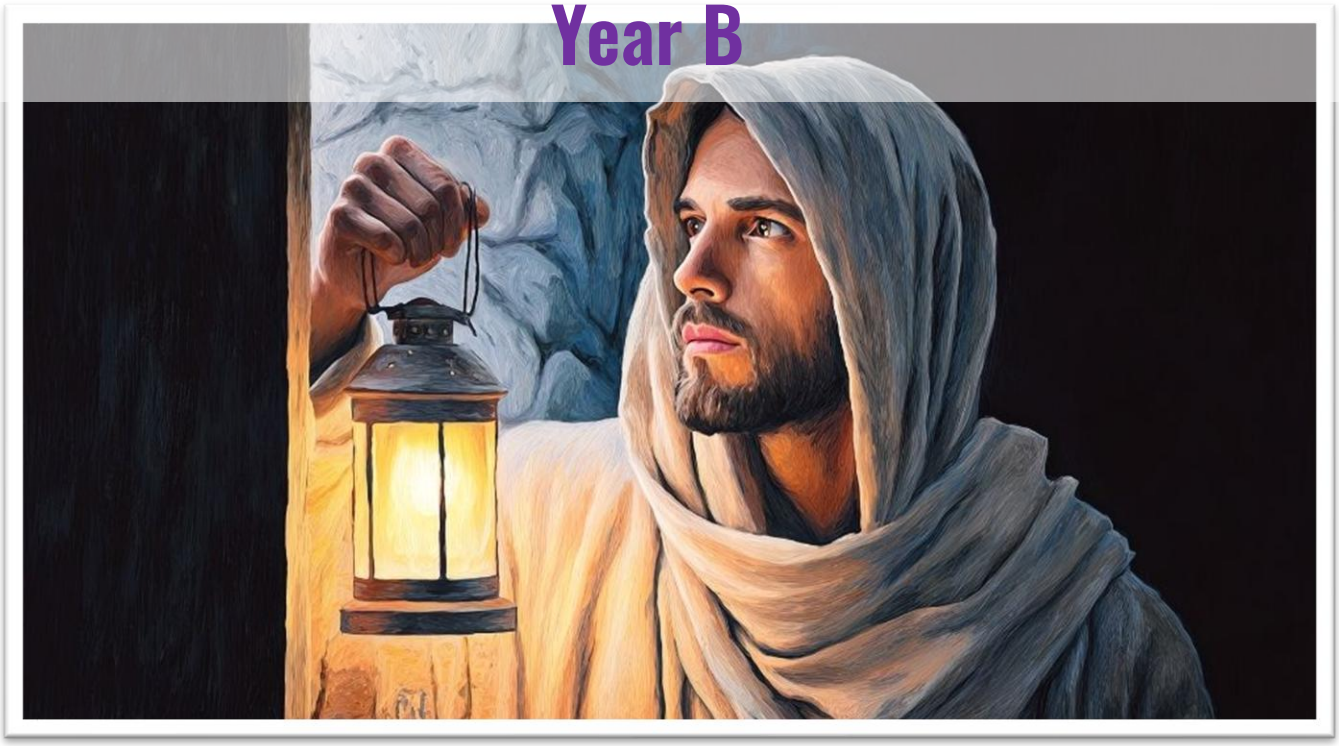
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year B



young-catholics.com

Focus: Watchfulness – stay awake and be ready!

Advent is a time of waiting and hope. God gives us grace and strength to remain faithful. Stay alert to God's presence each day. Pray, show kindness, and notice the needs of others.

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming." - Mark 13:35:40

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Jeff Bergsma
Bookkeeper: Mrs. Kathy Bader

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Ed MacIntosh
Parish Secretary: Mrs. Deb MacIntosh

Office Phone: 519-885-4480
Email: office@saintagnescatholicchurch.org
75 Bluevale Street North Waterloo, ON N2J 3R7
Follow us on FACEBOOK

Office Hours: Tues. – Fri.: 9am – 4:30pm
Website: https://saintagnescatholicchurch.org/
***SSVP Food Assistance:** 519-504-8399

NEWS & EVENTS at ST. AGNES PARISH

Where everyone is welcome!

"We are confident of better things....For God is not unjust; He will not overlook your work and the love that you showed for His sake in serving the saints, as you still do. And we want each one of you to show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end, so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises." ***- Hebrews 6:9-12***

THE ROOT OF PATIENCE: The French author Simone Weil writes: *"Waiting patiently in expectation is the foundation of the spiritual life."* Without patience our expectation degenerates into wishful thinking. Patience comes from the word "*patior*" which means "to suffer. What seems a hindrance becomes a way; what seems an obstacle becomes a door; what seems a misfit becomes a cornerstone. ***- Henri Nouwen***



$4909.45

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the life and future of this parish – your stewardship truly matters!

