

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (USHERS): Our ushers and other women and men who would like to assist in welcoming the people on Good Friday (April 14), Easter Vigil (April 15) and Easter Sunday (April 16), are asked to contact the parish office to let us know at which liturgies you are able to help.

GOOD FRIDAY: On Good Friday at 11:00 a.m. we will have a liturgy that is geared more towards families with children. In this spirit, we are looking for families to participate in the liturgy: carrying the large cross into the church, reading the voices of the passion with Deacon Phong, and reading the petitions. If your family would like to participate, please contact the office (519-886-0342) or Paula at lourdescatechist@rogers.com.

ARE YOU SEPARATED OR DIVORCED? LET US HELP! Level 1 (Learning to Cope), Level 2 (Accepting the Situation) and Level 3 (Enhancing Self-Esteem) are self-help programs intended to help separated and divorced persons move forward from their divorce healthier and stronger. Topics are meant to offer hope and personal growth and include the process of divorce, self-image, stress, anger, guilt, loneliness, forgiveness, trust, singleness and children. Course fee: \$35 (Level 1), \$45 (Level 2) and \$40 (Level 3). Levels 1, 2 and 3 will be held Tuesday evenings for 11 weeks starting March 28 from 7-9 p.m. Levels 1 and 2 will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Parish (49 Blueridge Ave., Kitchener); Level 3 will be held at St. Mark's Parish (55 Driftwood Dr., Kitchener). Contact the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249, or St. Francis Parish 519-745-7301 to register (Level 1 & 2), or on line at <http://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/divorce-separation.php>.

THE SERRA CLUB OF HAMILTON celebrates the 14th Annual Priesthood & Consecrated Life dinner on Thursday, May 11. For details refer to celebrationprl.wixsite.com/dinner, email celebrationprl@gmail.com, or call Margaret 905-628-5682.

VOCATION SEEDS: “We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day.” Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988, mking@hamiltondiocese.com, or visit www.hamiltonvocations.com.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

If there is such a thing as a Catholic “trademark” it is the sign of the cross, first traced on the senses of catechumens as they begin the journey to baptism, or on the forehead of an infant who is brought to the doors of the church at baptism.

As early as the third century, Christians were tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies. At first, the cross was traced on the forehead during times of prayer and daily occupations. We use a similar small cross today as we trace the cross on the forehead, lips, and heart at the Gospel during Mass. Much later, the full-body sign traced from forehead to heart to shoulders took shape. Today, this superb baptismal gift is a sign of belonging to Christ and the community, a way of focusing our attention, of asking for God’s blessing, of tracing on our shoulders a willingness to find meaning in life’s burdens. In the sign of the cross, we have an ever-available means of expressing gratitude for our baptism. —Rev. James Field, Copyright ©

J. S. Paluch Co.



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PASTOR: Rev. Edward (Ted) Hughes

ADMINISTRATOR: Rev. Rafal Tomon

DEACON: Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang

PARISH YOUTH CATECHIST: Paula Rush

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Bette Honsinger
 Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
 Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturday 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday 3:00 p.m. Vietnamese Martyrs Community
 Rev. Hanh Van Tran, O.M.I.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: By appointment – please phone the parish office

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon
 Wednesday, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: By appointment – please phone the parish office

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS: Last Sunday of each month after all Masses

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Church door collections – last Sunday of each month

Announced Mass intentions for the week of March 26 to April 1, 2017

Monday..... 8:30 a.m.Nicholas de’Rozario & Bruno de’Rozario
 – Nevelle & Naomi de’Rozario
 Tuesday 7:00 p.m.Special intention of Patricia Diesbourg – Family
 Wednesday 8:30 a.m.George Hickson – Marlene Hickson & Family
 Thursday 7:00 p.m.Lucy Chun – Barbara Dunn
 Friday 8:30 a.m.In Thanksgiving – Joseph & Dilani Dhanapala
 7:00 p.m.Stations of the Cross
 Saturday..... 4:30 p.m.Confirmation
 6:00 p.m.Holy Hour
 7:00 p.m.Frank & Anna Miller; Ken Timson

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 26, 2017

Offertory collection for Sunday, March 19, 2017: \$4,526.00

[Note: This amount does not include donations received through pre-authorized giving.]



