

St. Mary of the Visitation Parish



16 Cooper Street, Cambridge (Hespeler), Ontario N3C 2N2
Tel: 519-658-4443 Email: stmarycambridge@hamiltondiocese.com
www.stmaryhespeler.ca

Rev. Robert Love, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Michael Foulger, Permanent Deacon

Mrs. Rosanne Nusca, Administrative Assistant

St Mary of the Visitation Parish exists to be a light on the hill and offer every person in our community a life-changing encounter with Jesus



SCHEDULE OF LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Children's Ministry: Programs are suspended until further notice.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

(Located in the lower level of the church)

Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Fatima School 519-658-4041

St. Elizabeth School 519-651-0400

St. Gabriel School 519-658-2008

St. Benedict Secondary School 519-621-4050

PARISH ADORATION CHAPEL

Our Chapel is closed until further notice.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to begin the process of preparing your child and family for this Sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office before setting a date of marriage in order to begin preparations.

PASTORAL CARE TO SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Current restrictions do not allow our Ministers of Communion to enter nursing homes or hospitals at this time.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

Please call 519-658-6511 for assistance.



NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM DEACON MIKE

Is it just me or does it seem like the New Year has come suddenly even though we are so ready to

assign 2020 to the historical refuse dump? Like most New Years', last New Year was full of anticipation and expectation. It cannot be overstated, 2020 turned out very differently from what we imagined! New Year is a time for looking back and for looking forward: an opportunity for reflecting on what we did well or not so well and for making changes. Usually, this process for is relatively straight forward for many of us; however, our experiences of last year have made this process more complicated and the demarcation between 2020 and 2021 has become very blurred and dark. How can we as Christians, as Catholics, respond to this situation?

Last weekend we celebrated the Solemnity of the Epiphany of Our Lord. From Matthew 's Gospel we recall "Wise Men from the East" had observed a great and spectacular light ascending in the heavens which the travellers identified as an anticipated sign of the birth of "King of the Jews" and were searching for the infant king in order to worship Him with precious gifts. The Wise Men designated the magnificent light as "His Star" i.e., the Star of King Jesus. The first reading is taken from Isaiah the great prophet of Israel who declared "Arise, shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples: but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn." The glory of God burst upon the Earth, upon ancient Israel, when "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us". As promised in the Old Testament Scriptures, Nations and Kingdoms of the world, as exemplified and foreshadowed by the Wise Men, have been drawn to this great light, His Star, and which has, and is, and will continue to banish the powers darkness; all that is contrary and obstructive to the perfect will of God.

This is a message of great hope and anticipation centred on God's infinite Love which was incarnated or embodied by Jesus Christ. As I write this, I am reminded that when I was a child, I had an intense and crippling fear of the dark. At some point, I asked the Lord Jesus to help me overcome this fear and deliberately walked around in pitch black places whilst placing my trust in the Lord and reached a point of no longer being afraid of the dark. In a very

real sense by focussing on the light and love of Christ, even at this young age, the darkness of this phobia was dispelled once and for all.

Even though we are going through an uncertain dark time this New Year it is vital that, like the Wise Men, we look up to the heavens and focus on the spectacular light of our loving Creator. This attentive action allows God's light to shine upon us, perhaps in our devotional prayer or meditating on God's Word, as we place our hope and trust in Him. Whilst basking in God's warm loving light, the darkness that surrounds us scatters. Thus, the reflected light of God's love and glory shines upon others in dark places. In the canticle of Zechariah (the Benedictus) which comes from Luke Gospel Chapter 1, and is recited in the morning prayer of the Divine Office, declares:

*"In the tender compassion of our Lord
The dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness
And the shadow of death,
And to guide our feet into the way of peace."*

On behalf of Fr. Love, Rosanne, my wife Mary and myself, I wish you a joyous, peaceful and mightily blessed New Year!

Deacon Mike Foulger

PARISH CLOSURE: The Parish and Parish office remain closed and Masses have been cancelled until further notice.

Please know that you can still reach us by email: stmarycambridge@hamiltondiocese.com or by phone: 519-658-4443. Please continue to check the parish website for updates and information.

MASS INTENTIONS: All Mass Intentions scheduled during the shutdown will be rescheduled to a new date when public Masses resume. Please contact the office if you would like to request a specific date.

CONFESSION: Confession during the period of shutdown is available by appointment only. Please call or email the parish to make an appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: We are not permitted to have Eucharistic Adoration until the shutdown has ended. Please check the parish website for updates.

PARISH BULLETIN: If you would like to receive the parish bulletin via email, please visit our parish website and scroll down the home page to 'subscribe to bulletin'!

