

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

49 Blueridge Ave., Kitchener, Ontario N2M 4E2
519-745-7301 www.stfranciskw.ca
stfranciskitchener@hamiltondiocese.com



Administered by the Congregation of the Resurrection: www.resurrectionists.ca

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am

Reconciliation

By Appointment Only,
please call the parish

Sunday Children's Liturgy

No Children's Liturgy at this time

Prayer Network

Call parish office to request prayers

Baptism

Please call the parish office.

Marriages

Please call the parish office.

Pastor:	Fr. Murray McDermott, C.R. (mmcdermott@hamiltondiocese.com)
Associate Pastor:	Fr. Raphael Ma, C.R. (rma@hamiltondiocese.com)
Pastoral Minister:	Miss Ruthann Fisher (rfisher@hamiltondiocese.com)
Music Ministry:	Mrs. Terrienne Moulton
Admin. Assistant:	Ms. Alice Soeder
Building Manager:	Mr. Gary Howell

Parish Office is open Monday – Friday,
8:30 am – noon & 1:00 – 4:30 pm
by Appointment Only Please call ahead

Vocations Information:

www.vocationinfo.ca www.vocationculture.ca



*"We are a Christ-centred faith
community seeking to be
instruments of God's peace."*



FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI October 4, 2020

*"The Word of God is living and active;
it judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart."*

MASS INTENTIONS October 6 - 11, 2020

Tuesday, 6th	- Weekday
9:00 am	+Jack Donald – Irene Ferguson
Wednesday, 7th	- <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>
9:00 am	Intentions of Maria Cabral
Thursday, 8th	- Weekday
9:00 am	+Dorothy & Leo Herzog – the Family
Friday, 9th	- Weekday
9:00 am	Intentions of the Buller Family – Marguerite Buller & Marg Wesson Intentions of Erna Spoenlein – Mary Jane Burgess +Helen Bender – Bonnie & Chris, Ron & Jane & Grandchildren +Frank Pendergast – David & Aida Haukenfrers +Francisc Kruzlics – Sandy Milne
Saturday, 10th	- <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
11:00 am	Memorial Mass for those who died during the shutdown
5:00 pm	+Marija Vrljic – the Halladay / Vrljic Family +Annabelle Ritchie – the Family +Ruby Ball – Sonyia Fitzpatrick +David O’Farrell – Nate & Alison O’Farrell +Marcie Schnarr – Eleanor Buchanan & Family +Deceased Members of Longo & O’Grady Families – Eileen & Mary Longo
Sunday, 11th	- <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
9:00 am	Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
11:00 am	+Theresa Kelly – Marilyn Alston

October 4, 2020

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

September 26/27 Collection	\$4,644.25
2020 Total Collection	\$196,347.03
2020 Total Budget	\$309,450.00

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon Oct. 5:	Rev. Claude Perera, OMI
Tues. Oct. 6:	Rev. David Reitzel
Wed. Oct. 7:	Salesians of St. Don Bosco SDB
Thu. Oct. 8:	Rev. Patras Samuel Masih
Fri. Oct. 9:	Rev. David Reilander
Sat. Oct. 10:	Rev. Tom Moisan

Looking Ahead to Oct. 11, 2020

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 25: 6-10a Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20
Matthew 22: 1-14

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

Monday

Overeaters Anonymous (H) 7:30 pm

Saturday

Memorial Mass 11:00 am
for those who died during the shutdown

Monday - Sunday

Thanksgiving Food Drive
During the week – Parish Office Hours
Weekend – At Masses

Happy Feast of St. Francis of Assisi!

We are so sorry to be missing many of our planned Feast Day celebrations, like the Pasta Supper, special Mass with the Bishop and blessing our statue, or even being able to celebrate Mass with all of you!

However, St. Francis knew what it was to suffer, and in his suffering he turned to God. We pray that you turn to God in these difficult times, and may you know we are praying for all our parishioners, especially those who are not able to join us in church.

This Feast Day we invite you to celebrate with us by watching the video that members of our 60th Anniversary Cmte put together. You can find the video on our website today or on our [youtube channel by clicking here](#).

