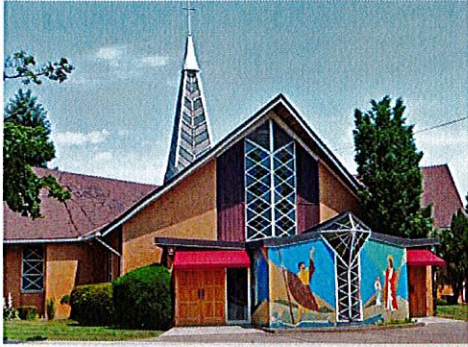


APRIL 7 , 2024



WELCOME to all who have come to worship and pray with us this weekend. We are glad you are here!

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Kevin Upendran, Administrator
Fr. Ambroise Tshiaba Ntumba
Lisa White, Office Administrator
David Mclsaac, Music Director

All Masses and Sacraments have been cancelled until further notice. Parishioners are invited to attend St. Eugene Parish.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday and Thursday
1 pm to 5pm
Friday 9am to 5pm

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

128 Edgemont St. South
Hamilton, Ontario, L8K 2H8
Phone: 905-544-2100

Email: stjohnhamilton@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: stjohnthebaptisthamilton.com

Facebook: St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish



MISSION STATEMENT

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH IS DEDICATED TO WELCOMING EVERYONE TO ENCOUNTER CHRIST, GROW IN FAITH AND SHARE OUR GIFTS.

Sacraments and Pastoral Services

Baptism: Parents must fill out a Baptismal Registration Form and attend the Baptismal Preparation meeting.

Marriage: Contact us at least one year in advance. Marriage Preparation course must be completed.

Car or Home blessings, Communion to the Homebound: Priest or Minister will visit the home.

Anointing of the Sick: For those who will be undergoing surgery, are very ill, or are near death.

Funeral: Contact us as soon as possible to plan Vigil Prayers, Funeral Mass and Burial.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

St. Eugene Parish

232 Queenston Road
(corner of Queenston and Parkdale)

St. Eugene Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 11:00 am
Children's Liturgy during Sunday Mass

Tuesday 7:00 pm
Wednesday 8:30 am
Thursday 8:30 am
Friday 8:30 am
Saturday 9:00 am

Please note that donation envelopes placed in the collection at St. Eugene will be returned to St. John for deposit.

Confession at St. Eugene

Saturday 4 - 4:45 pm
Tuesday 6:30 pm

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday	The Annunciation of the Lord
Tuesday	Rev. Allen Varlaki
Wednesday	Permanent Deacons
Thursday	Rev. Rajesh D'Souza, O.C.D.
Friday	Rev. Jerzy Tomon
Saturday	Parents and Guardians



**Marian Ignatian Shrines Pilgrimage to Portugal,
Spain, and Lourdes**
Celebrating the Final Apparition of Fatima

Led by Fr. Kevin Upendran
Oct 11 to Oct 23, 2024



Join us for a special information session
with Fr. Upendran and Liz from Connaissance
Travel and Tours on Sunday April 14 at 1:00 pm
at St. Eugene Church

COLLECTIONS for March 31

Easter	\$ 2549
Sunday Offerings	\$ 655
Good Friday	\$ 375
Average weekly Pre-Authorized Giving	\$ 539.40

Scan the QR code to donate
through the CanadaHelps website.



Amount donated in March
through Canada Helps \$635.83

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

Contact the office if you are interested in having your
monthly Parish offering transferred electronically
from your bank account. Donations can easily be changed
or terminated at any time.

GAMES NIGHT

Friday April 12

7 - 9 pm

At St. John Parish Hall



Light refreshments provided.
Second Friday of each month.

PARISH HALL RENTALS

For those looking for an alternate venue when hosting events.

The cost is \$300 plus insurance (we can provide a website link).

Regular parishioners may be eligible to receive a discounted rate. Please contact the office.



**The Spring Memorial Mass
at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery**

in Burlington will take place
on Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 am.

The principal celebrant will be
Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, OMI,
Bishop of Hamilton. All are welcome!