2021 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please contact the office to schedule a pick-up or request a mailing

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING: All are invited to consider Pre-Authorized Giving as a method to support our parish. Forms are available on our website: www.stmaryhespeler.ca/donate

**PARISH OFFERINGS
DECEMBER 24-31, 2020:**

Christmas Offerings:	\$4,010.25
Sunday Offerings:	\$3,542.00
Building Fund:	\$2,100.00

ONLINE DONATIONS FOR DECEMBER 2020
(www.stmaryhespeler.ca/donate)

Christmas Offerings:	\$460.00
Sunday Offerings:	\$1,610.00
Building Fund:	\$730.00

Thank you for your generous support throughout 2020!

2020 TAX RECEIPTS: Annual Tax Receipts for the 2020 year will be available for pick-up in early February. Envelopes that are not picked up will be mailed by February 19th. Per the CRA, donations received on, or after, January 1, 2021 will appear on your 2021 contribution record. Thank you for your understanding.

POPE'S JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION: At the service of Human fraternity

Let us pray that the Lord may give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions and not fight each other, and praying for one another, open ourselves to all.

Visit <https://thepopevideo.org/>

A WALK THROUGH FRATELLI TUTTI – We are created to be relational, to be in communion with God and one another. Pope Francis's new Encyclical 'Fratelli tutti' expresses the Pope's deep concern that humanity is becoming more and more isolated from each other. He states, "If we take each other seriously, then we should be brothers and sisters and friends, and not just anonymous beings." Join us on Zoom for a **free webinar on Wednesday, January 27th at 7 p.m.** for a 90-minute look at this beautifully written document. Registration is required, since the zoom or phone link for joining the session will need to be e-mailed or provided to you by phone. Presented by Mrs. Teresa Hartnett, Director of the Family Ministry Office - register online at www.hamiltondiocese.com or by calling 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR

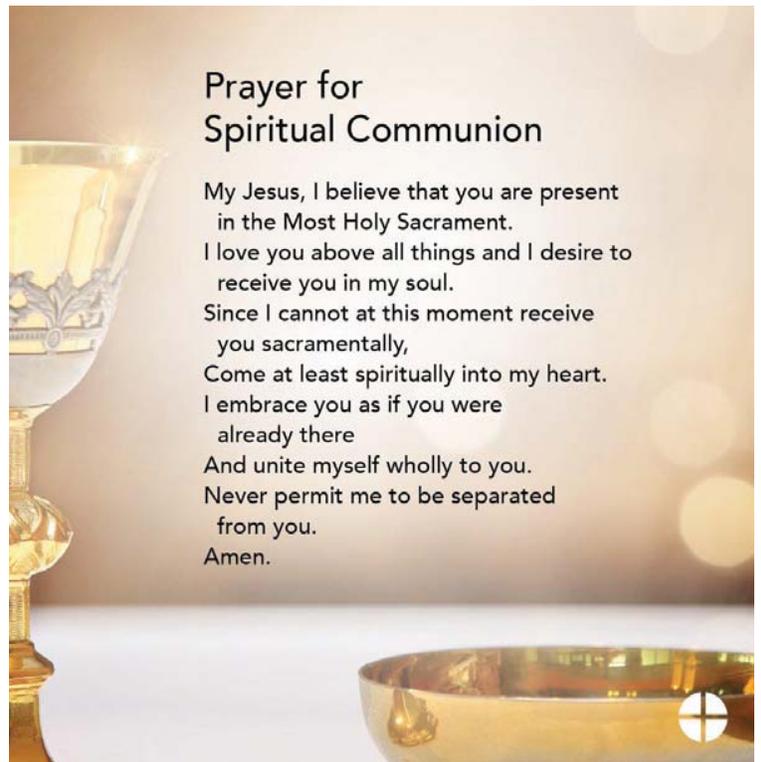
January 11 – January 16

Monday	Rev. Henryk Krajewski, C.R.
Tuesday	Rev. Lajos Angyal
Wednesday	Sisters of St. John the Baptist (C.S.J.B.)
Thursday	Rev. Joseph Durkacz
Friday	Rev. Emmanuel Azike, O.P.
Saturday	Rev. Thomas Manninezhath, C.M.I.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD: As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus "a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'" Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon, or religious. If God is calling you, call Fr. King, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton, 905-528-7988 x 2246, vocations@hamiltondiocese.com or visit <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

SUNDAY MISSALS AND MISSALETTES are available for parishioners to pick up in the entrance to the parish office, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

TELEVISED MASS is available on Salt and Light Television and Vision TV. **Online Mass** is also available on a number of Catholic sites such as www.slmedia.org and www.dailytvmass.com.



**Prayer for
Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there And unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

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