

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



49 Blueridge Ave., Kitchener, Ontario N2M 4E2
519-745-7301 www.stfranciskw.ca
stfranciskitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

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

Lord's Day Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Tuesday – Friday at 9:00 am

Kerala Roman Catholic Mass

Celebrated by Fr. Stephen Gilbert
Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday from 4:00 – 4:30 pm
or by appointment.

Sunday Children's Liturgy

Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Mass

Prayer Network

Call parish office to request prayers

Funerals

Please call the parish office.

Baptism and Marriage

Please call the parish office.

Pastor:	Rev. Paul Voisin, C.R. (pvoisin@hamiltondiocese.com)
Priest in Res.	Fr. Murray McDermott, C.R. (mmcdermott@hamiltondiocese.com)
Pastoral Minister:	Miss Ruthann Fisher (rfisher@hamiltondiocese.com)
Music Ministry:	Mrs. Terrienne Moulton
Admin. Assistant:	Miss Amanda Sage
Building Manager:	Mr. Gary Howell

Parish Office

Open Monday – Friday
8:30 am – noon & 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Vocations Information:

[Hamilton Diocese](#) [Congregation of the Resurrection](#)



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

March 24th, 2024

Palm Sunday

"Christ became obedient for us to death, even death on a Cross. Therefore God exalted him and gave him the name above every name."

-Philippians 2:8-9



MASS INTENTIONS

March 26th – 31st

Tuesday, 26th – Ferial

9:00 a.m. +Gerald Balm
- Gene Furtado

Wednesday, 27th – Ferial

9:00 a.m. +Barb Diemert
-Beth Rowe

Thursday, 28th – The Lord's Supper

7:30 p.m. For Vocations to the Priesthood

Friday, 29th - Good Friday

11:00 a.m. No Intention
3:00 p.m. No Intention

Saturday, 30th – Easter Vigil

8:00 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Francis

Sunday, 31st – Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Francis
11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Francis

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

March 16/17	\$5,156.30
2024 Total Collection	\$59,802.35
2024 Total Budget	\$313,500.00

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

Monday

Seniors Gentle Exercise (H) 2:30 pm
OEA (H) 7:00 pm

Tuesday

CGS Lvl II (A) 4:00 pm

Wednesday

Prayer Shawl Mtg. (E) 1:00 pm
Seniors Gentle Exercise (H) 2:30 pm
CGS Lvl I (A) 4:00 pm

Thursday

CGS Lvl I (A) 4:00 pm
Holy Thursday Mass 7:30 pm

Friday

Good Friday Family Service 11:00 am
Good Friday Solemn Service 3:00 pm

Saturday

Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 pm

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon. Mar. 25: **Most Rev. Matthew Ustrzycki**
Chrism Mass

Tues. Mar. 26: **Rev. Gerald Mulhall**

Wed. Mar. 27: **Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada**
(C.S.J.)

Thu. Mar. 28: **Holy Thursday**

Fri. Mar. 29: **Friday of the Passion of the Lord**

Sat. Mar. 30: **Holy Saturday**

THIS WEEK'S HOMILY




[You can listen to past homilies by clicking here.](#)

Easter Little Books are IN!

For those who ordered the Little Book Devotionals last year, your Easter booklets are now available. You can pick these up from the Parish office during the week.

The Goose Has Landed

 Please be aware that we once again have a goose nesting in the rainwater garden, beside the main parking lot. The area has been roped up. Please be respectful and keep your distance when entering and exiting the church. The gander can be aggressive and protective.

Holy Thursday Food Drive!

Bring non-perishable food items to the church on Holy Thursday, for our annual Easter Food drive. Items will be donated to the House of Friendship, and will be collected in the foyer of the church. Items needed include: pasta, sauce, soups, canned fish and meat, peanut butter and cereal. Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Week at St. Francis of Assisi Church

Check out the upcoming schedule for Holy Week at our Parish!



Palm Sunday Mass

Saturday March 23rd

5:00 PM

Sunday March 24th

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

5:30 PM – Kerala Community



Holy Thursday Mass

Thursday March 28th

7:30 PM

Followed by Adoration in the Resurrection Room until 10:00 PM

Good Friday Service

Friday March 29th

11:00 AM – Family Liturgy

3:00 PM – Solemn Service

6:30 PM – Kerala Community Service



Easter Vigil

Saturday March 30th

8:00 PM



Easter Sunday

Sunday March 31st

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

4:00 PM

(Kerala Community)

Holy Oil Presentation

At the Chrism Mass, taking place this Monday at the Cathedral of Christ the King, the Holy Oils used for the sacraments throughout the year are blessed by the Bishop and presented to each parish. On Holy Thursday, these oils are presented to our pastor and kept in the Ambry until they are needed. Each oil has a special purpose. This year we will have volunteers with ties to one of the oils present them. The Oil of the Sick, used for anointing those who are ill, will be presented by Bill Jeffrey, who trains Eucharistic Ministers for ministry at St. Mary's Hospital and our homebound.

The Oil of Catechumens, used in the sacrament of Baptism, will be presented by Molly Moyana who was received into the church last May.

