

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: On Sunday, June 10, Bishop Douglas Crosby will celebrate the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 p.m. The Mass is for couples married 25, 40, 50, 60 or 60 plus years in the year 2018. (Space allows room for anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if assistance is required). To register for the celebration, please refer to the poster on the bulletin board of the church, or go to www.hamiltondiocese.com.

#RallyUp 2018 “BE” REGISTRATION IS LIVE: Don’t miss out on the Annual Diocesan Youth Rally taking place at Camp Brebeuf, Rockwood, on Saturday, May 26. Registration is live at hamiltondiocese.com/youthrally. BE there!

ST. AGATHA PARISH CWL PRESENTS ST. PATRICK’S DAY CARD PARTY on Sunday, March 11 at 2:00 p.m. 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 squares. Cash draw and raffle draws during luncheon at 4:30 p.m. For more info, email stagathahcwl@gmail.com

THE PATH TO FREEDOM

Most of us, if we were asked “Does the phrase ‘the Ten Commandments’ appear in the Bible?” would likely get it wrong, because the answer is “no” “The Ten Commandments” is a post-biblical phrase that developed along with an image of God as police officer that is not found in today’s passage from Exodus. The first phrase is the key: God is the one who brings us out of slavery; following God’s law or commands is our path to freedom. The moneychangers whom Jesus drove from the temple were not explicitly breaking any of the commandments, but neither were they helping people to find God’s path to freedom as they came to worship at the temple. This is an important Lenten lesson for us. We need to stop asking ourselves whether or not we are breaking specific rules or regulations and instead examine our lives to see if we are truly following a path to God’s freedom through Christ. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TOTAL ALLEGIANCE

In previous weeks we have seen how the theme of covenant – as a preparation for the baptismal covenant celebrated at Easter – occupies an important place in our cycle of Lenten readings. The notion of covenant as a relationship between two parties carries with it an expectation of mutual accountability and fidelity to the terms of the covenant. When God forged the covenant with the Jewish people on Mt. Sinai, it was a pledge of God’s protection, and it would forever permit them familiar access as the Chosen People. For their part, the Jewish people were to observe the dictates of the law, summarized most succinctly here in the form of the Ten Commandments. To be in a covenantal relationship with the Lord God requires an exclusive relationship, just as discipleship with Jesus – ritualized in baptism – demands a total allegiance to him and none other. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Our Lady of Lourdes Church
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www.ourladyoflourdeswaterloo.com

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
	Twenty minutes before weekday Masses
	or by appointment
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 March 5 to 11, 2018

Monday.....	8:30 a.m.....	Albin Perko – Olga Perko
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Special intention of Harriet Reitzel – Burns Family
	Beechwood Manor	10:00 a.m.....Fr. Ted Hughes – Beechwood Manor Community
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.....	Edward Prostebby – Eveline Prostebby
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Pasqualino Niccoli – Niccoli Family
Friday	8:30 a.m.....	Henry Hess – Pat Hess
	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Saturday.....	7:00 p.m.	Clayt Reidel – Jerry & Christa Fischer
Sunday	9:00 a.m.....	Living & deceased members of our parish
	11:00 a.m.....	Special intention

Offertory collection for Sunday, February 25, 2018: \$5,295.00

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

Monthly Budget Review as of February 28, 2018

Cumulative financial objective – 8 weeks @ \$7,500.....		\$60,000.00
Weekly contributions (year to date).....	\$38,454.05	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date).....	<u>22,743.98</u>	<u>61,198.03</u>
Over (under) objective		\$ 1,198.03

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER ARE COMING!

Please consider volunteering for one or both of the following opportunities:



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. This was done because after walking throughout the day in sandals on dirt roads, a person’s feet became very dirty. The washing of feet before a meal was the proper and hygienic thing to do. 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 ritual at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on March 29 at 7:30 p.m. Please contact the parish office at 519-886-0342 or lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com.*

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (USHERS): Our ushers and other women and men who would like to assist in welcoming the people on Good Friday (March 30), Easter Vigil (March 31) and Easter Sunday (April 1), are asked to contact the parish office to let us know at which liturgies you are able to help.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL CELEBRATIONS – CITY OF WATERLOO

- Monday, March 5, 7:30 p.m.St. Louis Church
- Tuesday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.St. Agnes Church
- Wednesday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.St. Michael Church
- Thursday, March 8, 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.

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH: We all know that positive reinforcement works best with children, but did you know it has a very positive influence on your married relationship as well? Do you compliment your spouse every day? Do you remember the magical words please and thank you when interacting? Do you take a little time out of your busy day just to touch base and let your spouse know they are on your mind? Do you share at least one meal each day? Try each of these throughout the season of Lent and see their benefits come to light.

Parish Administrative Assistant Position at Lourdes: The job description and position requirements have been posted on our parish website: www.ourladyoflourdeswaterloo.com. Follow the link on the home page. Those interested in the position should submit a cover letter and resume no later than **March 19, 2018**

BAPTISM: During the month of February, the following children became members of God’s family in the sacrament of baptism:

Dumeje Alexander Anombem	Dilinna Makayla Anombem	Bryce Kendrick Bewley
Elizabeth Both	Yian Both	Gwen Mary Down
Camile Arianna Roach	Christian Andrew-David Roach	Bennet Skylar O’Meara
Grace Mairead Rose Agla	Logan Daniel Rebollos Lorena	Brielle August Usiski
Hailey Marie Streeter		

FIRST RECONCILIATION: On Saturday, February 24, 43 children received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. May the Lord bless these children and their families as they continue the process of Christian initiation, and may they always remember that God is love and forgiveness.

THANK YOU: Our Lady of Lourdes St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank the students, staff and parents of Our Lady of Lourdes School for their donation of 177 pounds of pancake mix and syrup. This is a welcome addition to our food cupboard – a treat for the people we serve.

VOCATION SEEDS: Jesus cleaned out the temple of money-changers. He was angry; he was zealous; he spoke with authority. He was doing what he had to do even though it involved risk, danger, insult and wonder. Such is a religious vocation in the Church. If you think God might be calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, contact Fr. Michael King, Vocation Director, Diocese of Hamilton, at 905-528-7988 x2246 or vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

RETRouvaille: Do you feel alone in your marriage? - Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille has helped 10’s of 1000’s of couples experiencing marital difficulty. For confidential information or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on March 16, please call 905-664-5212, email hamiltonretrouvaille1@cogeco.ca, or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

Attention Students in Grades 1-3!



You are warmly invited to four Monday 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 6:30-7:45 p.m. on March 19 & 26 (Lent) and April 2 & 9 (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).