

BAPTISM OF THE LORD
January 12th, 2025

In the First Reading, the prophet (Isaiah) assures the exiles in Babylon that God is coming to save them. The prophecy was fulfilled in the return from the exile, but more especially in the coming of Jesus Christ. John the Baptist was clearly a prophet. Since the spirit of prophecy had long been absent from Israel, John's appearance raised expectations. The question arose: could he be the Messiah? But John denied that he was the Messiah, but declared that the Messiah was at hand. Thus he prepared the way for Jesus. Baptism was a defining moment in the life of Jesus – it marked the beginning of His public mission. St. Luke always presents Jesus as praying before making major decisions. It's no surprise then that we find Him praying during His baptism. In response to His prayers, the Holy Spirit descends on Him in bodily form at the beginning of His mission, just as it will come in visible form on the Apostles at Pentecost at the beginning of their mission. The Father puts His seal of approval on Jesus and on the mission He is about to begin.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 12 th <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	
Monday, January 13 th <i>St. Hilary; Bishop & Doctor</i>	-	-	-
Tuesday, January 14 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	9 am	+ <i>Clara Isabella Herteis</i>	By The Estate
Wednesday, January 15 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	12 pm 4 pm	<i>Intentions of Bob & Linda Myers & family</i> + <i>Daniel & Lucille Kelley (Linwood)</i>	By Dale & Anita M ^c Cormick & family By The Estate
Thursday, January 16 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	9 am	+ <i>Joseph Strauss</i>	By Dianne Strauss
Friday, January 17 th <i>St. Anthony; Abbot</i>	9 am	+ <i>Helen Caroline Benninger</i>	By The Estate
Saturday, January 18 th <i>Ordinary Time</i>	5 pm	+ <i>Mary Malone</i>	By Peter & Ornella Miller & family
Sunday, January 19 th <i>2nd Sunday in OT</i>	9 am 11 am	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i> <i>Missa Pro Populo (Linwood)</i>	-

History of the Catholic Church (#58) – The final persecution of the Church began with a devastating intellectual assault by the pagan intelligentsia led by Porphyry (d. 303). In his work Against the Christians, Porphyry held Christ up to scorn a pitiful weakling, attacked the Scriptures as full of absurdities and patent contradictions, scoffed at the Eucharist, and ridiculed the Christian works of mercy. This was the prelude to the attack launched by Diocletian, a strong and industrious ruler who had carried through a radical reorganization of the Empire; he divided it into 101 provinces and 12 dioceses, placing two co-emperors in supreme command, with imperial headquarters at Milan in the West and Nicomedia in the East.

VATICAN II GROUP STUDY – Our study continues on Saturday, January 18 at 10am in the parish hall.

USHERS NEEDED! – If you are able, please consider volunteering as an usher for Saturday or Sunday Mass. Contact the office or speak with Jim Hehn.

REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL – Join us January 23, 2025, 7:00 – 9:00 PM for She Rises Up, a revealing look at the power of women's economic participation. The film follows radically different women from Sri Lanka, Peru, and Senegal who are working to build businesses, create job opportunities for women, and contribute to the reduction of poverty in their communities. Film Director, Maureen Castle Tusty and Executive Producer James Tusty will join us as guest speakers. In 2008, they founded Sky Films Inc. to produce documentary films that inform, uplift, and inspire. The screening and discussion will be hosted online via Zoom. Register and view our full schedule of events at: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/reel-justice-film-festival/> A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the Reel Justice Film Festival shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustices.

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH – Family time matters, as much when our children age as when they are young. It helps to ensure this happens by building traditions that everyone partakes in regularly. Traditions that everyone looks forward to and enjoys - pizza and movie nights, a special breakfast after attending Mass, games night – anything that brings you together for fun will do. The emotional health of children with these kinds of connections is stronger throughout their lifetime. As a family, plan your together time weekly and remember to share meals together daily, whichever meal of the day that has to be. With a solid family foundation, your connectedness can and will stay intact as your children grow older. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS – SAVE THE DATE! 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 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration will be available online in January at www.hamiltondiocese.com.

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON PRAYER CALENDAR – Please remember the following in your prayers: Rev. Allen Varlaki, Rev. Rajesh Dsouza, O.C.D., Sisters of St. John the Baptist, C.S.J.B., Rev. Jerzy Tomon, Rev. Peter Tuyen Nguyen, & Rev. Pierre Luc, S.J.

VOCATION SEEDS – As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus a voice from heaven said, “You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased.” Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon or religious. If He is contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com Website: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION – St. Clements Dec. 29. \$3,091.00. Jan. 1, \$2,765.00. Jan. 5, \$4,240.00. Thank you for your generosity!