[May not reflect donations that come in after the counting date.]

Loose: $497.45

Envelopes: $3632.00

ONLINE - TipTap/E-transfer/PAD

(**P**re-**A**uthorized **D**ebit: $780.00)

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are in the narthex for pickup. Please be careful to check the information on your box of envelopes and note that many of you have new numbers. Please DO NOT take a box that has not been assigned to you.

MISSALS HAVE ARRIVED! Annual Missals are $6 – there are still a few left, and the Children's missals that you have pre-ordered and pre-paid are ready for pickup.

ST. AGNES YOUTH GROUP: Youth Group meetings are open to youth in grades 6-10. November 29th – **TONIGHT**! Regular meeting time 6:30 – 8pm. Our reflection topic is Lives of the Saints. Join us for a great movie night about a famous saint. Popcorn and other snacks are provided!

RSVP to knolan@rogers.com

FAMILY ACTIVITY FOR ADVENT

Set Up an Advent Table

Make a Small Space for Prayer

Pause each day. Prepare your heart for Jesus.



1. Set It Up

- Choose a quiet, visible spot.
- Add a wreath and a Bible.
- Optional: Jesse tree, prayer book, charity jar.
- Keep it simple.
- ⚠ An adult should supervise lit candles.

2. Gather Each Day

- Light the candle(s) for the week.
- Read a few Scripture verses.
- Pray: Come, Lord Jesus.
- Choose one act of kindness.

Four Sundays of Waiting



Rose is for the Third Sunday: Rejoice!

Pray Together

Come, Lord Jesus. Help us listen to Your Word, care for others, and welcome You with hope. Amen.

Young-Catholics.com © 2026

POINSETTIA PICKUP AND HOT CHOCOLATE SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND!

SSVP ANGEL TREE: **The Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is grateful for your generous support of our angel tree! If there are still angels left on our angel tree, please take one and purchase the gift indicated on the card. Please return your gift in a gift bag along with the angel no later than next Sunday, December 6th. Thank you so much! supplied by the Knights of Columbus, so none are needed. Thank you so much!

FORMED: FORMED is a platform where you can view/listen to a multitude of Catholic resources (movies, audio books, podcasts & more); from movies like "CABRINI" to cartoons for the children like "BROTHER FRANCIS, and the famed "HOPE SPRINGS" audio adventure series. You can find devotionals and pray along your commute, or sleep stories if you need a little help to wind down at night. **Our parish has a subscription**, and we encourage you to go to formed.org and create your own sign-in (no charge to you) to access this service or go to our website and scroll to the bottom to find this link.





Society of St. Vincent de Paul

is helping families in need at Christmas and is grateful for parishioners' past and continued generosity.

ANGEL TREE

Christmas Hamper Program

1. Take one or more angels from the tree at the back of the church and purchase the gift indicated on the card.
2. Kindly RETURN IT UNDER THE TREE in a gift bag - with the angel, by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6th.
3. All toys are kindly supplied by the Knights of Columbus; no toys are needed.

Thank you so much!

ST. AGNES EDUCATION CAFE

Small Talks on Big Topics

Holy Mary, Mother of God

Understanding & Deepening our Catholic Devotion to Mary

Presented by Fr. David Reitzel,

Pastor of St. Mary of the Visitation, Cambridge

About the Event

"...he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home." (Jn 19:26-27)

When Jesus spoke these words from the cross, it is said that He was giving us one of His greatest gifts: He gave us His mother as our spiritual mother. So, what does this mean in our daily life? Our Blessed Mother cares for us, she hears our prayers & intercedes for us, always leading us to follow her Son, Jesus. When we pray the Rosary, we hear Mary's gentle words: ***"Do whatever he tells you",*** *guiding us on the path to grow in holiness. She is our model of humility, inviting us to trust & surrender to God's will. In today's event, we will learn practical ways to help us to grow in our relationship with our spiritual mother, to come closer to her as she helps us come closer to Jesus. Join us for an enriching start to your Advent journey!*

Sunday December 6th 2:00 - 3:30pm St. Agnes Church

75 Bluevale St N, Waterloo

WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE

PALLIATIVE CARE:

- Improves the quality of life of the patient and their family
- Is of assistance at any stage of a life threatening illness
- Prevents and relieves suffering



FOUR PILLARS OF PALLIATIVE CARE

PHYSICAL
Relieve pain and physical suffering

EMOTIONAL
Help with anxiety and depression

SPIRITUAL
Bringing peace and placing importance on meaning / value of life

SOCIAL
Helping mend relationships at the end of life

THE PALLIATIVE APPROACH OFFERS:

PATIENT CENTERED CARE
In order to improve the quality of life, a patient centered care approach is vital. Help with defining wishes and goals assist the patient to obtain the type of care they want.

