

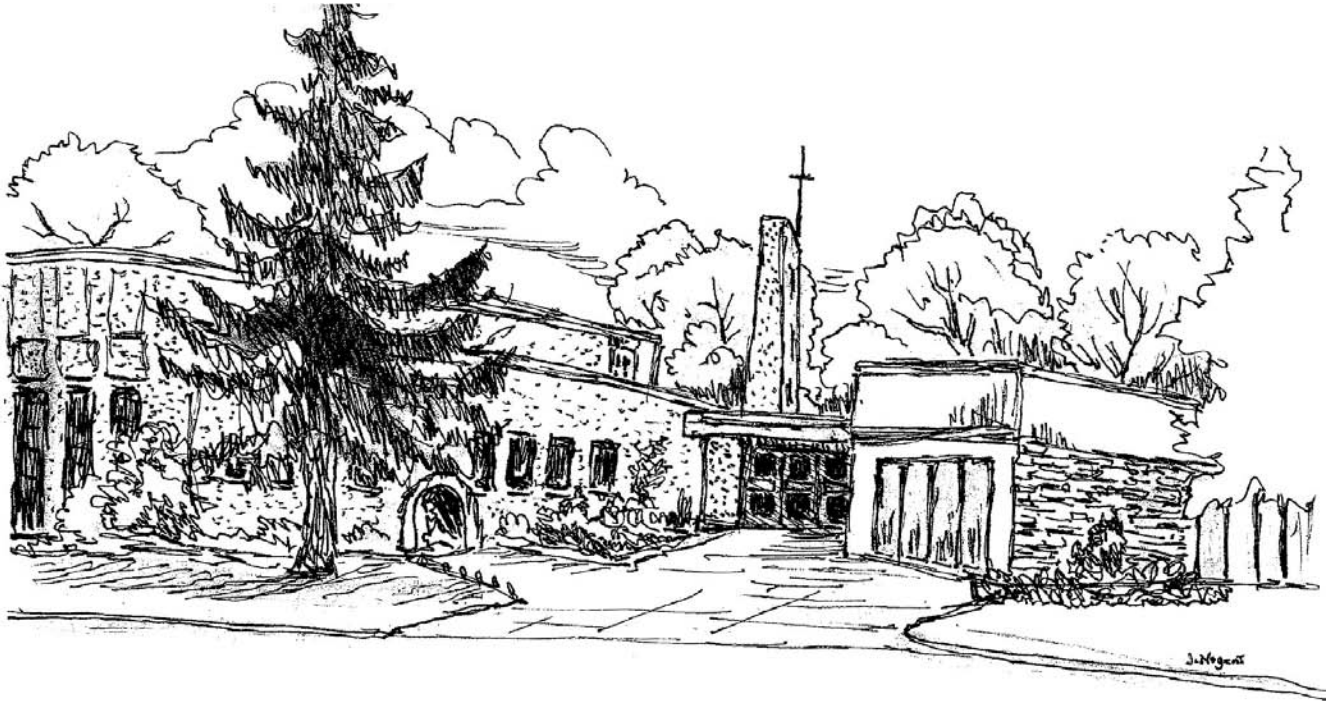


ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH

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
Mary Luciani, Music Director
Buddy Guevarra, 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2026

REFLECT ON THE GOSPEL

Reflect upon next Sunday's Gospel throughout the week.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter is:

John 14.1-12

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

April 19th, 2026 Collection

Regular Sunday Env.	\$ 4,895.00
Loose Cash	\$ 798.00
Bldg. Fund	\$ 135.00
St.M.M. Parish Outreach	\$ 428.00
Easter	\$ 535.00
Indigenous Reconciliation	\$ 412.00

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

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

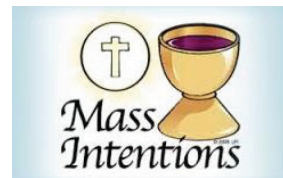
Copies of the April Diocesan Prayer Calendar are available in the Narthex. They will now be made available every two months for you to take home and place in a prominent place.

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.



OUTREACH

During the Easter season, the Church reflects not only on the joy of the Resurrection, but also on how that new life is lived out beyond Sunday Eucharist. The early Christian community recognized that faith must be expressed in acts of charity, especially toward the poor. This remains a vital call today. Easter invites us to renew our commitment to pastoral care, seeing Christ in those who struggle. Our parish has embodied this through an **Outreach Program** providing groceries to those in need, reflecting the compassion of our community. Yet, we are challenged to do more, offering not just material help, but dignity and hope. Over the last few years, this task has been carried by one person, and it is time to include others. As we reflect on this ministry, we invite you to share your thoughts and ideas with us on May 13 at 7:00 p.m. Together, we can ensure no one is forgotten, and we truly become witnesses to the risen Christ.



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

Tues., April 28 7:00 pm.	†Pelung & Pabling Calangi
Wed., April 29 9:00 am	†Robert Carson
Thurs. April 30 9:00 am	†Teddie Faddies
Fri., May 1 9:00 am	†All Souls in Purgatory
Sat., May 2 5:00 pm	Intentions of Joe Pracsovic

MEDITATION 4 FOR THE EASTER SEASON:

In today's gospel reading, Jesus offers one of the most intimate images of His identity: "I am the Good Shepherd." This is not simply a poetic metaphor; it is a revelation of how God relates to His people. Unlike distant rulers or indifferent leaders, Jesus presents Himself as one who knows, calls, and loves each person personally. He is not a shepherd of the crowd alone, but of each individual sheep. He knows their voices, their wounds, and even their wandering.

