

**St. John the Evangelist**

150 Georgina St. Arthur, ON N0G 1A0

[stjohnarthur@hamiltondiocese.ca](mailto:stjohnarthur@hamiltondiocese.ca)

**St. Mary the Immaculate**

365 Main St. E., Palmerston, ON N0G 2P0

**Sacred Heart RC Church**

9141 Hwy. 6, Kenilworth, ON N0G 2E0

# PARISH BULLETIN



***Welcome to St. John the Evangelist, Sacred Heart and St. Mary the Immaculate Parishes***

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors and hope that you feel at home in every parish. For information on registration and to find out how you can get more involved with parish activities, please contact us by:

**Phone:** 519-848-2108 **Email:** [stjohnarthur@hamiltondiocese.ca](mailto:stjohnarthur@hamiltondiocese.ca) **Website:** [www.stjohntheevangelist.ca](http://www.stjohntheevangelist.ca)

***Sunday February 22, 2026 - First Sunday of Lent***  
***“Jesus fasts for 40 days in the desert and is tempted.”***  
***Sunday March 1, 2026 - Second Sunday of Lent***  
***“Jesus is transfigured on the mountain.”***

**Pastor:**

Reverend Stephen Gilbert

**Office Secretary:**

Adam Walker: 519-848-2108

**Office Hours:**

Mon./Wed./Fri.: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Bookkeeper:** Patsy Weadick

**Sacred Heart Contact:**

Julie Goetz : 519-993-0833

**St. Mary Contact:**

Grace Canning: 519-343-5181

Tanya Semelhago: 519-343-3885

**Finance Committee:**

Bonnie Rooney

**Sacristan:** Louise Dingman

**Caretaker:** Ambrose Brown

**Mass Times**

**Arthur:**

**Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 am**

**Sunday: 10:30 am**

*(Rosary 30 minutes before Mass)*

**Palmerston:**

**Wednesday: 10:30 am**

**Saturday: 4:00 pm**

*(Rosary 30 Minutes before Mass)*

**Kenilworth:**

**Friday: 10:00 am**

**Sunday: 9:00 am**

*(Rosary 30 Minutes before Mass)*

**Diocese of Hamilton Contact:**

**Chancery Office: 1-905-528-7988**

**700 King St W,  
Hamilton, ON L8P 1C7**

[www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com)

**St. John School: 519 848 2445**

[www.stjohnarthur.wellingtoncdsb.ca](http://www.stjohnarthur.wellingtoncdsb.ca)

**Confession**

**St. John**

*After Daily Mass & 1st Friday*

*Saturday 2:30 - 3 p.m.*

**or upon request**

**Sacred Heart**

*First Sunday of each month at*

**8:30 am or upon request**

**Adoration - First Friday**

**8:30 am - 9:00 am (Arthur)**

**10:00 am - 10:30 am (Kenilworth)**

*(Mass to Follow Adoration)*

**Baptism**

*Please contact the office at least  
four months in advance.*

**Marriage**

*Please contact the office at least  
one year in advance.*

## ***February - The month of the Holy Family***

**“Jesus shows us how to love with a merciful heart, Mary reminds us to find joy in the little things, and Joseph encourages us to show up with quiet strength.”**

**This month, let's invite their peace into our chaos and let their example remind us that holiness grows right in the middle of everyday family life.**

*Little Rose Shop*

# WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is a time of **prayer** and **penance**, when Christ wants to lead us back to our baptismal promises of **dying to sin** and of **living for God**.

## WHEN IS LENT?

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until the afternoon of Holy Thursday. It runs for about 40 days.

**WHY 40 DAYS?** The "40 days" (not including Sundays) of fasting, prayer, and penitence before Easter reflect Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness.

## WHAT SHOULD WE DO DURING LENT?

- 1. Turn away from our sins and turn back to God.** Detach from habits and tendencies that are contrary to God's will. Lent is a time of conversion.
- 2. Open our hearts to our Father,** so that we may live with Christ for God. Jesus is calling us to be people of praise and prayer, and living signs of his love for all.

**"This time of fasting opens the gates of heaven to us. Let us welcome it and pray that when Easter comes we may share the joy of the risen Lord."**

LENTEN RESPONSORY



Archdiocese of Toronto

www.archtoronto.org

archtoronto

Text from Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' "Living Lent"

## World Day of Prayer 2026

Prepared by the WDP Committee of Nigeria  
**"I Will Give You Rest: Come"**  
**Matthew 11: 28-30**

St. John the Evangelist parish will be hosting the 2026 World Day of Prayer this year. It will be held on **Friday March 6th at 2pm**.

A meeting has been set up on Feb. 25th at 2 pm in the parish centre meeting room for those who will be reading at the service. If you are able to volunteer on March 6th to help please contact Mary Townsend.



## Stations of the Cross during Lent:

**St. John:** Every Sunday - 30 minutes before Mass.

**Sacred Heart:** Every Friday and Sunday - 30 minutes before Mass.

**St. Mary:** Every Saturday after Mass



## St. John CWL Meeting:

Monday March 2, 2026.

