. Cash draw and raffle draws during luncheon at 4:30pm. For more information contact stagathacwl@gmail.com.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



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 519-745-7301 www.stfranciskw.ca
stfranciskitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

Administered by the Congregation of the Resurrection: www.resurrectionists.ca

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am
 Wednesday 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday 8:30 – 8:45 am
 Wednesday 6:30 – 6:45 pm
 Saturday 4:00 – 4:30 pm
 or by appointment

Sunday Children's Liturgy

Sunday 9:00 am Mass

Prayer Network

Call parish office to request prayers

Communal Baptism

Please call the parish office to register.

Marriages

Congratulations! Please contact the parish one year before wedding date.

Pastor:	Fr. Tim Uniac, C.R. tuniac@hamiltondiocese.com
Pastoral Minister:	Miss Ruthann Fisher rfisher@hamiltondiocese.com
Music Ministry:	Mrs. Terrienne Moulton
Admin. Assistant:	Ms. Alice Soeder
Building Manager:	Mr. Gary Howell

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 12 noon
 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

Vocations Information: www.vocationinfo.ca
www.vocationculture.ca



"We are a Christ-centred faith community seeking to be instruments of God's peace."

"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."
 ~ Matthew 4:4

1st SUNDAY OF LENT February 18, 2018

