

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
44 Leonard St., Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 6C8 Phone: 519-743-4525  
E-mail: [st.teresa@stteresakit.ca](mailto:st.teresa@stteresakit.ca) [www.stteresakit.ca](http://www.stteresakit.ca)

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

## St. Teresa of Ávila

“To have courage for  
whatever comes in  
life - everything lies  
in that.”



## Parish Staff & Organizations

**Pastor:** Fr. Marian Gil, OMI  
**Parish Secretary:** Mary Steffler  
**Business Administrator:** David Agnew  
**Facilities Manager:** Jack Pigeau

**Volunteer Gardeners:** Jim Weber,  
Stella Lemieux, Fatima Pacheco,  
Magie Navaleza, Betty Skinner  
**Baptism Preparation Team:**  
**CWL President:** Mary Alice Zister  
**Lector Co-ordinator:** Mary Steffler  
**Eucharistic Minister Co-ordinator:**  
Kim Voelzing

**Adoration Chapel Co-ordinators:**  
Herb Altman – 519-893-4793 or  
Rosemary Mussar – 519-743-5656

**Prayer Group:**  
Mila Navaleza - 519-574-8534 or  
519-900-0250

**Finance Council Chair:**  
Don Pickett, Jr.

**Pastoral Council Chair:**  
Barbara Daly

**St. Vincent de Paul:**  
Bernie & Rosemary Pickett  
519-749-1501

**St. Teresa School**  
Principal: Mr. Brian Goodyear  
Secretary: Mary Lavigne  
519-743-2131

**Parish Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday – Office Closed**

**Saturday Liturgy:**

9:00 a.m. (except in August)  
5:00 p.m.

**Weekday Schedule**  
Please check inside for  
weekly schedule

**Sunday Liturgy:**

10:00 a.m.

**Confession:** 30 min. before Mass; Sat., 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.

**Healing Mass:** First Friday of each month  
(September – June) – 7:00 p.m.

**Prayer Meeting:** Temporarily suspended

## Third Sunday of Advent

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

### A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,  
let the anticipation of your birth  
fill us with overflowing joy.  
May our excitement and anticipation  
be a sign to the world  
that you are always near.  
Amen.



This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 3:10-18) continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly.

**“The crowds, who were gathering to be baptized by John, asked him, “What should we do?” In reply John said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Lk 3: 10 - 13**

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. As you gather as a family, talk about the preparations your family is making during the season of Advent. Reflect together on these activities, not only on what you are doing but why you are choosing to do these things.

**“In a state of grace, the soul is like a well of limpid water...”**

St. Teresa of Ávila

### Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar 2021

December 13 – Rev. Sam Restivo, C.R.  
December 14 – Rev. David Perrin  
December 15 – Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (C.Ss.R.)  
December 16 – Rev. Robert Bulbrook  
December 17 – Rev. Timothy Higgins  
December 18 – Rev. Lawrence Parent  
December 19 – **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

### Vocations

#### Third Sunday of Advent December 12, 2021

Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? Contact Bishop Wayne Lobsinger, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton, (905-528-7988).

[vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)  
<https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

#### *Serra Prayer for Vocations*

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of labourers for Your church, fellow labourers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.

**Christmas Season – Mass Registration** – Due to ongoing Covid protocols, we are requesting that you register for the Christmas Masses. Please call the parish office or click on the following link: [http://stteresakit.ca/?page\\_id=2434](http://stteresakit.ca/?page_id=2434)

**Preparing for Confirmation and First Communion & Reconciliation – Important Dates:**

**Confirmation – December 12, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** - Holy Mass: “Actions speak louder than words” - Confirmation Candidates will present their projects. Each candidate will receive a Sunday Missal for Young Catholics.

**December 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** - Catechetical Session 1: “Discovering the grace of prayer” (parents & candidates)

**First Reconciliation and First Communion – December 15, 2021** – Deadline for “Actions speak louder than words” to be handed in.

**December 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** - Catechetical Session 1: “Discovering the grace of prayer” (parents & candidates)

**December 19, 2021 - Holy Mass: “Actions speak louder than words”** (presentation of projects that FC candidates selected as a way of building relationship with the parish)

**Sunday, December 12th** – All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass on **Sunday, December 12th** at the 10 a.m. Mass to be blessed as we too celebrate Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your ‘Bambinelli’ home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas Day - as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

**The Divine Mercy Chapel** is open for Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, **Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.** Please see the Chapel Guidelines as you enter the chapel. To sign up, please call the parish office - 519-743-4525.

**Offertory Collection** – Please note that we have resumed the usual manner of taking up the collection, by the Ushers, during the Offertory, at Mass. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish!

**Mass Intentions**

**December 13, 2021 – December 19, 2021**

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**  
*Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*  
+ **Marlene Fritz – CWL**

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**Holy Souls – Moser Family**

Thursday, December 16, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**Intentions of Sharon & Jean-Guy Laforest – Ken & Betty**

Friday, December 17, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**  
**Holy Souls – Moser Family**

Saturday, December 18, 2021 –  
**9:00 a.m. – Living & Deceased Members of the CWL – CWL**  
**5:00 p.m. – + Ludwig Ceh – Theresa Ceh & Family**

Sunday, December 19, 2021 – **10:00 a.m. – Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year C – Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

**Live-streaming on Zoom**

The **10 a.m. Sunday Mass** will be live-streamed. To join Father, click on the following link:  
<https://zoom.us/j/5887658626>  
**Password: 274733**

**Daily Readings:**

Lectors may find daily readings at this link:  
<https://readings.livingwithchrist.ca>

**Stewardship Report December 5, 2021**

Envelopes .....	\$ 2431.00
Loose .....	\$ 120.00
Building and Maintenance .....	\$ 75.00
Christmas .....	\$ 25.00
Funeral .....	\$ 150.00

Thank you to those who continue to remember the parish through financial donations - We appreciate your continued support!