All members and those considering joining the league are invited - 7 pm in Parish Centre.

Our next **Coffee Sunday** will take place on Sunday, March 1, 2026 after the 10:30 am Mass. Everyone is invited to join us for a hot coffee or tea, snacks and some fellowship in the parish centre. There will be a **presentation on the recent trip to India** that Father Stephen and many parishioners were on.



## What's Happening ~ Save the Date!

Wed. Feb. 25	Meeting for World Day of Prayer participants to review the service.
Sun. Mar. 1	Day of Prayer for Victims & Survivors of Abuse
Sun. Mar. 1	St. John Coffee Sunday following Mass. Presentation on the recent India tour.
Mon. Mar. 2	St. John CWL Meeting in Parish Centre Meeting room at 7:00 pm
Fri. Mar. 6	<b>World Day of Prayer</b> at St. John the Evangelist Church at 2 pm.
Sun. Mar. 8	Turn your clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Saving Time

## ***Mass Intention Schedule - February 22 - March 8, 2026***

Sunday	Feb. 22	9:00 am	Kenilworth	+ Ben Kopecki	Betty Kopecki & family
				+ Sharon Tangney	Paul & Mary Lou Bolen
		10:30 am	Arthur	+ Michael, Teresa & John Green	Ray & Joan Loughran & family
Tuesday	Feb. 24	9:00 am	Arthur	+ Doris Johnson	Tim & Mary Johnson
Wednesday	Feb. 25	9:00 am	Arthur	+ Mary Jo Marshall	Wayne & Bonnie Rooney & family
		10:30 am	Palmerston	+ Paul & Flora DalBianco	Rob & Joan DalBianco
Thursday	Feb 26	9:00 am	Arthur	+ The Deshevy family	Rita Gagnon
Friday	Feb.27	9:00 am	Arthur	+ Jose Pereira	Gloria Pereira
		9:35 am	Kenilworth	Stations of the Cross	
		10:00 am		+ Stella McCabe	The Estate
				+ Anne Hahn	Margaret Goetz
Saturday Vigil	Feb.28	4:00 pm	Palmerston	Intention of all Parishioners	
Sunday	Mar. 1	9:00 am	Kenilworth	+ Frank Bowier	Verne & Pauline Mills
				+ Clarona Conrad	Brenda Goetz & Bert Coffey
		10:30 am	Arthur	+ Jennie Belanger	Rita Gagnon
Tuesday	Mar. 3	9:00 am	Arthur	+ Evelyn DeMuyneck	Tim & Mary Johnson
Wednesday	Mar. 4	9:00 am	Arthur	+ Epoch & Rooney families	Wayne & Bonnie Rooney & family
		10:30 am	Palmerston	NO MASS	
Thursday	Mar. 5	9:00 am	Arthur	+ Doug Beatty	Jim & Bev Raftis
		10:00 am	Caessant Care	+ John Vidosh	Tim & Mary Johnson
Friday	Mar. 6	<b>First Friday</b>			
		8:30 am	Arthur	Adoration	
		9:00 am		+ Gabriel & Laurina Benevides	Gloria Pereira
		9:35 am	Kenilworth	Stations of the Cross	
		10:00 am		+ Madeleine Goetz	The Family
				+ Stella McCabe	The Estate
Saturday Vigil	Mar. 7	4:00 pm	Palmerston	Intention of all Parishioners	
Sunday	Mar. 8	9:00 am	Kenilworth	Intentions of Eleanor McAllister	Margaret Goetz
		10:30 am	Arthur	Intention of all Parishioners	

**Offer a Mass Intention** for a loved one, or in thanksgiving. Contact the parish office or leave an envelope in the collection basket. Thank you.



Please remember in your prayers our benefactors, volunteers and those who have left bequests.



**The Pope's Prayer Intention**  
**February 2026**

**For Children With Incurable Diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope..

**Thoughts from the Holy Father**

"I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour." *Pope Leo*

**St. John Parish Centre/Hall**

There are various 2026 dates available for gatherings and/or functions. There are application forms available at the back of the church or on the web site under "Get Involved" or call the parish office for more information.



**DIocese of HAMILTON**

**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.

**YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT** Fr. Mark Morley invites young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and music for Lent in support of you as you discern your vocation and as we prepare to celebrate Easter. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30pm), social with food, vocations testimony, Lenten music concert, and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, **March 7th** at St. Ann Church (120 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For information, contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).

**DIOCESAN VOCATIONS PRAYER CALENDAR**  
*... let us pray for*

Mon. Feb. 23 - Rev. Joonbin Lim.  
 Tues. Feb. 24 - Rev. Ralph Diodati  
 Wed. Feb. 25 - Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus RSCI.  
 Thur. Jan. 26 - Rev. Saju Oreethaparambil, C.Ss.R.  
 Fri. Feb. 27 - Rev. Kein Upendran  
 Sat. Feb. 28 - Rev. Drago Gacnik, S.D.B.