THE YEAR 2017 WILL MARK THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY of the apparitions of our Blessed Mother to the children of Fatima. The centenary will be celebrated by the Church around the world. It is a privileged moment in which we should hear and heed once again the message of our Blessed Mother at Fatima – the call to conversion and repentance for sins, the invitation to intense prayer, especially the Holy Rosary and devotion to her Immaculate Heart.

To celebrate this event here at Lourdes, a holy hour is being observed on five First Saturdays. The next holy hour, the third of five, will be held on Saturday, April 1. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the rosary. This will be followed by a time for private adoration and the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. The hour will conclude with Benediction beginning at 6:45 p.m.



SHARE LENT – APRIL 2 - WOMEN AT THE HEART OF CHANGE:

The annual Share Lent collection for Development and Peace will be taken up next weekend. Share Lent is Development and Peace’s main fundraising activity. It enables them to reach thousands of Canadians every year. The Share Lent campaign continues to be a unique expression of the identity of Development and Peace as the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada. If you are not using parish offering envelopes, please use one of your own, marking it as Share Lent. To learn more about the important work of Development and Peace visit www.devp.org.

CONFIRMATION: The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, April 1 at 4:30 p.m. Bishop Daniel Miehm, the new Bishop of Peterborough, will be the conferring bishop. Please pray for these young people that they will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout their lives.



HOLY THURSDAY – WASHING OF THE FEET: Jesus and his disciples had gathered around the table for the Last Supper. In Jesus’ time, before sitting down to eat a meal, everyone would have their feet washed. Normally, the servant of the house was responsible for washing the feet of those present. From the biblical account it appears that no servant was present as Jesus and the disciples entered the house and prepared to eat. None of the disciples volunteered to wash feet. In a move that

surprised and humbled the disciples, Jesus got up, poured water into a basin, took a towel and washed his disciples’ feet. When he was finished, John writes in his gospel these words of Jesus, “Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.” (John 13:14-15). Volunteers of all ages are needed to participate in this very symbolic ritual at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on April 13 at 7:30 p.m. Please contact the parish office.

We mourn those who have gone before us in death and continue with us in the Communion of Saints.

Lorne Heldman..... March 17, 2017



Attention Students in Grades 1-3 !

You are warmly invited to four Tuesday evenings to consider the events surrounding the death and resurrection of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. We will listen to scripture, reflect and pray. This Paschal Mystery retreat will take place in the parish office from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on four Tuesdays in April: 4th & 11th (Lent), 18th & 25th (Easter). The retreat will use the method of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, an approach to faith formation begun in Rome more than 60 years ago, that seeks to answer the child’s silent request: “Help me come closer to God by myself.” To inquire further or to register for the 4 evenings, please contact Paula (lourdescatechist@rogers.com).



FANTASTIC FAITH FINDERS: Our next youth group meeting will be on Friday, March 31 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the church hall. Hope to see you there! For more information, please contact Tiffany Scott at tscott1201@rogers.com.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL CELEBRATIONS – CITY OF WATERLOO

- Monday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.St. Louis Church
- Tuesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.St. Agnes Church
- Wednesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.St. Michael Church
- Thursday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.Our Lady of Lourdes Church

You are encouraged to participate in one of the above penitential celebrations. There will be a number of priests available each evening for Confession. Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Easter helps us to fully appreciate and experience the wondrous depth of the mystery we celebrate during Holy Week.



All parishioners are invited to the CWL Lenten event on Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 p. m. in the church hall.

The inspiring video “Stations of the Light” will be shown.

As well, Hart and Marilyn Bezner of the Catholic Missions in Canada will be presenting their incredible stories of the work they do at the missions in northern Canada.

A freewill offering will be taken up to support the work of CMIC.

Easter flowers will be given as door prizes.

All are welcome!!!