**Mass Intentions for 2021** – The offering of Mass for the deceased, the sick, a personal intention, in thanksgiving, a special intention such as an anniversary, birthday, etc. is an act of deep faith and a most excellent way of remembering a loved one. Please call the parish office if you would like to request a Mass.

**Parish Office – Important Up-dated Information**

Our Parish Office is open Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Following diocesan protocols, admittance to the parish office is by appointment only and you are required to wear a mask. For an appointment, please call or email the parish office, 519-743-4525 or st.teresa@stteresakit.ca

**Donations for the year 2021** – As we approach year end, we wish to remind you that the diocesan bookkeeping policy requires that parish books close on December 31, 2021. Any donations you wish to make for the 2021 taxation year must be submitted by December 31, 2021. Donations from businesses that would like to receive an income tax receipt for 2021 must be received at the parish office by December 31, 2021. Thank you for your generosity to the parish!

**Christmas Flowers** – Envelopes are available at the back of the church for those wishing to make a contribution to assist with the cost of the flowers and trees. Thank you for your generosity.

**Sunday Missals – 2021/2022** – The Living with Christ Sunday Missals are available on the table at the back of the church or at the Parish Office. The charge is \$5. Please bring the exact change.

**CWL Membership** - the membership fee is \$25 and young ladies 16 and over are eligible to be members. For those who pay their membership by December 15, 2021 we will have a draw for a free membership. We welcome and appreciate the participation of young women.

**Visits to Shut-Ins at their Home and in Retirement/Nursing Homes** - our ladies are resuming visits to those who are not able to attend Church services. At Christmas and Easter, Father Marian comes with us to attend to their spiritual needs as they request. Our visitors must be double vaccinated and practice all Covid protocols. Those we visit must not have any symptoms. If you know anyone who would like a visit or if you would like to help, please contact the parish office.

**Canadian Food for Children Collection** - This year we are collecting hygiene products for Canadian Food for Children. There is a desperate need for toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and hand soap. Bins will be at the main entrance of the church for the next few weeks until Christmas. Please be generous to those who have so, so much less than we do.

**Prayer Shawls Ministry** - If you or anyone you know would like a blessed prayer shawl, hand-made by members of St. Teresa Parish, please contact the office and someone from the Prayer Shawl Ministry will contact you. Our CWL gives knitted and crocheted prayer blankets to newly baptized babies. All prayer shawls and blankets have been blessed by a priest. If you would like to help out by making prayer shawls, or baby blankets, please contact the office.

**University Chaplaincy in the Diocese of Hamilton:**

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis has produced a video showcasing the wonderful ministry of our Diocesan University Chaplaincy Centres. To view: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/evangelization-catechesis/young-adult-ministry>

**The 2021 – 2023 Synod of Bishops** brings an invitation from Pope Francis to embark on a journey together. How can you get involved? Offer your thoughts on how we can deepen our communion in the Lord and how all members of the Church can participate more fully in its mission. Visit: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/synod/#about>.

**Christmas Midnight Mass**

**Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton**

His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, will celebrate Midnight Mass on December 25, 2021. The Mass will be preceded by Carols at 11:30 p.m. on December 24, 2021. The Carols and the Mass will be shown live on Salt+Light Television and CHCH-TV. Admittance to the Cathedral for Midnight Mass is by **ticket only** – a limited number of tickets are still available by contacting the Cathedral at: **(905) 522-5744**.

### Publication of Banns of Ordination

Mr. Carlos Arturo Diaz is scheduled to be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, Ontario. If anyone knows of a serious cause why this Ordination should not take place, please notify your Parish Priest. Let us all pray that Mr. Carlos Diaz will be a good and faithful servant of the Lord and His Church.

### A Big Thank You!

We would like to thank Bill Zister, Tim Pickett, Don Monastyrski and Jack Pigeau for setting up the Christmas Crib in front of the church and also decorating our trees with Christmas lights. Thank you for your dedication!

*Psalms, Songs  
& Silence*

*Preparing our hearts for Jesus*

**Friday, December 17 - 7 PM**

- Exposition & Adoration
- Song & Prayer
- Quiet time with the Lord

Freewill Offering:  
St. Anthony Daniel Underprivileged Account

St. Anthony Daniel Parish - 29 Midland Dr.

## ADVENT



3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF  
*Advent*

**Advent with Children - Join our parish for Advent with Children.** This will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, dedicate 5-10 minutes to prayer, meditation and some activities. Every Sunday children will receive an activity material based on Sunday's Gospel to get involved in spiritual preparation for Christmas. Children who join this program and attend Mass during this Advent Season will receive, on the Fourth Sunday of Advent - a special gift – little Baby Jesus and a Christmas bookmark. **Do not miss your chance to get your gift and get ready for Christmas!**

**Advent Resource for Families** – The Offices for Liturgy, Youth Ministry and Evangelization and Catechesis are happy to provide a resource for families to encourage prayer and celebration in the home during the Advent Season. For suggestions, videos and a simple prayer to be prayed around the wreath each Sunday of Advent, please visit the diocese website:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/advent2021/>