

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark’s Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus’ birth. Instead, Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus’ baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus’ public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist.

In contrast to last week’s Gospel, in Mark’s Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. It was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. **In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him.** Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. **Jesus promises that he will make them “fishers of men.”** James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus’ words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God’s kingdom?

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar	
<i>January 18-25 Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	
January 22	– Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto, C.S.Sp.
January 23	– Rev. Malcom Katzenberger
January 24	– Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (C.M.I.)
January 25	– Rev. Edward Hampson
January 26	– Rev. Robert Dunn
January 27	– Rev. George Stortz
January 28	– Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vocations

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 21, 2024

The call of the disciples is so familiar to us that we tend to miss the wonder of the disciples’ response, which was immediate and complete; they leave everything and follow Jesus. Can we do less if we feel that God is calling us to the priesthood, religious life or diaconate? If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call:

Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations
905-528-7988; vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Mass Intentions	
January 22, 2024 – January 28, 2024	
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.	+ Carol Reitzel – <i>Catholic Women’s League</i>
Wednesday, January 24, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.	Memorial of Saint Frances de Sales, Bishop, Religious Founder and Doctor
	+ Florence Cybulski – <i>Family</i>
Thursday, January 25, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.	+ Julia Tillich – <i>Sue Weber Bell</i>
Friday, January 19, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.	+ Jack Wolff – <i>Catholic Women’s League</i>
Saturday, January 20, 2024 –	9:00 a.m. – + John Novak – <i>Helene Meier</i>
	5:00 p.m. – + Brenda Haskins – <i>Lee Binkle</i>
Sunday, January 21, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish.

Fr. Stefano will say Mass privately on Mondays and during his holidays. You may request Mass intentions for those days.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism	
On Saturday, January 27 th 2024 at 6:30 p.m., through the Sacrament of Baptism, we will welcome:	
Noah Harnack	
son of	
Michelle Harnack and Jake Harnack	

Bible Study

St. Teresa of Avila Parish will be hosting a bible study starting during the season of Lent. If you are interested in joining, please see the sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Please watch the upcoming bulletins for further details.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Hamilton Diocese Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton on Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 1:30 PM. Please see the Hamilton Diocese website for details and to register. You will also be able to register at the parish.

2024 Offertory Envelopes

A reminder that 2024 Offertory envelopes are still available for pick up at the back of the church.

Flower Donations

Flower donation envelopes are at the back of the church. Any donation towards the cost of the flowers in the sanctuary would be greatly appreciated!

Sunday of the Word of God

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time marks the celebration of Bible Sunday in the Diocese of Hamilton. At the conclusion of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis encouraged every Christian community to choose one Sunday a year to renew its efforts to make the Sacred Scriptures better known and widely diffused. Our celebration of Bible Sunday is a call to listen to how #TheBibleSpeaks in our hearts and within our communities of faith.

The Pastoral Offices of the Diocese of Hamilton have prepared a wide variety of resources for youth and adults in celebration of Bible Sunday 2024. Visit our website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/the-bible-speaks-2024/> for more information.

CWL Membership

Catholic Women's League Membership dues - Membership is \$35 for 2024. We would like to send our dues to National by the end of January. Please put your membership (cash or cheque) in an envelope marked CWL with your name, phone number and if possible, email address. Put it in the collection at weekend Mass or drop it off at the rectory. All women 16 years and older are invited to join the League.

To learn more about the Catholic Women's League of Canada, please visit: Catholic Women's League in the Hamilton Diocese, cwl.ca and CWL.on.ca.

Stewardship Report	
January 14th, 2024	
Sunday Offerings	\$2,214.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 20.00

We are most appreciative of your ongoing prayerful and financial support.

Donations to the parish can be made through the use of Sunday Offertory envelopes, Pre-Authorized Giving, CanadaHelps and Interac e-Transfer.

Pre-Authorized Giving – A digital copy of the form can be found on our parish website or call the parish office. Simply print the form, complete it and return it to the Parish Office.

E-Transfer – To donate through E-Transfer, please use the following email account: stteresakitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

CanadaHelps – To support our parish via **credit card** or **PayPal** please visit canadahelps.org You can access our parish directly by following this link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450RR0053-st-teresas-parish/>

Please note that donations made through the CanadaHelps website, will receive a tax receipt directly from CanadaHelps, via email.

If you require any further information, please contact the parish office.

Prayer for Canada and the World

You are invited to join other Christians at Speakers Corner, at the corner of King and Benton in Kitchener, to pray the rosary for Canada and the world on Wednesdays from 6 PM to 6:30 PM. For more information, please contact Bill Barrett at (519) 954-1633.

Young Adults Night

Saturday, February 3rd – Waterloo

Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night and vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, February 3rd at St. Michael's Catholic Church (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

WISDOM OF THE SAINTS

“Prayer is, therefore, the source and origin of every upward journey toward God. Let us each, then, turn to prayer and say to our Lord God: “lead me, O Lord, on your path, that I may walk in your truth.”
– *St. Bonaventure*

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention – January 2024

Please join Pope Francis in praying for the gift of diversity in the Church during the month of January.