

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Feb 20, 2022

ST. MARY PARISH

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. Feb 22 - 7:00 p.m. Vincenzo Fabiano Req'd by The Family
Wed. Feb 23 - 9:00 a.m. Fr. Murray Farwell Req'd by Ron & Marian Flanigan
Thur. Feb 24 - 9:00 a.m. Verna Epoch Req'd by Betty, Peter Mogensen & Family
Fri. Feb 25- 9:00 a.m. Joseph Raftis Req'd by The Family
Sat. Feb 26 - 4:00 p.m. The People of the Parish
Sun. Feb 27 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. Feb 26 - 4:00 p.m. Evelyn Collins
Sun. Feb 27 - 9:00 a.m. J. von Westerholt

CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Mike at: 519-323-1054 ext. 7

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. Feb 26 - 5:30 p.m.- Mary Pilkington families Req'd by Dennis & Dorothy Pilkington

ST. PETER'S, Ayton

Sun. Feb 27 - 11:00 a.m. – Jim & Lorreta Murray Req'd by Mary & Dot Bourgeois & Family

A Reconciliation Prayer Service will be held on **Saturday 09 April, at 1:00 PM** in the Church.



A Mass for **First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on **Sunday 01 May, 2022 at 3:00 PM** in our Church.



The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be celebrated on **Sunday 15 May, 2022 at 3:00 PM**, with the Most Rev. D. Crosby OMI presiding.

These words from Jesus' teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the crux and the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged. Jesus contrasts the behavior of his followers with the behavior of "sinners." In Matthew, Jesus contrasts the behavior desired with the behavior of tax collectors and Gentiles. Matthew concludes the teaching about love of enemies with the admonition to be perfect as God is perfect; Luke concludes by emphasizing God's mercy. In both Gospels, Jesus' words challenge those who would follow him to be more like God. God loves us beyond our expectations, beyond anything we can possibly imagine. In response to God's love, we are to love as God loves, beyond expectations and with a depth beyond imagining. <https://www.loyolapress.com>

Tax Receipts

The 2021 Charitable Donation Tax Receipts are available for pickup in each of our three churches this weekend. They will also be available during Masses next weekend (19th / 20th). Any receipts that have not been picked up by February 20th will be mailed the following week.

Sacred Heart Parish 100th Anniversary –

This June 15th, Sacred Heart Parish in Hamilton, will be celebrating 100 years. We ask former and present parishioners to please send photos of memories at Sacred Heart either by email: sacred.heart@cogeco.ca or to bring them to the parish rectory. Bishop Douglas Crosby will celebrate Mass at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, June 5th 2022 at 10:00 a.m., and this will be followed by brunch at Michaelangelo's. Further details to follow.

Marriage Support - Is your marriage experience more trouble than joy, feeling stagnant or disconnected and/or causing you worries? The solution is Retrouvaille - a program for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship. Retrouvaille has one purpose: to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required except between the couple themselves, designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. It also works well for couples who may be considering separation or divorce. The next Retrouvaille weekend begins March 13, 2022. For more information call 905-664-5212 or email teamrecine@gmail.com.

A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI

February 14, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

After significant work at both the national and local levels, I am pleased to provide an update on the participation of the Diocese of Hamilton in the national **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund**.

In late January 2022, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) announced the establishment of the **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund**, a charity whose mandate is to receive, manage, and disperse \$30 million in collective contributions promised by Canada's Catholic dioceses.

The Diocese of Hamilton, as an enthusiastic supporter of this initiative, will commit \$4 million to the fund over the next 5 years. While our Indigenous partners in this program will be determined in the weeks ahead, the funds will be allocated to programs that work toward accomplishing *Call to Action #61* of **Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission**: healing and reconciliation projects; culture and language revitalization projects; education and relationship-building projects; and dialogues for Indigenous spiritual leaders and youth. Of these funds, \$2.1 million will be allocated through partnerships within the Diocese of Hamilton, while \$1.9 million will support initiatives in other dioceses/communities of need across the country. The Diocese is committed to fulfilling its \$4 million commitment. Parishioners across the diocese will be invited to support this initiative through various means in the coming years.

While the Diocese of Hamilton ran no residential schools, we take seriously our part in supporting the CCCC effort to promote healing and reconciliation with our Indigenous sisters and brothers. With Jesus Christ as our model, the Church stands with those who suffer, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. May God, the Creator of all, bless this initiative and the journey toward healing and reconciliation.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Pray for Us!

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+**Douglas Crosby**, OMI

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI
Bishop of Hamilton

Join us February 24, 2022 7:00 – 9:00 PM for “After the Storm: Building the Pope Francis Village”, part of the **Reel Justice Film Festival!** The film documents the transformational journey of 550 families in Tacloban, Philippines following the devastation of Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. In the aftermath of this natural disaster, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada, supporting local organizations, transformed a piece of land into new homes, a new community, and new lives. This documentary is a celebration of the fruits of your solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South. The **Reel Justice Film Festival** is a partnership between Development & Peace and the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives. Visit us online at <https://reeljusticefilmfestival.wordpress.com/> to view our 2022 schedule or to secure your spot at any of our virtual screenings!

Sunday's Readings

First Reading: *1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9,12-13,22-23*
David does not kill Saul.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 103:1-4,8,10,12-13*
A song in praise of God's mercy

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:45-49*

As we bear the image of Adam, so we will bear the image of the one from heaven.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 6:27-38*

Jesus teaches his disciples to be merciful as God is merciful.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's gospel reading is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's gospel. We continue to hear Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. Recall that in Luke's Gospel, this teaching is addressed to Jesus' disciples. This is in contrast to the parallel found in Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus' words are addressed to both the disciples and to the crowds.