



## THE POPE'S MARCH INTENTIONS FOR 2022

**A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges** We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.



### Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During

this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/>



## Our Lady of Lourdes Church

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**PASTOR:**

**Rev. Rafal Tomon**

**DEACON:**

**Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

**Mrs. Patrycja Wiecek**

**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.**

**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**

**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**



### MASS INTENTIONS

## Announced Mass intentions for Mar 21 to Mar 27, 2022

Monday ..... 8:30 a.m. .... +Chris & Ted Walraven – Walraven Family

Tuesday ..... 7:00 p.m. .... +David Corke – Gary Burren

Wednesday ..... 8:30 a.m. .... +Sr. Anne Rektor – Steffler & Sill Families

Thursday ..... 7:00 p.m. .... +Angela Ianni – Carmela Garasto

Friday ..... 8:30 a.m. .... +Gaetano Garasto – Carmela Garasto

Friday ..... 7:00 p.m. .... **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday ..... 6:00 p.m. .... **Holy Hour**

Saturday ..... 7:00 p.m. .... +Catherine Mary Evans – Michael & Sue Klopchic

Sunday ..... 9:00 a.m. .... Special Intention

**Livestream Mass** ..... 11:00 a.m. .... Living & deceased members of our parish

## DOMESTIC CHURCH INFORMATION SESSION

Domestic Church is a long-term formation for sacramentally married couples seeking to grow in holiness together and with other couples. Learn more by attending the information session or contacting us. **When:** Saturday April 2, 2022. Information session at 10:15 a.m. in parish hall after 9:00 a.m. Mass. **Where:** St. Ambrose Parish, 210 South St. Cambridge

**For:** Engaged and sacramentally married couples seeking to grow in holiness together and want to learn more about Domestic Church. Children are welcome. Snacks will be provided.

**Contact:** Marta & Jacek Nawrot, 519 896-8979, [domestic.church.ontario@gmail.com](mailto:domestic.church.ontario@gmail.com)



**LITURGICAL PUBLICATION:** Are you a business owner? We will be collecting business contact information from businesses who would like to advertise in our new parish bulletin. We would greatly appreciate your support for our parish initiative, by calling Liturgical Publication directly at **1-800-268-2637**, or email our parish office with your contact information.



**EASTER FLORAL TRIBUTE:** During the Holy Time of Easter, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes to be placed in the church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. Forms are available at the church entrances if you wish to make such a tribute. The floral tribute sheets will be placed in the sanctuary in a gift-wrapped box. Those loved ones named will be remembered at all the Masses during the Easter season.



An announcement from His Excellency Auxiliary Bishop Wayne Lobsinger - Forward Together in Christ. As we all have experienced, the past two years have taken a great toll on us. We are all exhausted and feel beaten down. As the COVID restrictions begin to lift and we look at the mammoth task ahead of re-opening our Parishes and our Diocese, the task can seem daunting.

Each group and ministry needs new volunteers and training. What ministries do we re-start first? Which do we leave left un-started? How do we begin again to celebrate the Sacred Liturgy according to the mind of the Church? All of these questions need consideration. In order to help all of us begin to consider these questions together, the Diocese of Hamilton would like to get the input of our diocesan community to help us move forward together. To assist with this, we are developing a process, which we are calling: "Forward Together in Christ." The first step will involve initial engagement with Diocesan groups such as Clergy, Permanent Deacons and Parish Pastoral Staff on what they would like to see reflected in the moving forward strategy and ideas for the next steps. Once developed, the plan will serve as a roadmap for how the Diocese of Hamilton approaches the next 3 to 5 years. The strategy will include clear goals, objectives, and actions aligned with our Catholic values and our diocesan mission and vision.

Engagement will occur between March and June 2022. Engagement activities will include:

In-person meetings with Clergy, Parish Ministers, and Pastoral staff

Discussions with the Episcopal Board and Presbyteral Council

A written report that will capture the perspectives of these participants on how the Diocese of Hamilton can act on a collaborative basis to support moving forward out of the pandemic and into the future "together."

The Liturgy, being the source and summit of our Catholic Faith will need particular attention in the initial stage. As we move forward, we will reach out to other groups in the Diocese. Further information will be forthcoming.

This is an exciting time for our Diocese and the Church. In the words of Pope Francis, this is the time to decide what our new normal will be and to use this time of opportunity to boldly build the Church for ministry in the twenty-first century!

Fraternally,

+Wayne Lobsinger, VG, EV

Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/news/2022/March/an-announcement-from-his-excellency-auxiliary-bishop-wayne-lobsinger-forward-together-in-christ>

**DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR** – This week let us pray for...

| Mar. 21          | Mar. 22                  | Mar. 23                     | Mar. 24              | Mar. 25                      | Mar. 26                      |
|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Mark Morley | Rev. Paul Vellimoozhayil | Franciscan Fathers (O.F.M.) | +Rev. James McSharry | Most. Rev. Matthew Ustrzycki | Rev. Ireneusz Koziak, S.A.C. |

**Prayer for Vocations...** God, the source of creation and love, you invite each of us to serve you through the life which is your gift. May your grace encourage men and women to heights through service to the Church as priests, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen.

### Lent 2022 – 40 Days of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving

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|---|--|
| <b>Daily Lenten Mass &amp; Confession Times &amp; Holy Hour</b>                       | <b>Mass:</b> Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 8:30 a.m.; Tuesday & Thursday at 7:00 p.m.<br><b>Confession Times:</b> Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon, and Twenty minutes before each weekday Mass<br><b>Holy Hour:</b> each Saturday's during Lent at 6:00 p.m. with Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet   |
| <b>Stations of the Cross</b>  | Every Friday in Lent at 7:00 p.m. Each week a different meditation of the Stations will be used. Everyone is encouraged to make an effort to attend the Stations at least one of the six Friday evenings during Lent, starting March 4   |
| <b>Daily Reflection</b>   | <b>With Your Whole Heart:</b> Lent invites us to "return to the Lord" with our "whole heart." This daily devotional is designed for families to put their faith into practice. Parents and families are encouraged to grow together during the important season of Lent.   |
| <b>Fast &amp; Abstinence</b>  | Catholics aged 14 and older abstain from meat on <b>Ash Wednesday</b> and <b>Good Friday</b> . In addition, Catholics from age 18-59 fast on those days, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.  |
| <b>Almsgiving Share Lent Sunday April 10</b>  | <b>TOGETHER FOR PEACE</b>  |
|  | During Lent, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites you to take part in their Share Lent campaign: Together for Peace. This campaign calls on us to reflect on the profound meaning of peace by discovering the importance of dialogue as a means for reconciliation and for the construction of peace. Together, let us continue to believe that peace, human dignity and justice can triumph.<br><br>Suggestion: consider putting aside at least one dollar a day to help Development and Peace. May the long-standing support of our parish and its concern for the poor continue to grow stronger in our community. Scripture reminds us that our good deeds go with us into eternity. |
|  | This year we are collecting <b>skim milk powder and rice</b> . Milk holds huge potential to improve nutrition for hundreds of millions of poor people around the world. It is too expensive, however, for the poorest families to buy. This year we will be collecting POWDER MILK and RICE for Canadian Food for Children throughout the season of Lent. These particular food items were suggested in the recent newsletter from Canadian Food for Children. Please bring your items to the church in a reusable cloth bag. Your donations can be placed by the baptismal font up to and including Palm Sunday (April 10).   |
| <b>Canadian Food for Children</b>   |  |

