

Series – Catechism of the Catholic Church

Chapter 3, Article 1: III. The Characteristics of Faith (Part 4)

Faith - the beginning of eternal life

163 Faith makes us taste in advance the light of the beatific vision, the goal of our journey here below. Then we shall see God "face to face", "as he is".<sup>47</sup> So faith is already the beginning of eternal life: When we contemplate the blessings of faith even now, as if gazing at a reflection in a mirror, it is as if we already possessed the wonderful things which our faith assures us we shall one day enjoy.<sup>48</sup>

164 Now, however, "we walk by faith, not by sight";<sup>49</sup> we perceive God as "in a mirror, dimly" and only "in part".<sup>50</sup> Even though enlightened by him in whom it believes, faith is often lived in darkness and can be put to the test. the world we live in often seems very far from the one promised us by faith. Our experiences of evil and suffering, injustice and death, seem to contradict the Good News; they can shake our faith and become a temptation against it.

165 It is then we must turn to the witnesses of faith: to Abraham, who "in hope... believed against hope";<sup>51</sup> to the Virgin Mary, who, in "her pilgrimage of faith", walked into the "night of faith"<sup>52</sup> in sharing the darkness of her son's suffering and death; and to so many others: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."<sup>53</sup>

Taken from: [vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_INDEX.HTM](http://vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM)

Diocese of Hamilton Prayer Calendar
March 17 – Rev. Peter Robinson
March 18 – Rev. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.
March 19 – <b>St. Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
March 20 – Rev. Kevin Upendran
March 21 – Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.
March 22 – Rev. Ambroise Tshiaba Ntumba
March 23 – <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>

Mass Intentions March 17, 2025 – March 23, 2025
Saturday, March 22, 2025 <b>5:00 p.m. – Intentions of Fatima Pacheco – <i>Fatima Pacheco</i></b>
Sunday, March 23, 2025 – <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish</b>

Stewardship Report – March 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Sunday Offerings .....\$ 1,378.00
Flowers.....\$ 10.00
Building & Maintenance.....\$ 197.55
In Memory of Ken Skinner.....\$ 205.00
February E-transfer Donations.....\$ 330.00
February Direct Deposit Donations.....\$ 1,294.00
February CanadaHelps Donations.....\$ 100.00

We are most appreciative of your ongoing prayerful and financial support for our parish, St. Teresa of Avila, especially during our present time of financial need.

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

If you require further information on how to give, please contact the parish office, or visit the parish website for more details.

Parish Announcements

**Upcoming Weekday Mass Schedule**  
Please note that there will be **no weekday Masses during the week of March 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>** while Fr. Stefano is away on pilgrimage. Our regular weekday Mass schedule will resume on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Stations of the Cross**  
While Fr. Stefano is away, Stations of the Cross will take place in the church at 7:00 p.m. on Friday. The Lenten Friday evening Mass will resume upon Fr. Stefano’s return.

**Anniversary Blessing**  
Married couples celebrating an anniversary who wish to have their marriage blessed, please contact the parish office to arrange with Fr. Stefano.

**Children’s Liturgy & Bulletin**  
We are in need of more volunteers to help run our Children’s Liturgy. If you are interested, please contact the parish office for information on how to apply. A children’s bulletin is now available at the back of the church every weekend for families with young children. Please take a copy for your young ones to share!

**Vatican II and Its Four Constitutions**  
This ongoing five-week series exploring the constitutions of the Second Vatican Council and their impact on the Church is paused until the Easter season to accommodate our weekly Friday evening Mass and Stations of the Cross during Lent. If you would like to

join the remaining sessions, please contact the parish office or use the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

**Parish Pasta Dinner**  
Join us Sunday, March 30th at 4:30 or 6:30 for our Pasta Dinner fundraiser—pasta by Ennio's. All proceeds will be going towards the needs of the parish. Tickets will be available at all Masses the weekends of March 16 and 23. Tickets are \$25 each for adults, \$10 for children 7–14, children 6 and under free. We will also be having a silent auction. If you would like to make any contributions towards this event, please email Barbara at [bmdaly@me.com](mailto:bmdaly@me.com).

Diocese Announcements

**Parenting Tip of the Month**  
Parents are the most influential people in their children’s lives. They watch every move, take in every word and see how you navigate the world - then they become the mini version of you, their parents. All the traits they take in become part of who they are for life! Help them to be the best people they can be by looking inward and asking yourself if you are doing enough to raise them to be the adult you would like them to be. If not, change how you interact and help them grow strong in mind, body and spirit. (Family Ministry Office)

**Marriage Tip of the Month**  
March is the start of Lent, a time when we reflect on our faith and our commitment to living as we are called to as disciples of Jesus. It is a perfect time to discuss as a couple how your marriage, considered both a Sacrament and Vocation by the Church, is fulfilling its mandate to be the visible sign of God’s invisible love. Do you strive always to treat each other as God loves, in total self-giving, with mercy and forgiveness acting as strong pillars of your marriage? This Lent, make your Lenten journey a time to pray together and to work as a couple to strengthen one of the most important parts of your life, your marriage. (Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

**Liturgical Ministers of Hope**  
During Lent this year, the Liturgy Office invites all Liturgical Ministers to gather for a Lenten retreat on the theme of Liturgical Ministers of Hope. Saturday, March 22, 2025, Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, ON, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday, March 29, 2025, St. Matthew Parish, Oakville, ON, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Saturday,

April 5, 2025, Annunciation of our Lord Parish, Hamilton, ON, 10:00 to 12:30 p.m.

**16th Annual Dynamic Women of Faith Conference**  
This conference will bring together Catholic women to share in hearing informative presentations, enjoy delicious food and fellowship with all those present. The event will be held on Saturday March 22, 2025 from 9:00am-4pm at the Old Mill (includes light lunch) in Toronto. For more information see [Recharge Your Spirit at the Dynamic Women of Faith Conference 2025](#); to register go to [Dynamic Women of Faith Conference 2025 Tickets, Sat, 22 Mar 2025 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#).

**Opening the Holy Door: Spring Book Club**  
The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis invites you to join us for a four-week virtual book club, exploring the new book by Joan Watson, “*Opening the Holy Door*.” Tuesdays from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. March 18-April 8, 2025. Together we will reflect on the beautiful images of mercy and hope found on the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, open to pilgrims and visitors throughout the Jubilee Year. Registration can be made here: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/>

**The Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass**  
Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? Then you are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 p.m. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is available online at [hamiltondiocese.com](http://hamiltondiocese.com).

Wisdom of the Saints
“Can there be a more fitting pursuit in youth or a more valuable possession in old age than a knowledge of sacred scripture? In the midst of storms it will preserve you from the dangers of shipwreck and guide you to the shore of an enchanting paradise and the everlasting bliss of the angles.”
– St. Boniface

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention March 2025
For families in crisis: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.