Mon. Mar. 2 - Rev. Ambroise Tshiaba Ntumba  
 Tues. Mar. 3 - Rev. Andrew Lopatniuk  
 Wed. Mar. 4- Society of African Missions, S.M.A.  
 Thur. Mar. 5 - Very Rev. Msgr. Murray Kroetsch  
 Fri. Mar. 6 - World Day of Prayer  
 Sat. Mar. 8 - Rev. Bernard (Mike) Francis

***PRAY FOR VOCATIONS.***

**Vocation Seeds**

**First Sunday of Lent - February 22, 2026**

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you?

**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.**

**Email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)**

**[hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/](https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/)**

**PARISH *Support***

**Jan. 25 & Feb. 1, 2026**

	<b>St. John</b>	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>St. Mary</b>
Regular Offertory Loose & Envelopes	\$ 1905.25	\$ 3293.00	\$ 420.00
Maintenance	\$ 265.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 75.00
Special Collections	\$ 30.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 105.00
Jan.1, Initial & Christmas Angel	\$	\$ 90.00	\$

**Thank you for your financial support and generosity!**



## DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

February 17, 2026

To the Faithful of the Diocese of Hamilton  
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Return to me with all your heart... for I am gracious and merciful” (Jl 2:12–13).

With these words from the prophet Joel, the Church opens the holy season of Lent. They are words of invitation—an appeal from the heart of God to each one of us. As we begin this sacred time—my first Lent with you as your Bishop—I receive these words personally, and I offer them to you as well.

In his Lenten Message for 2026, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that every journey of conversion begins by letting the Word of God touch our hearts and by relearning the art of listening. Lent, he writes, is a time to “*place the mystery of God back at the centre of our lives.*” These words beautifully echo the call of the prophet: to return with all our heart.

In the afterglow of the beautiful Installation Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King just two weeks ago, I concluded my homily with questions that remain with me still: How do we recognize God’s presence in our daily lives? Do we truly long for justice and peace? Are we attentive to the new people and situations God places before us? Through our words and actions, do we bring hope? Are we living the Gospel as Good News—news that brings joy, life, and light?

Lent gives us the grace to reflect more deeply on these questions.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive the cross in ashes upon our foreheads. That small cross proclaims that our faith is not confined to church walls. It is meant to be lived in our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities. We are reminded of our frailty—“Remember that you are dust...” (Gn 3:19)—and of the urgent call to hope: “Be reconciled to God” (2 Cor 5:20). Lent is the “acceptable time,” the “day of salvation” (2 Cor 6:2). It is a season of grace, a time to begin again.

Reconciliation stands at the heart of our journey. We seek it not only as individuals, but within our families, parishes, and wider community. Before approaching the altar, we are called to be at peace with one another (Mt 5:23–24). Perhaps the Lord is inviting us to mend a strained relationship, to offer or to ask forgiveness—even “seventy-seven times” (Mt 18:22). In this way, our homes become places where Christ’s light truly dwells. As the Holy Father also notes, conversion touches not only our conscience but the quality of our relationships and dialogue.

Saint Matthew’s Gospel presents the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

“Whenever you pray... your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt 6:6).

Prayer deepens our relationship with the Father. This Lent, we might set aside a few more moments each day for quiet conversation with God, rediscover Sunday Mass with renewed devotion, attend a weekday Mass, or pray the *Via Crucis* with our parish or as a family. In the spirit of the Pope’s invitation to listen, *we can embrace moments of silence, opening our hearts to the way God’s Word gently speaks within us.*

“When you fast... your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt 6:17–18).

Fasting teaches us freedom. By freely giving something up, we remember that “one does not live by bread alone” (Mt 4:4). The Holy Father reminds us that fasting expands our hearts and even calls us to refrain from words that wound. *We are called to speak thoughtfully, refrain from harsh judgment, and nurture kindness* in our families and communities.

“When you give alms... your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt 6:3–4).

Almsgiving flows from compassion. In caring for “the least of these” (Mt 25:40), we serve Christ Himself. Listening to the Word must also mean listening to the cry of the poor and responding with generosity and justice.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation holds a special place in this season. In Confession, there is a confession of praise, a confession of sin, and a confession of faith—trusting that Christ, who “will save his people from their sins” (Mt 1:21), has conquered sin and death. Here we encounter not judgment, but mercy.

The Beatitudes (Mt 5:1–12) remain our guide: “Blessed are the merciful... Blessed are the peacemakers.” They gently invite us to examine our lives: Am I humble? Am I merciful? Do I seek peace? Jesus not only teaches these blessings—He lives them and shares His life with us.

Lent is a journey we make together. As your Bishop, I walk it with you—as a fellow pilgrim in need of God’s mercy and grace. I carry you in my prayer each day, and I ask you to pray for me. In the words of the Holy Father, may this be a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to one another, so that our communities become places where hope and reconciliation flourish.

May our families grow stronger in faith, our parishes become places of reconciliation and joy, and our Diocese shine ever more brightly with the light of Christ.

“Return to me with all your heart” (Jl 2:12). May this be our shared response to the Lord’s loving invitation. I wish you all a blessed and fruitful Lenten journey.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

*+Joseph Dabrowski*

Most Reverend Joseph Dabrowski, CSMA Bishop of  
Hamilton

/cd

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