And the Oil of Chrism, used in the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders, will be presented by Chase Wood, a candidate from this year's Confirmation class. Join us on Holy Thursday evening at 7:30 pm to witness our receiving of these Holy Oils.

Lenten Series Thank You

The parish staff would like to thank the Laudato Si team for their hard work putting together our Lenten series this year on "The Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor-- What has happened since Pope Francis wrote Laudato Si". In his new reflection Laudato Deum, he reflects on the changes since 2015 and how we need to do better in this climate crisis. Sandy Milne took the lead of the sessions,

compiling the videos, creating discussion questions, and overseeing the presentation on Zoom. We also wish to thank Elizabeth Sauer for her work during the "Development and Peace: Activism with the poorest nations" week. A sincere thank you for this wonderful presentation, which got us thinking anew about the climate crisis and how we can get involved to help. If you were not able to attend, we strongly recommend that you watch the series videos especially The Letter and Laudate Deum, found on our website here:

<https://stfranciskw.ca/2024/02/02/13482/>

Upcoming Events for the Laudato Si Team

- This Saturday, March 23, is Earth Hour! We encourage you to join the world by turning off all electricity for one hour, starting at 8:30 pm.
- April 22nd is Earth day! In honour of this day, come and join our Laudato Si committee at Lakeside Park at 10 AM on April 13th to help cleanup. Meet near the swings and bring gloves. Garbage bags will be provided, and pizza will be available around noon.
- During the Season of Creation, September 1st – October 4th, we are thrilled to welcome a special guest speaker here at St. Francis. Leah Ressor-Keller will be here on Sunday September 15 at 2PM. More information will be printed in future bulletins, but mark your calendars. She is an exceptional speaker and we are pleased to have her come.

Good Friday Collection

The annual Good Friday Collection was first taken at Pope Paul VI's request fifty years ago. It is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world to assist the Church in the Holy Land. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational, and social works and help to maintain the Holy Places so important for the faith of Christians everywhere. For the sake of our brothers and sisters enduring hardships, please give generously during your parish's Good Friday celebrations on March 29, 2024. If you are unable to attend the service, it is possible to contribute online at Commissariat.ca – receipts will be issued. On behalf of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, to whom the Holy See has entrusted this ministry for nearly 700 years, I sincerely thank you for your support.

-Fr. Robert Mokry, OFM
Commissary of the Holy Land in Canada

Resurrectionist Vocation Minute

Palm Sunday – March 24, 2024

Listening to Christ's passion, did a specific line resonate with you? Maybe the centurion's "Truly this man was God's Son!" or Jesus' "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Understanding Jesus' suffering and death as part of the Paschal Mystery involves viewing them in the context of his Resurrection. For resurrectionists, the Paschal Mystery is at the heart of their message. Could it be that God is also calling you to spread this Good News with others?

Fr. Paul Szymanowski CR, Leader of Vocation Team;
resurrectionistvocation@gmail.com

Share Lent

Thank you for giving from the heart to
Share Lent 2024!



Development and Peace — Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the **Reaping our Rights** campaign with your Share Lent donation. Thanks to your generosity, our parish collected **\$4,469.00!!!** This sum will help support our sisters

and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. If you have not yet had a chance to give, you can still place your Share Lent envelope in the offertory or donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

Volunteers for Easter Vigil Reception

After the Easter Vigil, a reception is hosted to celebrate and welcome the new members of our faith! We do require volunteers to set out food and drinks for those who attend. If you're able to help, please contact Ruthann at the office: 519-745-7301.

Around Town

Mark your Calendars

Penitential Services

- Our Lady of Lourdes – **Tues. Mar. 26th@6:00PM**
- St. Teresa (Elmira) – **Tues. Mar. 26th@7:30PM**
- St. Michael – **Wed. March 27th from 8AM-8PM**

MARYHILL PARK FISH FRY FUNDRAISER – Maryhill Community Centre (58 St, Charles St. E.) **GOOD FRIDAY**, March 29th 12 noon to 7 p.m. Eat in or take out. **NO RESERVATIONS.** Fresh cut fries with haddock, coleslaw, tartar sauce and lemon. 1 pc. - \$16; 2 pc. - \$19. Children 12 & under may buy a half price 1 pc for @ \$8.00 if dining in house only! Hot Dogs also available. Dessert & refreshments available. Dinner includes coffee and tea. **CASH ONLY PLEASE!** **ADVANCED** orders for takeout orders strongly advised. For more information contact (519) 648-2939.

DIOCESAN CHOIR- The Diocesan Choir leads and supports the assembly's song at major Diocesan liturgies such as the Chrism Mass and Ordinations and is looking for new members. If you're interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Sharon Fazari, Choir Director, at sfazari@hamiltondiocese.com.

2000 Hail Mary's Devotion - to the Blessed Virgin Mary will be prayed on Saturday May 11, 2024, at St. Agnes Parish, 75 Bluevale St. N. Waterloo. The day begins at 7:30am, until approximately 7:30 pm. Join us for all or part of the day. Contact Marilynne at canadianrosarybrigade@gmail.com for more information.