



St. Agnes Catholic Parish

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Jeff Bergsma

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Mr. Ed MacIntosh

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Deb MacIntosh

Bookkeeper: Mrs. Kathy Bader

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 16, 2026



Focus: *O God, let all the nations praise you!*

Christ's words in today's Gospel are puzzling and can seem unfair. Why does it seem that he initially rejects the woman's request to heal her daughter because she is not Jewish? And did Jesus know she would be persistent in her request? Regardless, Jesus is impressed with her great faith, and it provides him a "teachable moment" because he heals the woman's daughter, showing that the kingdom of God is indeed for *all* people.

NEWS & EVENTS at ST. AGNES PARISH

Where everyone is welcome!

The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved - you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness (see Jeremiah 31:3)

PEOPLE OF RECONCILIATION: If you dare to believe that you are beloved before you were born, you may suddenly realize that your life is very, very special. You become conscious that you were sent here just for a short time, for twenty, forty, or eighty years, to discover and believe that you are a beloved child of God. The length of time doesn't matter. You are sent into this world to believe in yourself as God's chosen one and then to help your brothers and sisters know that they are also beloved sons and daughters of God who belong together. You're sent into this world to be a people of reconciliation. You are sent to heal, to break down the walls between you and your neighbors, locally, nationally, and globally. Before all the distinctions, the separations, and the walls built on the foundations of fear, there was unity in the mind and heart of God. Out of that unity, you are sent into this world for a little while to claim that you and every other human being belong to that same God of Love who lives from eternity to eternity.

- Henri Nouwen

SWAN RIVER COLLECTION: Next weekend, we will be taking up a second collection in support of our Mission Co-op churches in Swan River, Manitoba. Last year's donations helped them to repair the roof shingles on the Pelican Rapids and Barrows mission church and the St. Columba rectory buildings. There will be special envelopes in your pews for this second collection for those who wish a tax receipt at year's end.

NOTICE: The Diocese of Hamilton wishes to make public, the withdrawal of the charge against Fr. Ranjan D'Sa, OCD, a priest who has served as Pastor of St. Dominic Parish, Oakville, and recently Dean of Halton. Found innocent by the court on July 24, 2026, the case was withdrawn and Fr. D'Sa has no outstanding charges. He is declared to be a priest in good standing with all the necessary faculties to continue to exercise his priestly ministry.

Join Fr. Jeff on 4 Tuesday evenings in the Parish Centre to explore the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist in a presentation entitled:



Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the "source and summit" of the Christian life.

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members. It is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation!

4 Tuesday evenings: Sept 22, 29, October 6 and 13 at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND HUMAN DIGNITY

Exploring Pope Leo's Vision for Responsible Technology

JOIN US FOR A WORKSHOP ON
POPE LEO'S
FIRST ENCYCLICAL



Join us as we explore Pope Leo's first encyclical, ***Magnifica Humanitas***, and discover the Church's vision for artificial intelligence, human dignity, and responsible technology.



WORKSHOP DATES



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
St. Anthony Daniel
Kitchener

🕒 1:00–3:00 PM



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Chancery Office
Hamilton

🕒 1:00–3:00 PM

REGISTER TODAY!



SCAN TO REGISTER

Or visit:
<https://forms.gle/C7FEVWUnUAJ1tmeRA>

THE OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS PRESENTS

Fall Book Club

Step into the rich world of J.R.R. Tolkien and discover how his stories illuminate timeless truths about faith, hope, virtue, and the Christian life. Join us for a book club exploring *Into the Heart of Middle-earth* by Kaitlyn Facista, where together we'll uncover the spiritual themes woven throughout Tolkien's beloved works and reflect on what they can teach us about following Christ today. Whether you're a lifelong Tolkien fan or simply curious about the deeper meaning behind Middle-earth, all are welcome!

**Join us on Tuesdays from
1:00–2:00 PM on Zoom.**

October 6

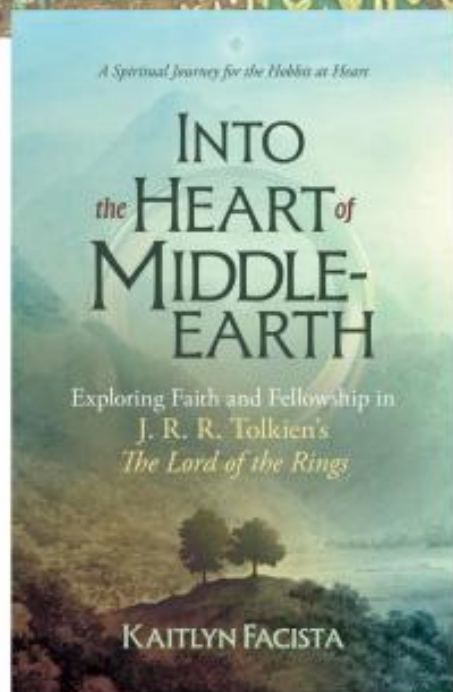
October 13

October 20

October 27

Register at:

bit.ly/4wI7B9k



Books are available for purchase from the Chancery Office, or can be sourced independently.

Please reach out to us if you would like to purchase a book in advance.

\$25.00 including shipping



905-528-7988 ext. 2339



catechesis@hamiltondiocese.com



DIocese of Hamilton

HEARTS RENEWED

Retreat

Whether you serve in parish ministry, Catholic education, chaplaincy, or diocesan leadership, join us for an opportunity to be refreshed spiritually and return to your ministry with renewed hope, peace, and joy.



RETREAT MASTER

Father Michael Mascarenhas, OFM Cap.

Fr. Mascarenhas is a Capuchin Franciscan. Born and raised in Hamilton, he was ordained to the priesthood in April 2022. He now serves at St. Francis Table in the Archdiocese of Toronto.



