

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John’s Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfillment of God’s promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus’ presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ’s disciples is sustained through God’s Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbor. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

Loyola Press

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar	
April 29	– Rev. Guillermo Diaz
April 30	– Rev. Paul Edmonstone
May 1	– <i>International Worker’s Day</i>
May 2	– Rev. Duy Van Nguyen
May 3	– Rev. Grzegorz Ogorzalek
May 4	– Grandparents & the Elderly
May 5	– Sixth Sunday of Easter <i>(Pope’s Pastoral Works)</i>

Vocations

Fifth Sunday of Easter - April 28, 2024

Our second Scripture reading reminds us that we are to love, not in word and speech only, but in truth and action. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call:

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

Mass Intentions April 29, 2024 – May 5, 2024	
Tuesday, April 30, 2024	– 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1, 2024	– 8:30 a.m.
Thursday, May 2, 2024	– 8:30 a.m.
Friday, May 3, 2024	– 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 4, 2024	9:00 a.m. – + Ludwig Ceh – <i>Family</i> 5:00 p.m. – + Stella Dombroski – <i>The Weiler Family</i>
Sunday, May 5, 2024	– 10:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish

Stewardship Report – April 21 st , 2024	
Sunday Offerings	\$1,979.80
Votives.....	\$ 18.00
Building Fund.....	\$ 70.00
Flowers.....	\$ 50.00
Indigenous Reconciliation.....	\$ 20.00
Good Friday.....	\$ 200.00
Donation for Ambry.....	\$ 610.00

Parish Announcements

For those who wish to plan First Communion for public school students, please contact the parish office to schedule the First Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. Stefano Lee.

First Communion Interviews with Families

First Communion interviews with First Communion students and their families will take place in April and May. A letter to parents has been sent out with more details. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions.

Confirmation – May 15th, 2024

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Teresa of Avila Parish on May 15th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Very Reverend Monsignor Murry Kroetsch, Vicar General of the Diocese of Hamilton will preside at the celebration. Prior to Confirmation, **there will be a retreat and rehearsal on May 8th, 2024** in the church of St. Teresa of Avila at 7:00 PM. It is necessary to attend these events before Confirmation.

For any questions, please contact the parish office.

Bible Study

A reminder that on the first Friday of the month only, the bible study will take place after the 7:00 p.m. Mass. On all other Fridays, the bible study starts at 7:00 p.m.

Office Notice

On Monday mornings, due to the recording of donations, we may not answer the phone. Please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Divine Mercy Chapel hours have been updated to Monday to Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

We are looking for a volunteer to fill the 10:00 a.m. Tuesday time slot! If you would like to register, please contact Sandra Nakluski – (226) 789-1259, or the parish office.

New Parish Photo Directory – Join Us in Creating a Lasting Memory at St. Teresa of Avila!

We are excited to embark on a special project—a new parish photo directory! This cherished keepsake will capture the spirit and faces of our parish family at this moment in time, and we need your participation to make it a success! It is a wonderful way to celebrate and remember our parish community.

Why is this important?

- **Strengthen Community Bonds:** This directory celebrates our parish community and will help everyone feel more connected and engaged.
- **Free Personal Directory:** Each participating household will receive one complimentary photo directory.
- **Complimentary Portrait Sitting:** Enjoy a free sitting provided by IPC Photo, with the option to purchase additional portraits—perfect for sharing with loved ones.

Sign Up Today!

Starting this weekend, you can sign up for your photo session by contacting the parish office or at the sign-up table in the narthex of the church before and after Mass on weekends. Don't miss this opportunity to be included in our parish family album.

Dates to Remember

- Photographers will be available on the following dates:
- June 24th - 26th from 2:30 PM to 8:30 PM
 - July 5th - 6th from 2:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Call for Committee Volunteers

Many hands make light work, and we need your help! If you are interested in contributing to this historic endeavor, come join the Parish Photo Directory Committee! For more details or to sign up, please contact the parish office or speak with Arinze at 548-333-2015.

Thank you for your participation and support. Let’s come together to make the St. Teresa of Avila photo directory a beautiful reflection of our vibrant parish community!

CWL General Meeting

All women of the parish are invited join us on Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall to plan our events for the coming months.

Diocese Announcements

Exploring God's Call:

Join Our Religious Life Vocation Retreat

How do I discern a vocation to Religious Life? If you're looking to understand God's plan for you, join us for the 'Come and See' day retreat on May 25th at St. Mary's Parish. This retreat offers a chance to join community prayers, engage in discussions with three Resurrectionists, and meet other young people on a similar journey. For further details, please visit our website: <https://resurrectionists.ca/vocations/come-see>

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.

We are most appreciative of your ongoing prayerful and financial support for our parish, St. Teresa of Avila.

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.

<p align="center">Wisdom of the Saints “Love ought to show itself in deeds more than words.” -- St. Ignatius of Loyola</p>

<p align="center">Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention April 2024 Please join Pope Francis in praying for the role of women during the month of April.</p>
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