

**Pentecost**

Pentecost, the beginning and birthday of the Church, is an annual feast that closes out the Easter season 50 days after the resurrection is celebrated. The word Pentecost has its root in the Greek word that means five. It is also a word that was used in Judaism during the time of Jesus, as Pentecost was the word used for the harvest festival Shavuot. The Christian celebration has its origins in the Acts of the Apostles, in Acts 2:1-12, where the early disciples experienced the filling of the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus. This Third Person of the Holy Trinity is known by a variety of names in Christian theology; one name is Paraclete. The name Paraclete means educator, intercessor, teacher, helper and comforter. These names describe how the Holy Spirit is present in the Church and is present with God’s people. The Spirit is sent to remind us of all that Jesus said and taught. The Holy Spirit makes everything possible.

**What are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?**

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are, according to Catholic Tradition, **wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of God.**

- **Wisdom** is both the knowledge of and judgment about “divine things” and the ability to judge and direct human affairs according to divine truth.
- **Understanding** is penetrating insight into the very heart of things, especially those higher truths that are necessary for our eternal salvation—in effect, the ability to “see” God.
- **Counsel** allows a man to be directed by God in matters necessary for his salvation.
- **Fortitude** denotes a firmness of mind in doing good and in avoiding evil, particularly when it is difficult or dangerous to do so, and the confidence to overcome all obstacles, even deadly ones, by virtue of the assurance of everlasting life.
- **Knowledge** is the ability to judge correctly about matters of faith and right action, so as to never wander from the straight path of justice.
- **Piety** is, principally, revering God with filial affection, paying worship and duty to God, paying due duty to all men on account of their relationship to God, and honoring the saints and not contradicting Scripture. The Latin word *pietas* denotes the reverence that we give to our father and to our country; since God is the Father of all, the worship of God is also called piety
- **Fear of God** is, in this context, “filial” or chaste fear whereby we revere God and avoid separating ourselves from him—as opposed to “servile” fear, whereby we fear punishment.

*Adapted from: Catholic Answers*

**Congratulations Confirmation Candidates!**

Congratulations to our Confirmation students, who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

- Grace Hackbart**
- Samuel Heimpel**
- Devon Lorentz**
- Holly Evangeline Robins**
- Tyson Shin**
- Brielle Smith**
- Mariana Gutierrez Sotelo**
- Alexis Tavares**
- Addison Water**

Special thanks to Very Reverend Monsignor Murry Kroetsch, Vicar General of the Diocese of Hamilton, who presided at the celebration!

**Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar**

- May 20 – **Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**
- May 21 – Rev. Hanh Van Tran, O.M.I
- May 22 – Congregation of the Resurrection (C.R.)
- May 23 – Rev. Adam Voisin
- May 24 – Rev. Jeffery Oehring  
*(World Day of Prayer for the Church in China)*
- May 25 – Rev. Francesco Cucchi
- May 26 – **The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**

**Mass Intentions  
May 20, 2024 – May 26, 2024**

- Saturday, May 25, 2024  
**9:00 a.m. + Florence Cybulski - Family**  
**5:00 p.m. + Leona and Sheldon Grobe – Peter Grobe**
- Sunday, May 26, 2024 – **10:00 a.m.**  
**Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

**Stewardship Report – May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Sunday Offerings .....	\$3,077.50
Votives.....	\$ 18.50
Building Fund.....	\$ 65.00
Pastoral Works.....	\$ 20.00
Special Donations.....	\$ 950.00
Ambry Donation.....	\$ 40.00
Flowers.....	\$ 50.00

**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, E-Transfer, and CanadaHelps.**

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

**Parish Announcements**

**Baptism**

On Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcomed:

**Jiihe Chukwu,**

son of

**Julian Chukwu and Amarachi Ojimba**

Congratulations on your Baptism, Jiihe!

**Notice of Weekday Mass Schedule Change  
May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Fr. Stefano Lee will be away on retreat from May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be no weekday Masses during this time, and the regular Mass schedule will resume on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

**First Communion Schedule**

The celebration of First Holy Communion will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup>, and June 9<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions.

**Serra Club Meeting: May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The Serra Club of Kitchener-Waterloo is hosting a meeting on Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at St. Teresa of Avila Church to revitalize and increase membership. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact: Bill Zister at 519-578-2019 or [ma\\_zister@hotmail.com](mailto:ma_zister@hotmail.com).

**Marian Celebration**

Join us on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 for a special celebration of the Liturgy in honour Mary during the Month of May. Watch future bulletins for more details.

**Notice: Foyer Glass Door Handles**

We will be replacing the door handles on the center foyer glass doors during the first week of July. Until then, please use caution when using the current door handles, as they can pinch!

**Sanctuary Cleaning Team**

We are looking for volunteers to join our Sanctuary Cleaning team. Teams are made in pairs, and cleaning takes place on Fridays. To join, please contact 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.

**Sign Up Today!**

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!

**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>

**Wisdom of the Saints**

“Those who want to bear the mark of the Spirit and the fire that Christ baptizes with must take the risk of renouncing everything and seeking only God’s reign and justice.”

-- St. Óscar Romero

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention  
May 2024**

Please join Pope Francis in praying for the formation of religious and seminarians during the month of May.