SUPPORT FOR THE CAREGIVER
The role of the caregiver is a vital one and there are many resources to assist. Caregiver skills can be enhanced with the right information. (Visit St. Augustine's website to see our Care Giver Guide.)

THE PALLIATIVE APPROACH IS TEAM BASED
Many healthcare professionals can be involved in meeting the needs of the patient and family.



LEARN MORE ABOUT PALLIATIVE CARE
Please call: Family Ministry.

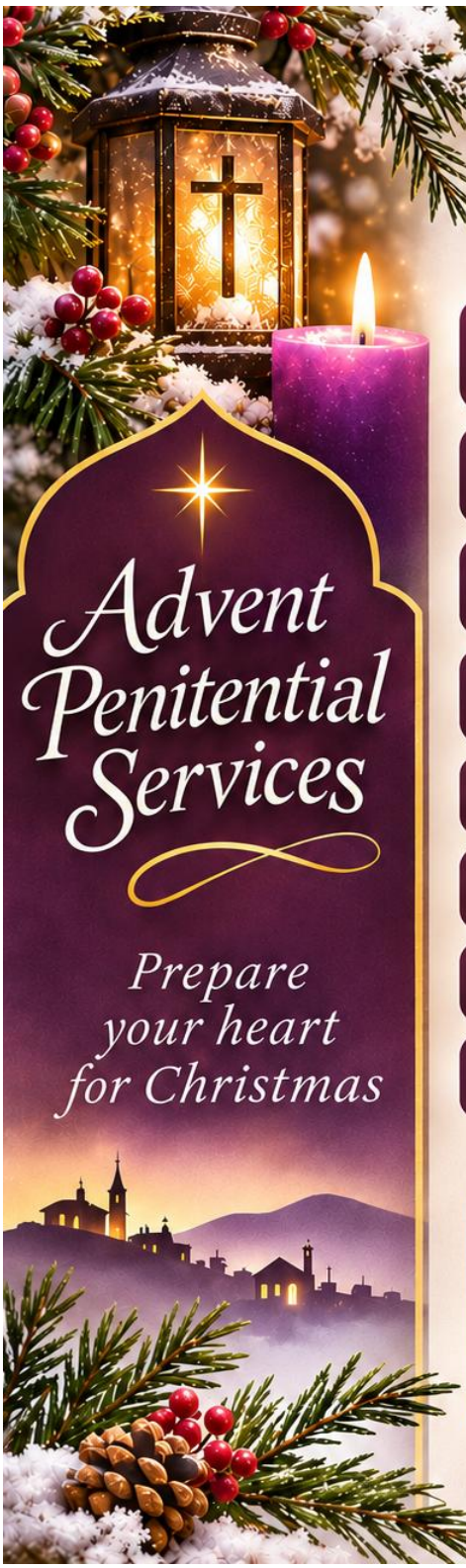
905-528-7988 ext 2250

thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE COMPASSIONATE CARE COMMITTEE AT:

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

700 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. L8P 1C7



Advent Penitential Services

Prepare your heart for Christmas

DECEMBER 2026

WED DEC 9	St. Francis of Assisi *Parish Penitential Service*	2:00 PM – 8:00 PM
SAT DEC 12	• St. Anne • St. Teresa, Elmira	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
TUE DEC 15	• St. Agnes • St. Mark	9:30 AM – 1:00 PM 7:00 PM
WED DEC 16	• St. Agnes • St. Teresa, Kitchener	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM 7:30 PM
THU DEC 17	St. Agnes	1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
FRI DEC 18	• St. Aloysius • Blessed Sacrament	6:00 PM 7:00 PM
TUE DEC 22	St. Teresa, Elmira	7:30 PM
WED DEC 23	St. Michael	8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Additional Confession Times

St. Boniface, Maryhill

Fridays following the 9:00 AM Mass, or by appointment with Father Peter.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

Advance Requests for Euthanasia

What Catholics Need to Know About Bill C-41

What our faith asks of us

Every person possesses dignity simply by being a unique person created in the image and likeness of God. Illness, memory loss, and dependence do not diminish it. The Church opposes euthanasia and assisted suicide. Following Christ and a long Christian tradition of care, we are called to accompany people who are sick, frail, or marginalized. Caring for a person can never include deliberately ending their life.

Please read HERE to understand Bill C-41 and how you can help.

