

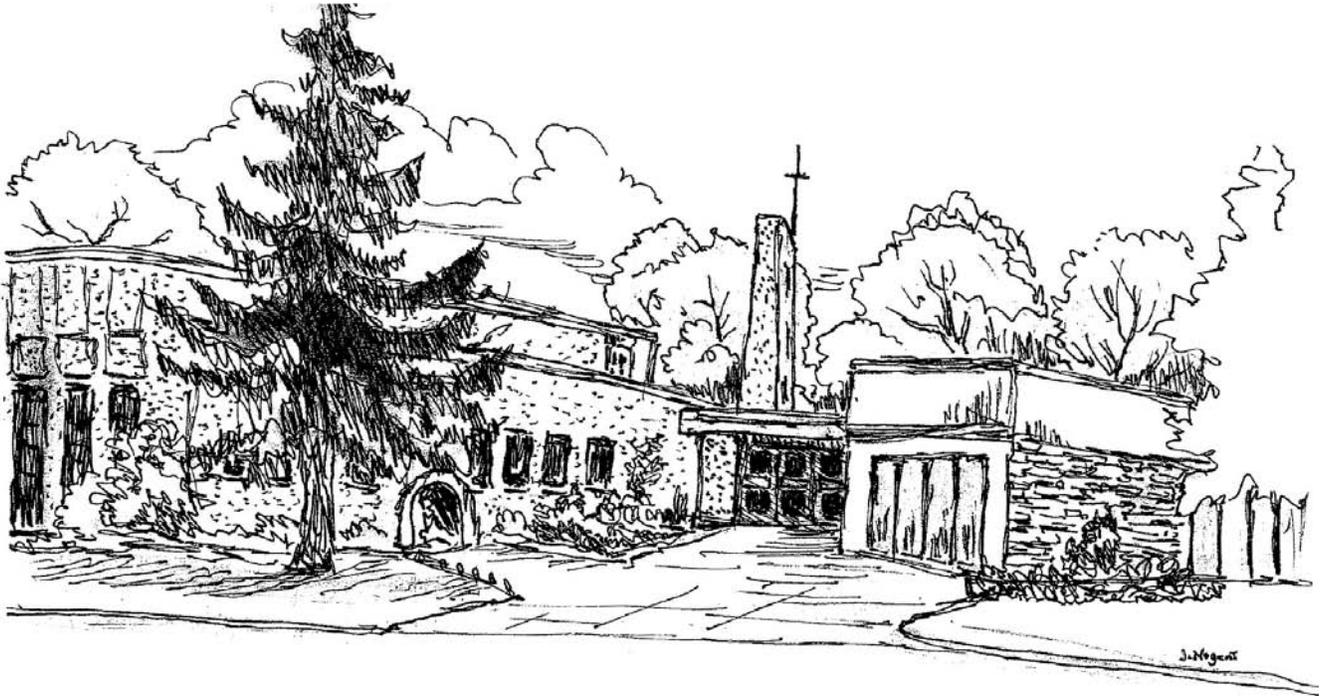


ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH

20 Idlewood Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario L8T 1V9

☎ 905-388-2200 ☎ 905-388-8416

🌐 stmargaretmaryparish.ca ✉ office@stmargaretmaryparish.ca



Very Rev. Msgr. Cornelius O'Mahony, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Rene Marechal, Deacon

Divine Dimaranan, Administration/Secretary

Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, 1:00-5:00 pm.

July & August: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, 1:00-4:00 pm.

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 am

Sunday Mass:

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Available Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm or
by appointment.

Parish Devotions:

Eucharistic Adoration: Mon-Fri: 8:00 am-8:00 pm.

Sat: Benediction 8:45 am.

Baptism: Celebrated by appointment only.

Participation in a Baptismal Preparation Session is required. Please contact the parish office (905-388-2200) well in advance.

Marriage: Parishioners who are planning to marry should contact the parish office at least six months before the proposed wedding date.

Visits to the Sick: If you or someone you know is in need of a visit in home or hospital please call the parish office.

New to the Parish: Please register by completing a registration form (available online and in the Narthex). We also ask that you notify the office of any change in address or telephone number.

Schools:

St. Margaret Mary	905-383-8122
St. Kateri Tekakwitha	905-385-8212
St. Anthony Daniel	905-389-5186
St. Thomas More Secondary	905-388-3030

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 1, 2026

REFLECT ON THE GOSPEL

Reflect upon next Sunday's Gospel throughout the week.
The Third Sunday of Lent is:
John 4.5-42



Mass at 7:00pm on Tuesday
9:00am on Wednesday – Friday

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

February 22nd, 2026 Collection

Regular Sunday Env.	\$ 4,232.00
Loose Cash	\$ 826.00
St.M.M. Parish Outreach	\$ 270.00
Building Fund	\$ 147.00

We thank you for your continued, dedicated and regular financial support for St. Margaret Mary Parish.

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Copies of the Marh/April Diocesan Prayer Calendar are available in the Narthex. They will now be made available every two months for you to take home and place in a prominent place.



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 www.hamiltondiocese.com or call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

SAVE THE DATE!

This year marks the 60th Anniversary of St Margaret Mary Parish! We are planning a few celebrations. To kick off our celebrations we plan to have our picnic right here on the Church grounds on July 12, 2026. We ask that you save the date and join us in this milestone celebration. More details will be made available closer to the date.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for volunteers to help during our Coffee Sunday following the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Coffee Sunday takes place once a month, and we would truly appreciate any help you can offer. If you are able and willing to assist, please contact the Parish Office at (905) 388-2200 or email us at: office@stmargaretmaryparish.ca.

Did you notice that our website has had a makeover? Please take a look at our website which was redesigned under the direction of the Communications office for the Diocese of Hamilton. In the next few months we will be in the process of updating the information pages.

Tues., Mar 3 7:00 pm.	†Antonio & Luisa Mare †Joao, John & Maria Arruda
Wed., Mar 4 9:00 am	†Stan Czajkowski
Thurs., Mar 5 9:00 am	†Lito Bautista
Fri., Mar 6 9:00 am	†Italo Le Donne †Maria Maccan †Patricia MacKinnon
Sat., Mar 7 5:00pm	†Antonio Mendes †Kata Boros †Ljuba Boros

Friday's during Lent: Mass in the morning at 9.00 am. with adoration of the Blessed sacrament during the day in the church. **A Holy Hour with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Meditations on the Stations of the Cross** begins at 7.00 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: After many, many years, of service at St. Margaret Mary Parish, **Joe Pracovics** will be leaving his position as Business Manager and Bookkeeper on Friday, March 20th. The parish will have an opportunity to thank him for his service at the end of the 11:00 am Mass next Sunday March 8th. Please join us for a reception following the Mass.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Parishioners and friends of St. Margaret Mary Parish are invited to a retreat day on **Saturday, March 14th from 9.30 am, to 3.00 pm.** in the church (lunch provided). The theme, ***The Name of God is Mercy*** and will be led by **Father Joseph de Viveiros**, currently serving as the Board Chaplain for the Catholic School Board in North Bay. He is a priest of the Congregation of the Resurrection. This will be an opportunity for parishioners to explore with him the beauty and freedom that we can experience when we cry out to God for mercy. **So that we can plan for lunch, please let us know if you plan to attend by calling Divine at 905-388-2200 or email at office@stmargaretmaryparish.ca.**

2025 TAX RECEIPTS

2025 Tax Receipts are now available for pick-up at the Church after all weekend Masses or at the Church office during office hours (Tuesday to Friday, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM). Kindly call the office ahead of time if you plan to pick up your receipt during weekday office hours. Thank you!



FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

The next Teaching Mass for First Communion preparation will be held during the **9:00 AM and 11:00 AM on March 22, and April 19.**

Reconciliation for Grade 2: Parents/Guardians are invited to bring their children for First Reconciliation on **Tuesday, March 24 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM or any Saturday during April from 4.00 to 4.45 PM.** Thank you for your cooperation.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is an international ecumenical effort that invites Churches in local communities to pray together for the church especially in parts of the world we may not be as familiar with. The local service for 2026 takes place on Friday, March 6, at 2.00 pm. in Trinity Presbyterian Church, 720 9th Ave, between Upper Ottawa and Upper Gage. The service was written by the Christian women of Nigeria for the day of prayer. Looking for something to do this Lent? 40 Days for Life



Hamilton invites you to help to try and make a change for Hamilton's pre-born children! YOU can participate in a peaceful prayer vigil across the street from McMaster Children's Hospital, each day from February 18 – March 29 anytime between 7:00am to 7:00 pm. You can sign up for just ONE hour during this Lenten season 2026! Sign up online: <https://bit.ly/40dayshamilton>

SPEAKING SYNODALITY

The **Office for Evangelization and Catechesis** invites you to join our three-part workshop series on Synodality and its applications in local parish settings. This seminar is encouraged for those involved in parish councils, pastoral planning, and leadership at all levels of Catholic community living. There will be 2 locations for each 3-part session series: Hamilton (with a Zoom option) and, Guelph. Registration and further details can be found here: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/>

CWL MEMBERSHIP DUES

CWL membership dues are \$ 40.00 for 2026. Please use the envelopes provided with your name, email and phone number and if you know your CWL number by April 1st, 2026. Thank you in advance.

THANK YOU FROM CWL

On behalf of the **CWL (Catholic Women's League)**, thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, and supported our bake sale. Your generosity made the event a great success. We truly appreciate your support and kindness!

HEARTS FOR HAITI – THANK YOU!

The Twinning Committee extends our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to our loving and generous parishioners. Your kind support of Hearts for Haiti raised an amazing \$1,000, which will assist our sisters and brothers of St. Gabriel Parish beyond measure. May God continue to bless you and your families abundantly for your ongoing and generous support.



A REFLECTION FOR LENT 2:

The Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Lent in 2026 presents the mystery of the Transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28b-36). On a mountain, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John aside to pray. There, His appearance changes: His face shines, His clothing becomes radiant, and Moses and Elijah appear speaking with Him. Then a voice from the cloud declares, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

At first glance, this scene seems almost out of place during Lent. The season usually invites us into sacrifice, repentance, and simplicity, yet the Transfiguration is filled with light and glory. Why does the Church place this Gospel early in Lent? The answer lies in understanding Lent as a journey, not simply toward the Cross, but toward Resurrection.

The disciples are given a glimpse of Christ's glory before they witness His suffering. Soon they will walk with Him toward Jerusalem, toward betrayal and the crucifixion. The Transfiguration strengthens them so that, when darkness comes, they will remember what they have seen. In the same way, Lent reminds us that Christian sacrifice is never without hope. We fast, pray, and give alms not to prove our strength, but to open ourselves to the transforming presence of Christ.

One striking detail in Luke's account is that Jesus is transfigured while praying. Prayer does not change God, it changes us. The radiance revealed on the mountain shows what is always true about Jesus: He is the beloved Son of the Father. Lent invites us to rediscover that same truth about our own lives. Through baptism and grace, we are called to become people who reflect the light of Christ, even if imperfectly. The season is less about self-improvement and more about allowing God to reshape our hearts.

Peter's instinct is also familiar. Overwhelmed by the moment, he wants to build tents and remain on the mountain. Yet the disciples cannot stay there. They must come down and continue the journey. Lent teaches us a similar lesson: spiritual consolation is a gift, but faithfulness is proven in ordinary life, in patience, forgiveness, and daily conversion. We are not called to escape the world, but to carry Christ's light into it.

The Father's command, "Listen to him" stands at the center of this Gospel. In a world filled with noise and competing voices, Lent becomes a school of listening. Through Scripture, silence, and prayer, we learn again to hear Christ speaking to us. The practices of Lent help clear away distraction so that we can recognize His voice more clearly.

As we walk through Lent in 2026, the Transfiguration offers encouragement. It reminds us that behind the struggles we face lies the promise of glory. The road to Easter passes through sacrifice, but it ends in transformation. The light shining from Christ on the mountain assures us that the final word of our lives, too, is not suffering but communion with God. Lent is the season in which we begin to believe that this transformation is already underway.

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