



**St. John's Parish**  
Roman Catholic Church

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# WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - FEBRUARY 2, 2025

Today we are celebrating the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord: when the infant Jesus was presented in the Temple by the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph. Today is also World Day of Consecrated Life which recalls the great treasure in the Church of those who follow the Lord assiduously, by professing the evangelical counsels.

The Gospel (cf. Lk 2:22-40) narrates that 40 days after his birth, Jesus' parents took their child to Jerusalem to consecrate him to God, as prescribed by Jewish Law. And as it describes a rite prescribed by tradition, this event brings to our attention the behaviour of some of the protagonists. They are caught at the very moment they experience the encounter with the Lord in the place where he makes himself present and close to mankind. They are Mary and Joseph, Simeon and Anna who are examples of welcome and offering as they offered their own lives to God. These four were not the same. They were all different but they all sought God and allowed themselves to be guided by the Lord.

The evangelist Luke describes all four of them in a twofold attitude: the attitude of movement and the attitude of wonder.

The first attitude is movement. Mary and Joseph head towards Jerusalem: meanwhile, moved by the Spirit, Simeon goes to the Temple, while Anna tirelessly serves God day and night. In this way the four protagonists of the Gospel passage show us that Christian life requires dynamism, and it requires a willingness to walk, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide one. Immobility suits neither Christian witness nor the Church's mission. The world needs Christians who allow themselves to be moved, who do not tire of walking on life's streets, to bring the comforting Word of Jesus to everyone. Every baptized person has received the vocation to proclaim — to proclaim something, to proclaim Jesus — the vocation and mission to evangelize: to proclaim Jesus! Parishes and various ecclesial communities are called to foster the commitment of young people, families and the elderly so that everyone can have a Christian experience, living the Church's life and mission as protagonists.

The second attitude with which Saint Luke presents the four protagonists in the narrative is wonder. Mary and Joseph: "marvelled at what was said about him" (v. 33). Wonder is also an explicit reaction of the aged Simeon, who sees with his own eyes in the Child Jesus the redemption of God for his people: that redemption which he had awaited for years. And the same is true of Anna who "gave thanks to God" (v. 38) and went about pointing Jesus out to the people. She was a saintly chatterbox. She talked well, she talked of good, not bad things. She spoke, she announced: a saint who went from one woman to the next, making them see Jesus. These figures of believers were wrapped in wonder because they allowed themselves to be captivated by and involved in the events that occurred right before their eyes. The ability to be amazed at things around us promotes religious experience and makes the encounter with the Lord more fruitful. On the contrary, the inability to marvel makes us indifferent and widens the gap between the journey of faith and daily life.

Brothers and sisters, always [be] on the move and open to wonder!

May the Virgin Mary help us to contemplate every day in Jesus, God's gift to us, and to allow ourselves to be engaged by him in the movement of the gift with joyful wonder so that our whole life may become a praise to God in the service to our brothers and sisters.

**First Friday of the Month**, February 7<sup>th</sup> Eucharistic Adoration will start at 10am, concluding with Benediction before the 11am Mass.

**CWL General Meeting:** Our first meeting of 2025 will be taking place on February 11 at 7pm in the parish hall. We will be setting our yearly budget at this meeting while enjoying some fellowship and refreshments so hope to see you there. New members are always welcome!

**Viernes Primero del Mes** (7 de febrero): 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 6pm 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.

## ENGLISH SCHEDULE

### *The Presentation of the Lord*

Saturday, February 1, 2025 **5:00 PM**  
+John Basler

Sunday, February 2, 2025 **9:00 AM**  
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 **11:00 AM**

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 **11:00 AM**  
*St. Agatha*

Thursday, February 6, 2025 **11:00 AM**  
*St. Paul Miki and Companions*

Friday, February 7, 2025 **11:00 AM**

### *Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Saturday, February 8, 2025 **5:00 PM**  
+Kenny Borutskie

Sunday, February 9, 2025 **9:00 AM**  
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

## HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL

### *La Presentación del Señor*

Sabado 1 de febrero, 2025 **7:00 PM**  
+Cynthia Gómez +Rina Aguirre +Alberto Hernández  
+Marvin Castillo Courtade

Domingo 2 de febrero, 2025 **11:00 AM & 1:00PM**  
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 4 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**

Miércoles 5 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**  
*Santa Águeda*

Jueves 6 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**  
*San Pablo Miki*

Viernes 7 de febrero, 2025 **12:00 PM**

### *V Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario*

Sabado 8 de febrero, 2025 **7:00 PM**

Domingo 9 de febrero, 2025 **11:00 AM & 1:00PM**

**JUBILEE OF HOPE, 2025** The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as “Pilgrims of Hope!” We are all invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been marked as pilgrimage sites across the Diocese, welcoming you as a visitor over the course of the Jubilee to come and pray. Resources, information and locations of the pilgrimage sites are all made available on the Diocesan Website: [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com).

**FEBRUARY IS KNOWN AS THE MONTH OF LOVE**, but love needs to be part of our thinking 24/7! Love is an action word, so take time to reflect on your own contribution to your married relationship. Do you use kind words, compliment your spouse, apologize when necessary, show love through action in the things you do, pray for your spouse daily and make the time to be together and share your day? These will all build love and keep it strong. (*Marriage Tip 146 from the Diocesan Family Ministry Office*)

**OPENING THE HOLY DOOR: SPRING BOOK CLUB** The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis invites you to join us for a four-week virtual book club, exploring the new book by Joan Watson, “**Opening the Holy Door.**” Tuesdays from 1—2pm **March 18-April 8, 2025**. Together we will reflect on the beautiful images of mercy and hope found on the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, open to pilgrims and visitors throughout the Jubilee Year. Join us for this time of prayer and conversation, drawing into deeper fellowship during this Jubilee of Hope. Registration can be made here: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/events/>