The Annunciation

This year we celebrate the feast of the Annunciation on Monday April 8th. The Annunciation is the day that Jesus became a tiny baby inside Mary. Finish this story by filling in the blanks with words from the lists and using the letters in boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.

God _____ an angel to a virgin who
was engaged to _____ .
Her _____ was Mary.

He told her that the _____ was with her.
But Mary was _____ _____ about
what the angel said.

So the _____ _____ said to her,
"Do _____ _____ be afraid, Mary, for you
have found favor with _____ _____"

Then the angel told her that she would have a
Baby and that He would be the
_____ .

CONFUSED
ANGEL
NAME
GOD



JOSEPH
LORD
SENT
NOT

DIOCESAN CHOIR

The Diocesan Choir leads and supports the assembly's song at major Diocesan liturgies such as the Chrism Mass and Ordinations and is looking for new members. Should you wish more information, please contact Mrs. Sharon Fazari, Choir Director, at sfazari@hamiltondiocese.com.



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH



Upcoming Parish Events	
Mon. April 8 7:00 pm	Feast of the Annunciation Mass at St. Eugene Church
Wed. April 10 6:30 pm	First Reconciliation for students of St. John School at St. Eugene Church
Thurs. April 11 7 pm	Finance Council Meeting St. John Parish Hall
Friday April 12 7 - 9 pm	Games Night St. John Parish Hall
Sunday April 14 1:00 pm	Information Session on Pilgrimage to Portugal at St. Eugene Church
Thurs. April 18 6:30 pm	Pastoral Council Meeting St. John Parish Hall
Sat. April 20 9 - 1 pm	Craft Group St. John Parish Hall

Vocations Recognition Dinner 2024

The Serra Club of Hamilton invites you to gather on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at Liuna Station to celebrate the service of our Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters, Permanent Deacons and Consecrated Virgins Living in the World.

Doors open at 6:00pm.

Tickets are \$90 per person.

Please contact serrahamilton1965@gmail.com for tickets and more information.

Co-sponsored by the Vocations Office of the



A DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE WILL MARK THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the Catholic Church in Canada, with the establishment of the Archdiocese of Quebec. The pilgrimage from the Diocese of Hamilton will take place from July 13 to July 17, 2024. It will include a visit to the Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica in Quebec City and the Holy Door and visits to the sites made famous by the sainted founders of the Canadian Church. Visits are also planned to St. Anne de Beaupre, Notre-Dame-du-Cap, in Trois Rivières, and Notre Dame Basilica and St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. The five-day pilgrimage will include guided tours exploring Quebec's religious and cultural heritage and will be led by Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Vicar General and Chancellor of the Diocese of Hamilton. Registration deadline is April 30th. For more information please see the Diocesan website or contact Matthew Trafford at the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis. Tel. 905-528-7988, x 2339, or email: catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com

SJB Annual Plant and Yard Sale



Friday May 10th from 4 - 8pm

Saturday May 11th from 9am - 12pm

**Now being held in the
St. John Parish Hall**

If you have a garden and would like to donate plants, we can provide pots, soil and help.

Call the Parish office

or John van der Zalm at 905-920-2117.

Gently used items for Attic Treasures are now being accepted during office hours or by contacting the office. Ask your friends and family – everyone has something to donate! We accept toys, books, decor and household items!

VOLUNTEERS are needed for Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday morning.

Soul Food **BISTRO**

Dear Parishioners,

It has been a mighty long time since I have reached out to you through these weekly write-ups. I have missed writing them too! But work seems to continuously hound me, and then I just let these fall through the cracks. In all honesty, I thought of dropping writing one for this week as well. But this is the primary method where I reach all of you. Something important is coming up, and therefore I cannot miss the opportunity to speak to you about it. Heaven knows there were plenty of missed opportunities in Lent to talk about stuff. Poor health and travel unfortunately have dogged me for most of the season. I cannot write too much this week. Hence this write-up is called BISTRO!

On behalf of Fr. Ambroise, Fr. Trusz, and Deacon Joes, thank you for your generosity in bringing goodies and gifts for us. It is lovely to be remembered among your festivities.

