



Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions March 3-6, 2026

Tuesday Stations	7:00 pm 7:30 pm.	+ Gib Parent + Mary Rowena Strachan + Hilma Clarke
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	+ Joe Felicetti
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	+ Jusef Wardcha
Friday	8:30 a.m.	+ Matilda Camara

Saturday Multiple Mass Intentions March 7, 2026

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Int of Dino, Kerri Felicetti & Family + Souls in Purgatory Int of Suzanne Colasimone
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VOCATIONAL PRAYER CALENDAR March 2-7, 2026

Mon.	Rev Ambroise Tshiaba Ntumba
Tue.	Rev. Andrew Lopatniuk
Wed.	Society of African Missions S.M.A.
Thur.	Very Rev. Msgr Murray Kroetsch
Fri.	World Day of Prayer
Sat.	Rev. Bern

VOCATION VIEW

Second Sunday of Lent – March 1, 2026

Peter, James and John had a mountaintop experience with Jesus by witnessing His transfiguration. We too can have a mountaintop experience when we open our minds and hearts to following God's Will for our life. If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

SUNDAY FUNNY



REFLECTION

Each year on the second Sunday of Lent, the liturgy's gospel reading tells of the Transfiguration. This year we hear Matthew's account. Throughout our long Lenten observance, we are encouraged to keep in mind the triumphant glory of the Saviour that we are preparing to celebrate, and the challenge it brings to us. All three gospels link the Transfiguration with the warning of Jesus, that he was 'destined to suffer' in Jerusalem, and that those who are his true followers must 'take up their cross and follow him'.

What is the basis of this mysterious narrative, that is not easy to relate to the later attitudes displayed by the apostles as the story of the gospels unfolds? It had obvious importance for the Church of the beginnings, because it is given in all three synoptic gospels. Luke associates this experience of the three apostles - who were to witness the agony of Jesus in the garden - with a moment in which Jesus led them in prayer. Perhaps the narrative has its basis in an ecstatic prayer experience. Perhaps the more restrained presentation of Luke, the gentile convert, is significant. Luke avoids reference to a metamorphosis ('transfiguration'), a phenomenon associated with the gods of the pagan mythology. He merely states that 'the aspect of Jesus' face was changed'. No doubt, the early Church saw this narrative as an important expression of their faith in the Saviour - as sharing in the Father's greatness and glory, even in the obscurity of his earthly life.

Matthew's recounting of this tradition, with its many references to biblical themes familiar to the Jewish converts of his community, presents the Jesus of the Transfiguration as fulfilling what was prefigured in the history of old Israel: the 'mountain' reminds us of the defining moment of the Sinai covenant; 'Moses and Elijah', representing the Law and the Prophets, both have close links with Sinai; the 'cloud' recalls the 'shekinah' cloud that was an expression of Yahweh's presence during the Exodus; the shining face of Jesus reminds us of the face of Moses when he came down from the mountain; Peter's reference to the 'three tents', or booths, recalls the Jewish feast of Tabernacles, when the people lived in booths celebrating their arrival in the promised land - a celebration of the kingship of Yahweh that came to be filled with messianic expectations. Matthew adds to the words of the Father from the cloud a reference to one of the songs of the Suffering Servant (Is 42:1), bringing us back to the association of the Transfiguration with the warning of Jesus - of the ordeal that lay ahead of him in Jerusalem, and the challenge of discipleship.

The term used by Mark and Matthew for the transformation that took place in Jesus - that we are accustomed to translate, 'transfiguration' - is also used in the New Testament to describe the spiritual transformation brought by life 'in Christ'. For the first Christians, it had overtones of the blessings of the final kingdom announced by Jesus. The journey begun so long ago - in the story of Abraham's heroic response to the call of God, and the promises that accompanied it - has brought God's people to the moment of fulfilment.

John Thornhill sm
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DISCIPLINES OF LENT

As Lent begins, we are invited “to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbour” by exercising the DISCIPLINE OF LENT: Repentance, Fasting, Prayer and Works of Love. Living out a discipline takes our Lord’s words about self-denial seriously (Matt.16:24). Through discipline, we find freedom and grace. ***Please plan on participating in the following Lenten Observances:*** •

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. following the 7:00 p.m. •

The Youth Group will be leading the Stations of the Cross this Tuesday. All are welcome.

ADORATION & BENEDICTION Every Friday morning after the 8:30 a.m. Mass •

PARISH PENANCE CELEBRATION March 25, 2025
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm 2-3 Priest Confessors



CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE

Our next general meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 19, 2026** at 1pm. *All women* of the parish are welcome.

A great big ***THANK YOU*** for donating the many bags of clothing on the weekend of Feb 14/15. Your generosity was greatly appreciated. The surplus was brought to Goodwill, who issued vouchers that were given to the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The **World Day of Prayer** is on **Friday, March 6, 2026**. The service will be held at St Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 126 Plains Road East. If interested in attending, please meet 45 minutes prior in our church parking lot. You are asked to bring cookies (e.g.) for the event.

The **Spring Regional Meeting “Sparkle God’s Way”** will be held in Paris, Ontario on **Saturday March 7, 2026** (please see Flyer on the table in the Narthex for more information)

Keep your eye on the bulletin for information regarding our speaker events. We will be hosting a speaker from “Community Development Halton” on April 29 as well as Mary Dilly from the “Art of Downsizing” on May 19. More information to come closer to those dates.

We are collecting corks (from wine bottles etc.) for a “Bazaar” craft. If you have any, please bring them to the general meetings.

Come to the meeting a little early for Coffee/Tea and goodies. Take a little time to socialize and get to know your fellow members. We ask that you think about bringing your own mug. It will save some time and work for those cleaning up as well as helping environmental sustainability. (Paper cups will continue to be available)

****Please let us know if your contact information has changed so we can update our records.****

If you have not had a chance to pay our annual membership fees (\$35), please do so at your earliest convenience.

NEW PARISH WEBSITE

We would like to take a moment to sincerely thank Andrés Pineda for the incredible work he has done in creating our new parish website. He has generously given many hours of his own free time to make this possible, and we are truly grateful for his dedication and service to our parish community. We invite everyone to take a few minutes to visit the new website and see all that it offers. <https://stpatriksparish.ca/> Thank you, Andrés, for sharing your gifts and your time with us.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

LENTEN RETREAT

by Cardinal Collins

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Waterdown (715 Centre Road) warmly invites all parishioners to a Lenten Retreat preached by Cardinal Collins on **Saturday, March 7**, beginning at 12:00 noon.

Schedule for the day:

12:00 pm – Light Lunch

1:00 pm – Adoration

1:30 pm – First Talk by Cardinal Collins

2:30 pm – Rosary

3:00 pm – Second Talk by Cardinal Collins Confessions – Available throughout the retreat

5:00 pm – Holy Mass celebrated by Cardinal Collins

This retreat offers a meaningful opportunity for spiritual renewal during Lent through prayer, reflection, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Registration is required. Please register by email at stthomaswaterdown@hamiltondiocese.com or by phone at **905-689-4857**. All are welcome to join us.

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2026? You are cordially invited to join Bishop Dabrowski and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 31, 2026 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 is found under Upcoming Events on the home page at hamiltondiocese.com, or call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

GRIEF PROGRAM

When Life Changes Grief Program - Using Dr. Bill Webster’s grief material these programs are intended to help you to understand your grief and provide practical tips and support for helping you through. Both part one and two will be offered at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. All are welcome. To register look for the program start date under Upcoming Events on the Diocesan home page at hamiltondiocese.com or call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.