St. Raphael Parish, Burlington
4072 New St, Burlington, ON L7L 1S9



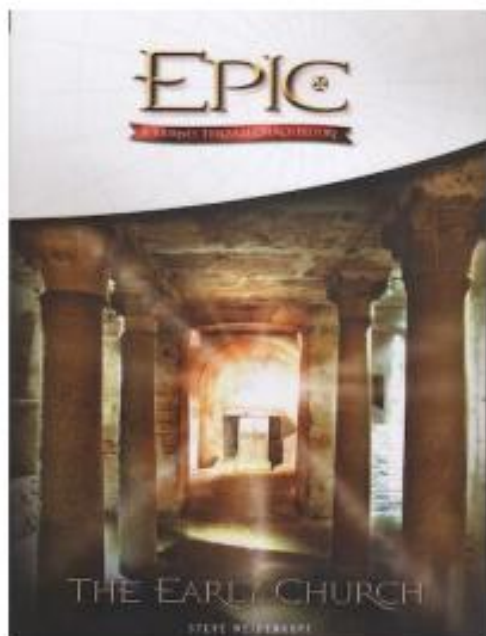
Saturday, October 3, 2026
9:00am - 3:00pm



www.hamiltondiocese.com/events

REGISTER HERE





EPIC

THE EARLY CHURCH

10 session DVD study

**that explores the people, places & events
that shaped the Church's first 500 years**

Presented by Steve Weidenkopf of Christendom College

Published by Ascension Press

Discover the major people, places & events of the first 500 years of Church history

*Gain a greater understanding of the teachings & dogmas of the Catholic Faith –
meet those who gave their lives to define & defend them*

*Discover that many of the challenges facing the Church today
are the same ones boldly confronted by the Early Church Fathers*

Learn how the heroic stories of the saints can challenge and affirm your own faith

Recognize the Early Christian Church as the Catholic Church & more!

Offered at St. Louis Parish in Waterloo (53 Allen Street East)

either on Sundays from 12:30 – 1:40 PM with lunch, or

on Mondays from 7:30 – 9 PM with refreshments

in Large Hall (enter via elevator door) from Sep. 20/21 to Dec. 6/7

(No sessions on Oct. 11/12 & Nov. 22/23)

For more information, or to register contact 519-743-4101,

stlouiswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com or check www.saintlouisparish.ca

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL?? PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS??

This is the best time of year to [update](#) your personal information or [register](#) in the parish. And if you are preparing for kindergarten, or the Sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation, **you will need a copy of your Baptismal certificate**. Contact the parish office and [request your copy now](#) and we will be happy to forward your copy directly to the Sacramental Preparation Team for you.



CAN YOU HELP SERVE AT MASS? We always need altar servers for weekend masses. We particularly need adult servers for weekdays and special occasions such as funerals and weddings. If you think you can help with this or would like to learn about serving at mass, please approach Fr. Jeff and express your interest.

YOUTH MINISTER'S RETREAT SAVE THE DATE! We are inviting all youth ministers, youth ministry coordinators and leaders in youth ministry, to join us for our annual retreat on September 19 at Mount Mary Retreat Centre in Ancaster. More information and how to register will be shared as soon as possible. In the meantime, if you are interested in attending or have any questions, please reach out to us: youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM: We are currently accepting enrollment for the Youth Ministry Certification Program, which begins in September 2026. Join us as we explore the practical strategies for youth ministry and the accompaniment of young people in our diocesan community. To review a full course list and for more information, please visit: www.hamiltondioceselearns.com.

Mass Schedule

Mondays – **no Mass**

Holy Hour: Thursdays at **6pm**

Reconciliation: Saturdays at **9:30 – 10am; 3:30 – 4:15pm;** or by appointment

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS for August 16 - 23

SUNDAY	10am	Pro Populo	
	7pm	Dolce Ferreira	Errol Ferreira
TUESDAY	9am	David & AnneMarie Turalija †Joseph O'Malley	Zrinka Turalija Daryl & Marjorie Gamilla
WEDNESDAY	9am	†Toni and Bob Noonan & Omer Joyal	Cec & Claire
THURSDAY	7pm	†Jennifer Gies & Family †Erika DeMelo	St. Luke Staff Urbana Macedo
FRIDAY	7pm	Bob Feeney	Family
SATURDAY	9am	†Mary Frankovic	Nancy Frankovic
	5pm	Jennifer Gies & Family	St. Luke Staff
SUNDAY	10am	†Leo Pegg, Bruce & Russell Clark	Mary Ann Pegg
	7pm	Pro Populo	

Thank you for supporting St. Agnes Parish!

PREFERRED METHOD: CONSIDER MAKING YOUR OFFERING THROUGH CANADA HELPS: This option allows you to make a secure donation directly to St. Agnes Parish on this webpage [119110450RR0101-st-agnes-parish | CharityProfile | Donate Online](https://119110450RR0101-st-agnes-parish/CharityProfile/DonateOnline)



CANADA
HELPS
QR CODE



E-transfers can be made to St. Agnes Parish at any time at stagneswaterloo@hamiltondiocese.com

Please put your first AND last name in the memo line or we cannot create a tax receipt.

If you are e-transferring for another purpose [i.e., mass stipend or spaghetti dinner, for example] please include that in your message on your e-transfer. Otherwise, your funds are deposited directly into general offertory.



Contact Us:

Office Phone: 519-885-4480

Email: office@saintagnescatholicchurch.org

75 Bluevale Street North Waterloo, ON N2J 3R7

Office Hours: Tues. – Fri.: 9am – 4:30pm

Website: <https://saintagnescatholicchurch.org/>

***SSVP Food Assistance:** 519-504-8399