- **Make your voice heard—write to your Member of Parliament.**

  Join the CCCB's letter-writing campaign to ask your MP to:

  - Keep the mental-illness exclusion in place through separate legislation.
  - Remove the advance-request provisions from Bill C-41.

Personalize and send your letter using the CCCB template.

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) is urging Parliament to separate the two measures in Bill C-41, the *Medical Assistance in Dying Safeguards Act*, and reject provisions that would permit advance requests for euthanasia.

With a vote at second reading expected shortly, the CCCB is encouraging Catholics and all Canadians to contact their Members of Parliament to urge them to maintain the exclusion of euthanasia and assisted suicide when mental illness is the sole underlying medical condition, and to remove the advance-request provisions.

CCCB Letter-Writing Campaign
The CCCB is inviting Catholics to make their voices heard by contacting their Members of Parliament.
Access the CCCB letter-writing campaign and email your MP

Resources
The following resources provide further information about Bill C-41, the Church's concerns, and the importance of compassionate care and accompaniment for those facing serious illness:

- **CCCB Parliamentary Brief on Bill C-41**
- **CCCB Fact Sheet: Advance Requests for Euthanasia**
- **Full Text of Bill C-41**
- **Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care**
- **Samaritanus bonus: Letter on the care of persons in the critical and terminal phases of life (especially sections III and V.1–5)**

For information about palliative care, end-of-life care and support for individuals and families facing serious illness, please visit the Diocese of Hamilton's Palliative Care Information page or contact Teresa Hartnett in the Family Ministry Office (thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com, 905-528-7988 x2250).

YOUNG ADULTS' NIGHT — Saturday, December 5, 2026 – Fr. John Ha, our Vocations Director, invites all young adults in their 20s and 30s across the Diocese of Hamilton to an evening of prayer, fellowship, and praise music. Come meet other young adults and find encouragement as you discern and live out God's call. Join us at St. Basil's Church, 50 Palace St, Brantford, ON N3T 3Y6. [Holy Hour**: 6:30–7:30 p.m.**; Social with food**:** Praise music and vocation testimony**: 7:30–8:00 p.m.**; Night Prayer**: 8:00–9:00 p.m.**; **9:00 p.m.**). Bring a friend—all young adults are welcome! Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. Visit https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/. For more information, contact vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

PERMANENT DIACONATE INFORMATION SESSION:
For anyone who is interested in the Diaconate and/or wants more information about what is required and what is involved in the admission process and Formation program, are invited to either of two Information Sessions:

Dec 6th, 2026, at St. Anthony Daniel Parish, 29 Midland Dr., Kitchener after 11am mass.

You are welcome to attend the 11am Sunday Mass where Deacon Tom Vert, the Associate Director of the Deacon program will be preaching. Afterwards we will have the Information Session in the parish Hall. There will be a short presentation and then a question-and-answer session, with light refreshments. Also, we will be available for anyone wanting to speak privately.

For more information about this session, feel free to contact:
Deacon Tom Vert, Associate Director Deacon Formation Program,
tvert@hamiltondiocese.com

OR

Fr. Mark Gatto, Director of the Deacon Formation Program,
mgatto@hamiltondiocese.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Mondays – **no Mass**
Holy Hours: Thursdays at **6pm;** Fridays (without incense) at **6pm**
Reconciliation: Thursdays from **6 – 6:45pm**; Saturdays at **9:30-10:15am; 3:30 – 4:15pm** or by appointment.

INTENTIONS

Tuesday: †Herald Pais *by Cleaton Pais*
Wednesday: †Kathy Joellen Davis *by Dela Cruz Sisters*
Thursday: †Francesco DelRizzo *by DelRizzo Family;* David & AnneMarie Turalija *by Zrinka Turalija;* Patricia & Doug *by Sylvia*; Fr. Jeff & All Priests & Seminarians *by Friends of the Pallottines*
Friday: †Renato & Marta Fernandez and Juan Ponciano & Carol Guevara *by Alvaro Fernandez*
Saturday: Miraculous Medal Recipients *by Saturday Morning Rosary Group*
Saturday (**5pm**) Jennifer Gies & Family *by St. Luke Staff;* **Sunday** (**9am**) Pro Populo; *(**11am**)* †George Pyle *by Aloshious Family* (**7pm**) †Jack Mazur *by Anne Moore*

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

CANADA HELPS QR CODE

tiptap

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES available upon request. If you frequently use pink visitor's envelopes, we encourage you to ask for your own personal set of envelopes to aid in efficient administration.
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.

BEQUESTS and MEMORIAL DONATIONS to St. Agnes Parish: Information HERE.