You might also be interested in reading this [article about St. Francis](#) by Fr. Damian Ference for the WordOnFire blog. For all that we know about St. Francis, there is always more to learn about him!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

It has been a difficult year for everyone. The pandemic has made it hard to connect with our family and friends, which is especially painful during festive seasons like Thanksgiving. Some of us may also have lost or had our income drastically reduced, so even just putting food on our tables may be a struggle. Thanksgiving is a time to remember that even when life is a struggle, God is with us, and we have much to be thankful for. In this spirit of thanksgiving we have decided to hold our usual Thanksgiving Food Drive this year. Since our food hamper program is not currently operating, our St. Vincent de Paul volunteers will take your donations to the local food bank. You can bring donations to the parish office from Oct. 5 – 9 (please call ahead) or bring them to Mass on Oct. 10/11 and leave them in the entrance foyer when you arrive. Thank you for supporting our neighbours in need.

OCTOBER PARISH CALENDAR

Our online parish calendar has been updated for the month of October, and a printable copy of the calendar can be accessed on the same page. We are working to re-imagine parish events and ministries and we'll keep updating our online calendar as information is available. If you have any suggestions please forward them to the parish office.

COMBINED SPECIAL COLLECTION

Every year each parish in the diocese has special collections which are designated for specific charities. If you have church envelopes you see the yellow or beige envelopes in your boxes periodically for these collections. While we were closed for COVID-19 we missed several of these collections, including *Share Lent, Pope's Pastoral Works, Holy Land (Good Friday), Care for Retired Priests, Needs of the Church in Canada and World Mission Sunday*. Hamilton Diocese recognizes that these charities still need our help, particularly during these difficult times. So we will be having a **one-time Combined Special Collection on October 17/18** which will be divided among all these charities. There will be special envelopes in the pews the weekend prior, Oct. 10/11, for you to take home and bring back with your donation. Or if you are not able to join us for Mass but want to contribute to this collection you can use any envelope, mark it Combined Special Collection, and drop it in the mail slot at the Parish Office. **Be sure to include your name and contact info or envelope number** so we can add this donation to your year-end tax receipt. If you have already donated to these charities using the individual envelopes in your boxes, rest assured we have passed those donations on for you. If you have any questions please contact Alice in the Parish Office. Thank you for your prayerful support.

The View from Fr. Raph's Window...

This year, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi falls on a Sunday. It was going to be quite the celebration – we would have had our annual pasta supper on Friday, then the Blessing of the Animals on Saturday (which we still had), and the 60th Anniversary Mass on Sunday afternoon with the Bishop, who would have blessed the new statue afterwards. Hopefully, next year we will be able to have our celebrations, commemorating the first time Mass was offered in the Church building.

Usually the feast of a certain saint is on the day of their death, or Heavenly birth. There are a few exceptions, such as St. Jean Baptiste de La Salle, the founder of the Christian Brothers, who died on Good Friday, and so his feast day was moved to his birthday instead.

On October 3rd, Franciscan communities around the world celebrate the “Transitus” of St. Francis – the “passing.” On the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, September 14th, in the year 1224, St. Francis had a vision in which he received the mystical phenomenon called the stigmata. He was taken to several cities in the area in an attempt to treat his wounds, as well as an eye infection which would eventually cost him his sight. Feeling that the end of his life was near, he asked to be brought back to the Porziuncola, to where he first gave his life to God.

He called his companions and friends, who came to see him in his last days. They prayed together, sang together, read from the Gospels, he gave them some final admonitions, and blessed them.

Although it was mixed with sadness, St. Francis also believed that death was also a time to celebrate, for his lifelong search for the Creator Who loved him was coming to an end. And to this end, St. Francis asked a noblewoman, Bl. Jacqueline de Settesoli, to bring him some of her almond cookies, which he liked so much, one last time. And from this story comes the tradition of sharing almond cookies on the vigil of the feast of St. Francis.

~ Fr. Raphael CR

MEMORIAL MASS OCT. 10

On Saturday October 10th at 11:00 am we will celebrate a Memorial Mass for all those who passed away while the churches were shut down and we were unable to celebrate Funeral Masses. If your loved one passed away during this time, or if you simply want to pray for the deceased and their family members, please join us. The usual weekend Mass pandemic protocols will be in place including our limit of 100 people. All the churches in Hamilton Diocese will be celebrating a Memorial Mass at this time, so we join in solidarity with all our Catholic brothers and sisters to pray for those who have died

2020-2021 MISSALS

The 2020-2021 Sunday Missals are available for purchase through the parish office. They are \$3.50 each, please call the office to arrange a time to come in and pick one up.

