



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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PILGRIMS OF HOPE

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH - DECEMBER 29, 2024

Dear sisters and brothers, happy Christmas!

The mystery that never ceases to amaze and move us was renewed this night: the Virgin Mary gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God, wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger. That is how the shepherds of Bethlehem, filled with joy, found him, as the angels sang: "Glory to God and peace to men" (cf. Lk 2:6-14). Peace to men and women.

This event, which took place over two thousand years ago, is indeed made new thanks to the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit of Love and Life who made fruitful the womb of Mary and from her human flesh formed Jesus. Today, amid the travail of our times, the eternal Word of salvation is once more truly made incarnate, and speaks to every man and woman, to the whole world. This is the message: "I love you, I forgive you; come back to me, the door of my heart is open for you!"

Brothers and sisters, the door of God's heart is always open; let us return to him! Let us go back to the heart that loves and forgives us! Let us be forgiven by him; let us be reconciled with him! God always forgives! God forgives everything. Let us allow ourselves to be forgiven by him.

This is the meaning of the Holy Door of the Jubilee, which I opened last night here in Saint Peter's Basilica: it represents Jesus, the Door of salvation open for all. Jesus is the Door; the Door that the Father of mercies has opened in the midst of our world, in the midst of history, so that all of us can return to him. We are all like lost sheep; we need a Shepherd and a Door to return to the house of the Father. Jesus is that Shepherd; Jesus is the Door.

Brothers and sisters, do not be afraid! The Door is open, the door is wide open! There is no need to knock on the door. It is open. Come! Let us be reconciled with God, and then we will be reconciled with ourselves and able to be reconciled with one another, even our enemies. God's mercy can do all things. It unties every knot; it tears down every wall of division; God's mercy dispels hatred and the spirit of revenge. Come! Jesus is the Door of Peace.

On this festive day, let us not fail to express our gratitude to those who spend themselves, quietly and faithfully, in doing good and in serving others. I think of parents, educators and teachers, who have the great responsibility of forming future generations. I think too of healthcare workers, the forces of order and all those men and women who carry out works of charity, especially missionaries throughout the world: they bring light and comfort to so many people in difficulty. To all of them we want to say: Thank you!

Brothers and sisters, each of us is called to forgive those who have trespassed against us, because the Son of God, born in the cold and darkness of the night, has forgiven our own. He came to heal us and forgive us. As pilgrims of hope, let us go out to meet him! Let us open to him the doors of our hearts. Let us open to him the doors of our hearts, as he has opened to us the door of his heart.

I wish everyone a serene and blessed Christmas.

First Friday of the Month, January 3rd Eucharistic Adoration will start at 10am, concluding with Benediction before the 11am Mass.

ENGLISH SCHEDULE

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday, December 28 **5:00 PM**
+Janet Silver
Sunday, December 29 **9:00 AM**

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31 **5:00 PM**
Wednesday, January 1, 2025 **9:00 AM**

Thursday, January 2, 2025 **11:00 AM**
St. Basil & St. Gregory
+Janet Silver
Friday, January 3, 2025 **11:00 AM**
+Alec John Burns

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 4, 2025 **5:00 PM**
+Karl Friedrich +Edward Yutronkie
Wedding Anniversary: Frank & Jeannette Williams
Sunday, January 5, 2025 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María & José

Sábado 28 de Diciembre **7:00 PM**
Domingo 29 de Diciembre **11:00 AM & 1:00PM**

Solemnidad de María Santísima, Madre de Dios

Martes 31 de Diciembre **7:00 PM**
Miércoles 1 de Enero, 2025 **11:00 AM & 1:00PM**

Jueves 2 de enero, 2025 **12:00 PM**
San Basilio y San Gregorio
Viernes 3 de enero, 2025 **12:00 PM**

La Epifanía del Señor

Sabado 4 de enero, 2025 **7:00 PM**
+Victor Ramirez
Domingo 5 de enero, 2025 **11:00 AM**
Domingo 5 de enero, 2025 **1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

PILGRIMS OF HOPE: Pope Francis has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee Year for the entire Church. We are invited to experience in a profound way the transforming power of God's mercy and forgiveness, and a renewal of our faith and commitment to love God and our neighbour as God has first loved us. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope". In our world suffering from the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19, the climate crisis, economic hardships, and countless afflictions of mind, body and spirit, Pope Francis is inviting us to rekindle the hope which is rooted in our faith: our sure hope which never disappoints.

The Beginning of the Jubilee is on the Feast of the Holy Family, December 29, 2024.

[His Excellency, Bishop Crosby is pleased to greet you all with Jubilee News from the Diocese of Hamilton:](#)

PILGRIM CHURCHES IN THE DIOCESE: Part of the Jubilee experience is to make a pilgrimage to sacred places, where prayer is offered, the Sacraments are celebrated, and a plenary indulgence can be obtained for the remission of punishment due to our sins.

In our Diocese, Bishop Crosby has designated six pilgrimage churches – one in each Deanery, which will welcome pilgrims during the coming year and mark this year with special events.

More information to come!

Rosario en honor a Maria Madre Dios: Martes 31 de diciembre a las 6:00 pm, para dar gracias por todo lo recibido en este año y poner en sus manos el año que estamos por comenzar.

Viernes Primero del Mes (3 de Enero, 2025): El Santísimo Sacramento se expondrá para adoración silenciosa después de la Misa de 12:00 pm hasta las 2:00 pm y nuevamente a partir de las 5:00 hasta las 7:00 p.m.

A las 6 de la tarde se tendrá una **Hora Santa**, que concluirá con la Bendición con el Santísimo a las 7pm.

Durante el tiempo de la Exposición del Santísimo se ofrecerá el sacramento de Reconciliación.