The tenderness of this image becomes even more striking in light of what precedes it. In John 9, Jesus heals a man born blind, exposing not only physical blindness but the spiritual blindness of the Pharisees. Those entrusted with guiding the people fail to recognize God at work. In contrast, Jesus reveals a radically different kind of leadership, one rooted not in power or control, but in self-giving love. He does not dominate the flock; He walks ahead of it. He does not abandon the weak; He seeks them out.

When Jesus says, "the sheep hear his voice; he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out," He speaks to a deep human longing: to be known and loved personally. In a world where people can feel anonymous or overlooked, this truth is profoundly consoling. Christ does not see us as interchangeable. He calls each of us by name, inviting us into relationship with Him. This calling is not forced, it requires listening, trust, and a willingness to follow.

Jesus also declares, "I am the gate." This image reveals that He is not only the shepherd who leads, but also the very way to life. Through Him, the sheep "come in and go out and find pasture." He is both protector and provider. In a spiritual sense, this means that true freedom is not found in wandering aimlessly, but in entering into the life He offers. The gate is not a barrier meant to exclude, but an opening that leads to safety, nourishment, and peace.

At the heart of this passage is the ultimate sign of His love: “The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” Jesus contrasts Himself with the hired hand, who runs away at the first sign of danger. The Good Shepherd does not flee, He stays, even when it costs Him everything. This points directly to the Cross, where Christ gives His life so that His sheep may live. His authority is not exercised through domination, but through sacrifice.

The late Pope Francis, often reflected on this image, reminding the Church that true shepherds must be close to their people. He famously spoke of pastors needing to have “the smell of the sheep,” meaning that they must share in the lives, struggles, and joys of those they serve. This insight echoes the heart of John 10: the shepherd is not distant, but deeply present. In Jesus, we see the perfect fulfillment of this closeness, He enters fully into our human experience, even to the point of suffering and death.

Ultimately, the image of the Good Shepherd invites us into trust. To follow Him is to believe that we are known, protected, and loved beyond measure. Even when we stray, His voice continues to call us back. And when we listen, we discover not only guidance, but the quiet assurance that we are never alone.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 46 NEWLY CONFIRMED STUDENTS!

On Saturday, students from our parish schools received the Sacrament of Confirmation and were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This is a special milestone in their faith journey and a beautiful moment for our parish community. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen them as they grow in faith, live out the Gospel, and share God’s love with others. We are proud of each one of them and keep them in our prayers. **Congratulations once again, and may God bless you all!**



FIRST COMUNION BEGINS NEXT WEKEND

at the 5.00 pm and 11.00 pm Mass during the weekend. We expect many more family and friends to join the children for this special celebration and expect that there will be some pressure on the parking lot before and after the Mass. Please be patient and kind to each other.



THE FORWARD TOGETHER WITH CHRIST

series continues with its final sessions this Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Hearth Room. The topics for this series focus on the moral life and finding meaning in our daily walk with Christ. We look forward to creating a follow-up series in the late fall of this year that will follow a similar process.



CRAFT TABLE DONATIONS

We are hoping for donations of: 100% cotton fabric, bias-tape-double folded extra wide - white, heavier cotton/canvas fabric (solid colors), fusible light/medium weight interfacing, 100% natural cotton batting, Bernat blanket yarn, loops and threads sweet snuggles yarn, loops and threads sweet snuggles lite yarn, classic cotton yarn. Tulle, wreath frames, Christmas bulbs. Gift certificates for Michael’s or Fabric land would also be appreciated. All donations can be left in the hearth room in the box labelled “craft donations”.

I would like to thank you all for your generosity! If you would like to join our crafters team or you need to contact me, my contact info is: Jan Tratnyek 905-921-2047.



ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us for the St. Margaret Mary Knights of Columbus 9553 Annual Pancake Breakfast on **Sunday, May 3rd, 2026**, right after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses. It’s a perfect opportunity to enjoy some delicious pancakes and good company! Tickets are available now. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (please check with a Knights of Columbus member for age guidelines). You can purchase your tickets until April 26th after Masses. Everyone is welcome—bring your friends and family! If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 905-520-2900.

MOTHER’S DAY SALE

The Knights of Columbus will be selling flowers for Mother’s Day at \$3.00 per stem on Saturday, May 9, and Sunday, May 10, after all Masses.

Buy one for your loved ones! 

HAMILTON RIGHT TO LIFE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

**Change for Life
Mother’s Day – Father’s Day**



Our church is once again partnering with Hamilton Right to Life through their 2026 Baby Bottle Campaign from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day. Baby Bottles will be available to

take after all Masses on Sunday May 10th, and you are asked

to return them on Sunday June 21st. Please take a bottle and fill it up with your coins, paper money or cheque. Hamilton Right to Life needs your support to raise money to educate, advertise, and get the message throughout the City of Hamilton of the devastating effects of abortion, MAiD and other life-threatening issues. Please pray for families affected by abortion and euthanasia today. You can learn more about Hamilton Right to Life at www.HamiltonRightToLife.org or by calling 905-528-3065.

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