2021 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Your 2021 Church Envelope boxes are also ready for pickup in the parish office, please call to schedule a time to pick them up. If you know of anyone who uses envelopes and is not able to come out to pick them up during this pandemic, please consider calling that person and offering to drop their box off to them. Thank you for helping us stay connected with all our parishioners!

ADVENT LITTLE BOOKS

The Advent Little Books are available for pickup for all those who ordered them. Please call the parish office to arrange a time to pick yours up. The cost for the entire set is \$5.00 and is due when you pick up the Advent book.

TEMPORARY HELP NEEDED

Our Building Manager Gary will be off for a few months beginning in November, and we are looking for one or two people to help fill in while he is away. The job entails about 4 hours on Mondays and at least 2 hours Tuesday – Friday, as well as being on call for snow removal on the walkways before Masses. During this pandemic the bulk of the responsibilities are cleaning and disinfecting in the church itself. Remuneration will be offered. For a full “job description” or if you have any questions please contact the parish office. Thank you for considering!



Revealing the courageous gift of Catholic health care.

From October 4 to 10, we celebrate National Catholic Health Care Week across Canada. The Week recognizes the inspiring work of Catholic health care organizations in our province and across Canada. At the heart of Catholic health care is a deep respect for the intrinsic value and dignity of every human being and an unwavering commitment to serving all people, from all backgrounds and faiths—especially society’s most vulnerable.

This year the COVID-19 pandemic transformed our health care landscape and society. In Canada, the pandemic has shone a public light on many important social and ethical issues calling us all to reflect on the importance of human connection, quality of life, and the meaning of wellbeing—body, mind and spirit. The pandemic has also highlighted the timeless relevance of Catholic social teaching and our collective role in building a Canadian society that reaches out to every person who is suffering from illness, stigma, poverty, or loneliness.

During National Catholic Health Care Week, we give thanks for the courageous gift of Catholic health care during these challenging times—in hospitals, community health centers, or seniors care homes.

The pandemic calls us all to live the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Holding all those impacted by COVID-19 in our hearts, we ask God to bless the work of Catholic health care and we offer our prayers, support, and encouragement for the people of our Catholic health organizations who care for all in need with compassion and courage.

For more information about Catholic health care in Canada or the week, please visit the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada website at www.chac.ca

1ST COMMUNION REGISTRATION



If your child is in Grade 2 this fall and would like to receive the Sacrament of 1st Communion in the spring of 2021, please register online by Oct. 16th. Information about how preparation will be done this year and the registration form can be found on our [website by clicking here](#).

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

If your child is in Grade 7 this fall and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of 2021, please register online by Oct. 20th. Information about how preparation will be done this year and the registration form can be found on our [website by clicking here](#).



CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

If your child wants to receive the sacraments of 1st Eucharist or Confirmation next spring, and they **DO NOT attend a Catholic School**, they need to complete one of the Diocese’ Correspondence Courses. Please contact Monica in the Catechesis Office at 905-528-7988 ext 2238 or go to the [Sacraments page on the St. Francis website](#) and click on the link to register for Correspondence Courses.



40 Days for Life will be holding a Campaign of prayer, fasting and witness beginning on September 23 and ending on November 5. Daily hours are from 7 am until 7 pm. The location is as in previous years across from Freeport Hospital. We are asking that you prayerfully consider signing up for one hour per week or as you are able at www.40daysforlife.com/kitchener or call Patrick or Rita at 519-748-5548 for more information. Thank you for your support of the unborn.

“Let us not go back to the “normality” sick with with injustice, inequality and environmental degradation. The normality to which we are called is that of the Kingdom of God, where there is bread for all and the social organization is based on contributing, sharing and distributing” @Pontifex, Sept. 30, 2020



CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

We need some more people to help disinfect the church, particularly after the Saturday 5:00pm Mass. With four people working together it takes about 20 minutes to disinfect all the touch points, and with a few more volunteers you would only be asked to help once or twice a month. Instructions will be provided, as well as cleaning supplies, gloves, and masks if you do not have your own. Please contact Ruthann at 519-745-7301 or email her at rfisher@hamiltondiocese.com to indicate you would be interested in helping. Thank you for considering this new and important ministry.