As renovations continue at Saint Johns, the Bishop in his wisdom has wanted some additional repairs and maintenance to be done. Some personnel from the Chancery were at Saint John's before Holy Week and our finance committee members were there as well. I will be inviting Mr. Francis Doyle from the Chancery for a town hall meeting to discuss things with you soon regarding the renovations. I will keep you posted. Please be patient and know that all things are ordered for our best by our Heavenly Father.

The Dawn.

On Monday, April 8 we will be celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation of our Lord and Lady. This is an extremely important feast day. First, it is what the saints called the dawn that heralds the Sun of Salvation. The word of God breaks into human history and the Angel Gabriel comes to seek a humble virgin for her consent. In the Middle Ages, the Feast of the Annunciation (which is generally celebrated on March 25) was considered the New Year. The church calendar was interwoven with civic life. It also was the beginning of spring, where new life sprouted from the ground and every plant and tree.

Second. Our diocese is dedicated to Our Lady of the Annunciation therefore it is our feast day. Keeping this in mind **there will be a special Mass on Monday, April 8 at 7 p.m. Please join us** to celebrate this great feast where God Sends His Only Begotten Son, and the Word freely comes to save us from our sins!

Fun Stuff: Moravian Spiced Cookies a.k.a. Moravian Spritz (Annunciation Cookies)

Cloves and cinnamon and nutmeg, which are poetic picture words in the Bible, mean something when your nose is enjoying their "pleasant odour." We like to make Moravian cookies on December 7, the vigil of the Virgin's feast day, because of the passage in the Book of Sirach (formerly Ecclesiasticus), 24:14-15 that describes Mary:

Soul Food **BISTRO**

I gave a sweet smell like cinnamon and aromatical balm; I yielded a sweet odor like the best myrrh; and I perfumed my dwelling as store, and galbanum, and onyx, and aloes, and as the frankincense not cut, and my odor is as the purest balm.

These cookies, like Mary, emit such wonderful smells of spices! These cookies are good to train a child's patience because they stay fresh 10 days in the refrigerator before they are rolled [Editor's Note: The 10 days refers to the time the author waits to bake the cookies, as she kept a penitential Advent, and would wait until closer to Christmas to bake the cookies, and eat the cookies during the Christmas season.], cut into Christmas shapes and baked. The children make their own cookie cutters by shaping a low tin can into a star or tree or lamb. If your can opener turns under the edge, these cutters are not dangerous to use. Now mix up your dough. It will make 100 cookies.

For centuries, the home bakers of Austria and Germany have taken a spice dough of this sort, rolled it to medium thickness, and cut it into heart shapes — sometimes seven or eight inches wide. Then they ice the hearts with great care and delicacy. Religious and liturgical symbols, pictures and quotations appear among the scrolls on the gingerbread. Each family competes to make theirs more decorative each year. When the hearts stand shining in their sugar and gilt, they are taken as gifts from the heart of one family to another. They are expressions of love and charity. They bring the religious meaning of the Incarnation, with all its stupendous import, into a concrete, visible form which neighbors can understand. The gingerbread with all its careful decoration is a work of love in honor of Him who loved man most. It took a modern skeptic to cast aspersion on "too much gingerbread."

Ingredients:

1/4 cup melted butter, 1/2 cup warm molasses, 1/4 cup brown sugar, 1-7/8 cups flour,

1/3 teaspoon soda, 1/3 teaspoon salt, 1/3 teaspoon ginger, 1/3 teaspoon cloves

1/3 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg, 1/8 teaspoon allspice

DETAILS

Serves: 25. Yield 100 cookies. Prep Time: 1 Hour

DIRECTIONS

Mix butter, molasses and sugar. Add sifted dry ingredients. Chill until hard (preferably overnight). Roll very thin. Bake in a moderate oven (375°) for six minutes. Cookies may be iced.

Recipe Source: Cooking for Christ by Florence Berger, National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 4625 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310, 1949, 1999. www.catholicculture.org.