

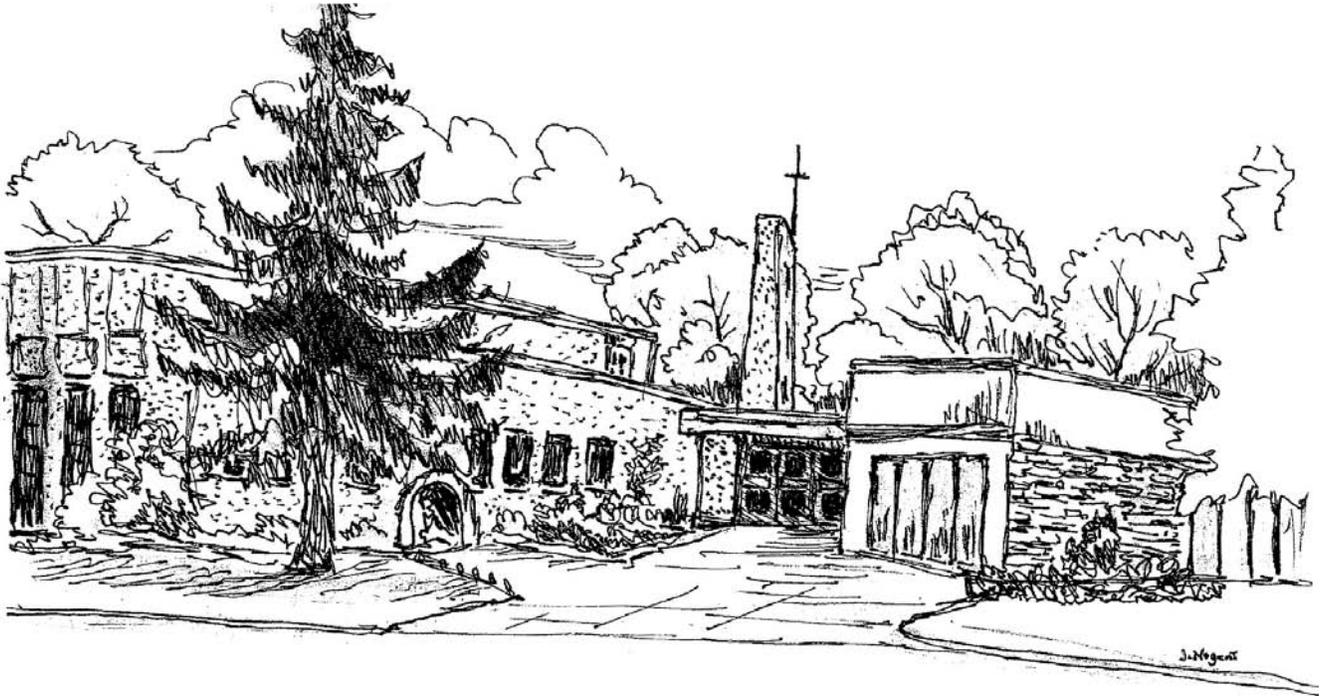


ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH

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, Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper
Buddy Guevarra, Parish Custodian

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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

MARCH 29, 2026

REFLECT ON THE GOSPEL

Reflect upon next Sunday's Gospel throughout the week.

The Resurrection of the Lord is:

John 20.1-9

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

March 22nd, 2026 Collection

Regular Sunday Env.	\$ 5,024.00
Loose Cash	\$ 755.00
St.M.M. Parish Outreach	\$ 275.00
Mission Coop- HAITI	\$ 340.00
Building Fund	\$ 233.00
Share Lent	\$ 2,595.00
Easter	\$ 110.00

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



FIRE SAFETY PLANS

PLEASE REMEMBER!

The new **FIRE SAFETY PLAN** for the Church, meeting rooms and rectory will be presented to staff, group leaders and volunteers who have responsibility for meetings and guiding people into and out of the buildings on **Tuesday evening, April 14th at 7.30 pm**. Everyone will hear about the report and procedures that need to be in place so that we are in compliance with the regulations of the Fire Department, City of Hamilton and the Diocese. A new requirement of the Fire Department is that we have a fire drill during one Mass each year which we will also discuss.

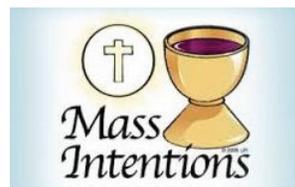
Please note: we are happy to accept Mass intentions for Mass during the week and for the Saturday evening Mass at 5.00 pm. We no longer accept Mass intentions for Mass on Sunday morning at 9.00 or 11.00 Both of these Masses are reserved "for the people", a term from the Code of Canon Law which requires the pastor or the presiding priest to offer the "**Missa pro populo**", Mass for the "spiritual and temporal well-being of their parishioners every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation." (Canon 534) Please contact the office well ahead when you require a Mass intention for a specific date. Intentions for a date that falls on a Sunday can be transferred to the Saturday at 5.00 pm.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Join us in prayer as we come together to pray the **Divine Mercy Chaplet** on **Sunday, April 12th**, immediately following the **9:00 AM** and **11:00 AM Masses** (approximately 10 minutes).

Let us pause, reflect, and entrust ourselves to God's mercy. All are welcome to participate in this beautiful devotion. We hope you can join us!



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

Tues., Mar 31 7:00 pm.	†Norman Fonseca †Cesidio Dipronio
Wed., April 1 9:00 am	†Domenic Allega †Robert Carson
Thurs., April 2 7:00 pm	No Morning Mass Holy Thursday
Fri., April 3 11:00 am 3:00 pm 7:00 pm	Good Friday Good Friday Service Good Friday Service Station of the Cross
Sat., April 4 1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Holy Saturday Blessing of the Easter Food Easter Vigil †Shlemon Hannah Osi

MASS ON HOLY THURSDAY: During Mass on Holy Thursday, after the washing of the feet and homily, we are going to introduce an ancient tradition where we will bring gifts for the poor during the time when the offertory procession normally takes place. Those attending mass are invited to come forward and place their gift for the poor in the baskets close to the Altar. Dry goods such as pasta and rice or canned soup or beans and lentils are always welcome and will be distributed to Neighbor to Neighbor. Gift cards for grocery stores or cash will be distributed to our Parish Outreach Program.



FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

The final Teaching Mass for children preparing for First Communion will be at **11:00 AM (only)** on **Sunday, April 19th**.

Reconciliation for Grade 2: Children are invited to celebrate First Reconciliation on **any Saturday during April from 4.00 to 4.45 PM**. Thank you for your cooperation.



A REFLECTION FOR PASSION SUNDAY:

As the Church moves from the Sundays of Lent into Holy Week and listens to the Passion according to the Gospel of Matthew, the tone of the liturgy changes. Lent has prepared us through repentance, prayer, and renewal; Holy Week now invites us to stand quietly at the center of the Christian mystery. Matthew's account of the arrest, trial, and death of Jesus is not only a historical narrative but a spiritual mirror, revealing both the depth of God's love and the

complexity of the human heart. Five themes in particular deserve careful attention as we hear this Gospel proclaimed.

First, Matthew emphasizes faithfulness in the face of human weakness. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prays with profound honesty, asking that the cup of suffering pass from Him, yet surrendering fully to the Father's will. In contrast, the disciples cannot remain awake; later they scatter, and Peter denies even knowing Jesus. The Passion does not present ideal disciples but fragile ones. This contrast reminds us that God's saving work unfolds not through human perfection but through divine fidelity amid weakness.

Second, the narrative highlights the lonely path of obedient suffering. As Jesus moves from arrest to trial, He becomes increasingly isolated. Judas betrays Him, religious authorities condemn Him, Pilate hesitates but ultimately yields, and the crowd turns against Him. Matthew draws attention to Jesus' silence during many accusations. This silence is not resignation but trust. Jesus does not defend Himself according to the logic of worldly power; instead, He remains obedient to the Father, showing that faithfulness often appears as quiet endurance rather than visible strength.

Third, the Passion reveals the tragedy of misused power. Matthew portrays multiple layers of authority, religious leaders anxious to protect their position, political leaders concerned with maintaining order, and crowds easily swayed. Responsibility is shared across many actors, illustrating how injustice often emerges through a network of small compromises rather than a single dramatic decision. The shifting crowd especially serves as a warning about how quickly public opinion can move from praise to condemnation.

Fourth, Matthew presents the kingship of Jesus through humility and suffering. Throughout the Passion, irony abounds: Jesus is mocked as a king, dressed in a robe, crowned with thorns, and labeled "King of the Jews" above the cross. Yet these gestures of ridicule proclaim a deeper truth. Matthew shows that true kingship is not domination but self-giving love. The cross becomes a throne, and power is redefined as sacrificial love offered for others.

Finally, Matthew emphasizes cosmic signs accompanying Jesus' death: darkness covers the land, the temple veil is torn, the earth trembles, and a Roman centurion confesses Jesus as the Son of God. These details show that the Passion is not merely a human tragedy but a cosmic turning point. The tearing of the veil suggests that barriers between God and humanity are being removed, opening a new path of communion.

Together, these five themes invite believers to enter Holy Week not as spectators but as participants. Matthew's Passion asks each listener to recognize personal weakness, contemplate Christ's obedience, examine the use of power, rediscover true greatness, and trust that even in suffering God is at work bringing new life. In listening carefully, we begin to see that the road to Easter passes through the cross, where love reveals its fullest meaning.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TRAINING DAY

Many of our parishes are blessed to have teens and young adults involved in the preparation and leadership of Vacation Bible School experiences. The Office for Youth Ministry and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis warmly welcome all VBS coordinators and youth leaders to a day of formation and training on Saturday, May 9th, 2026. For more information, and to register please visit: <http://bit.ly/419nh7w>. For all other questions regarding VBS, reach out to us at: youthministry@hamiltondiocese.com.



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.

WHEN LIFE CHANGES GRIEF PROGRAM

Using Dr. Bill Webster's grief material these programs are intended to help you to understand your grief and provide practical tips and support for helping you through. Part two (for those who have completed part one), The Ongoing Journey, will be offered at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West on Wednesday evenings from April 8 - May 13 from 7:00-8:30pm. All are welcome. To register look for the program start date under Upcoming Events on the Diocesan home page at hamiltondiocese.com or call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.



CATHOLIC SPEED DATING MAY 16TH IN STONEY CREEK

St. Ann Hamilton and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish invite Catholic singles to a special speed dating event on Saturday, May 16th at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall in Stoney Creek. This event features two sessions for different age groups — including an afternoon session specifically for adults ages 30–59, and an evening session for ages 20–39, with a shared dinner for all attendees in between. Those aged 30–39 are welcome at both sessions with a Full Day ticket.

Tickets are \$20 per person and include dinner. An early bird rate of \$15 is available until April 5th (Easter) using code EARLYBIRD at checkout.

Spaces are limited. For full details and to register, visit stannhamilton.church/speed-dating.

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