AROUND TOWN

KW Life Chain Memorial Day We mourn the loss of over 4 million children aborted in Canada since 1970. Join KW Right to Life on Sunday October 4th, 2-3 pm, 2 Benton St. Kit. at Speakers Corners (corner of King St. and Frederick). We will stand 6 feet apart and hold a Sign along King & Benton St. in Silent Prayer. We remember the millions of lives lost to abortion and the effects on their parents, families and the nation. Call KW Right to Life 519-746-LIFE(5433) or kwrtl@golden.net. Unborn babies are Human Beings in Need of Protection. Join us to help Effect Change.

Minister of the Word Workshop In light of COVID-19, the Liturgy Office will replace the one-day workshop with a virtual (on-line) workshop in a series of three Monday evenings, to be held October 19th, 26th and November 2nd, from 7 to 9 pm with a thirty-minute break. Participants are asked to attend all three workshops. If you are a lector who is interested in attending this please contact Deacon John Moss at the Liturgy Office. jmoss@hamiltondiocese.com.

Marillac Place 2019 Impact Report is now available to [read online by clicking here](#). Thank you to all who donated to help Marillac Place support pregnant and new moms who are struggling in our community.



Heartache to Healing – St. Michael Parish Grief Support Group – Our 6 week grief support group will be offered this Fall. The program is designed to assist people after the death of a loved one, or a significant loss. This program follows the process developed by Dr. Bill Webster, an experienced leader in grief counselling. The sessions will be held on Thursday evenings from 7-8:30pm (Oct 22 to Nov 26). Everyone is welcome. There is no fee, but you must register by October 12th. Due to Covid-19 protocol and restrictions we have limited seats available. Visit our website for more information at www.stmichaelw.ca/grief-support. To register, or for more information, please contact the St. Michael parish office 519-884-9311, or email parish@stmichaelw.ca.

Experiencing Stress in Your Marriage? Thinking about Separation or Divorce? – Is your marriage not what you hoped it would be? Are you, or a relative or friend, heading for a possible divorce? Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. The Retrouvaille program is highly successful in saving marriages and in helping them to thrive. For confidential information about, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on Oct. 23, 2020. Please call 905-664-5212 or email: <mailto:Teamrecine@gmail.com> or visit the website at www.retrouvaille.org.



**QUALITY • INCLUSIVE
FAITH-BASED • EDUCATION**

WE ARE HIRING!

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is currently **accepting applications for Lunch Hour Supervisors**. Please visit our website for job details and application criteria: www.wcdsb.ca

MASS DURING COVID-19

Thank you to all who have so carefully followed the new instructions when attending Mass these first weeks back. Please continue to maintain physical distancing while waiting to enter the church and as you exit after Mass.

Waterloo Region now has a Mask By-Law

which requires everyone to wear a face covering while in enclosed public spaces, including places of worship. There are some exceptions; for all the By-Law details please go to the region's website: www.regionofwaterloo.ca/MaskByLaw.



If you have not joined us for Mass yet and are considering attending, please see the COVID-19 page on our website for information you need before you attend. [You can access that page here.](#)

Weekday Masses are Tuesday – Friday at 9:00 am

Weekend Masses are Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

We are very excited to be worshipping together again, but we have to do this carefully so that we keep everyone safe and healthy, so thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to seeing you soon!

TV & ONLINE MASSES

For those who are not comfortable or able to join us at Mass yet, you can still participate in Mass on TV or online. Here are some options for you:

Televised Masses:

Vision TV (Channel 27, Rogers Cable)

Monday to Friday: 8:00 am, 12:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am

Salt and Light (Channel 240, Rogers Cable)

Monday to Saturday: 6:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,
3:00 pm, 10:30 pm

Sunday: 11:00 am, 10:30 pm

Joy TV (Channel 173, Rogers Cable or Channel 656, Bell Satellite)

Monday to Friday: 10:30 am, 4:00 pm

Sunday: 10:30 am

On-Line Masses: www.dailytvmass.com

PARISH OFFICE is now OPEN

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

If you need to come into the office for any reason please call ahead so we can maintain social distancing and disinfect the area between visitors. We are excited to be able to serve you again in the office while keeping everyone's safety a top priority.

The Office is open

Monday – Friday from 8:30 am – noon and 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm