

# St. Mary Immaculate Church

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## St. Martin of Tours

12 Union St., P.O. Box 525

Drayton, ON N0G 1P0

**Reverend Father Hayden Starczala - Pastor**

email: [hstarczala@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:hstarczala@hamiltondiocese.com)

### Mass Schedule

#### The Fourth Sunday of Advent,

December 23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>



### ROSARY

The rosary will be prayed most\* Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:15 a.m. at St. Mary's. All welcome to join. (\*when leaders available – new volunteer leaders always welcome)

<u>Saturday</u>	5:00 p.m.	For the Families of Rosanna & Patrick Mulvaney and Toni Carolan (Rosaleen Hoare)
<u>Sunday</u> St. Martin of Tours	9:00 a.m.	+Jakob & Fina Rechsteiner and Otmar & Therese Ruest (Franz & Imelda Ruest)
St. Mary Immaculate	11:00 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo
<u>Tuesday</u> St Stephen (Feast)	11:00 a.m.	For All Who Suffer for the Gospel
<u>Wednesday</u> St. John, Apostle (Feast)	9:00 a.m.	+Mario Di Gravio (Kropf Family)
<u>Thursday</u> The Holy Innocents (Feast)	9:00 a.m.	Special Intentions of the Pellegrini Family <i>No Benediction</i>
<u>Friday</u> St. Thomas Beckett (OM)	9:00 a.m.	For the Intentions of Fr Starczala (Patsy Logel & Rosemary Downey)

*“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.”*

Isaiah 7:14

### CHRISTMASTIDE MASS SCHEDULE

<u>December 24</u>	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b> St. Mary's - 5:00 pm Vigil Mass*
<u>December 25</u>	St. Mary's – Midnight Mass** St. Martin's – 9:00 am St. Mary's – 11:00 am*
<u>December 31</u>	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b> St. Mary's – 5:00 pm (December 30 <sup>th</sup> ) St. Martin's – 9:00 am St. Mary's – 11:00 am  <b>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</b> St. Mary's – 5:00 p.m.
<u>January 1<sup>st</sup></u>	St. Martin's – 9:00 a.m. St. Mary's – 11:00 a.m.
<u>January 7<sup>th</sup></u>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b> St. Mary's – 5:00 pm (January 6 <sup>th</sup> ) St. Martin's – 9:00 am St. Mary's – 11:00 am

\*Preceded by Carols,

\*\*Preceded by the Office of Readings at 11:15 p.m.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY,  
BISHOP CROSBY

Dear Friends,

We will soon celebrate the great *Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord – Christmas*. Already Christmas cards are in the mail, Christmas music fills the airwaves, and Christmas décor can be seen on, and in, our homes. Christmas gifts are being exchanged. Choirs are practicing Christmas music and parishioners are beginning to decorate the churches in preparation for the Christmas liturgies. Advertisements throughout the diocese encourage Catholics to **“Come Home For Christmas”!** We want to welcome sisters and brothers who worship with us at Christmas, so all will experience the profound blessing of being a follower of Jesus Christ – the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, as Handel’s Messiah so beautifully proclaims!

At this darkest time of the year, *“Jesus is born in our midst; He is God with us. He comes to accompany our daily lives, to share with us in all things: our joys and sorrows, our hopes and fears. He comes as a helpless child. He is born in the cold night, poor among the poor. In need of everything, he knocks at the door of our hearts to find warmth and shelter.”* (Pope Francis, Christmas Message 2022)

During these Christmas festivities, take time to recall your blessings and give thanks in quiet prayer. When caught up in the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations, be attentive to recognize the abundant presence of grace and goodness that surrounds you. The Lord reveals himself still in boundless acts of kindness and generosity. When you are aware of his presence through others, allow him to move you deeply, and to be generous in turn. His mercy works in and through us. As we are blessed by the goodness of others, so others are blessed by our generous acts!

The 1928 Nobel Prize winning Norwegian author, Sigrid Undset, wrote this beautiful reflection on Christmas. I offer it as a gentle gift of wisdom. Our Lady of the Annunciation, pray for us!

Ex corde, +Douglas, OMI



And when we give each other Christmas gifts in His name, let us remember that He has given us the sun and the moon and the stars, and the earth with its forests and mountains and oceans - and all that lives and move upon them. He has given us all green things and everything that blossoms and bears fruit and all that we quarrel about and all that we have misused - and to save us from our foolishness, from all our sins, He came down to earth and gave us Himself.

- Sigrid Undset



WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Dec 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	<u>St. Mary's</u>	<u>St. Martin's</u>
Offerings	\$ 2,843.00	\$ 650.00
Christmas Offering	380.00	
Loose	505.00	20.25
Building	430.00	80.00
Cemetery Purposes	20.00	
Flower Offering	40.00	
Total:	\$ 4,218.00	\$ 750.25

Your generosity, now and throughout the year, is very much appreciated!



### VOCATION SEEDS

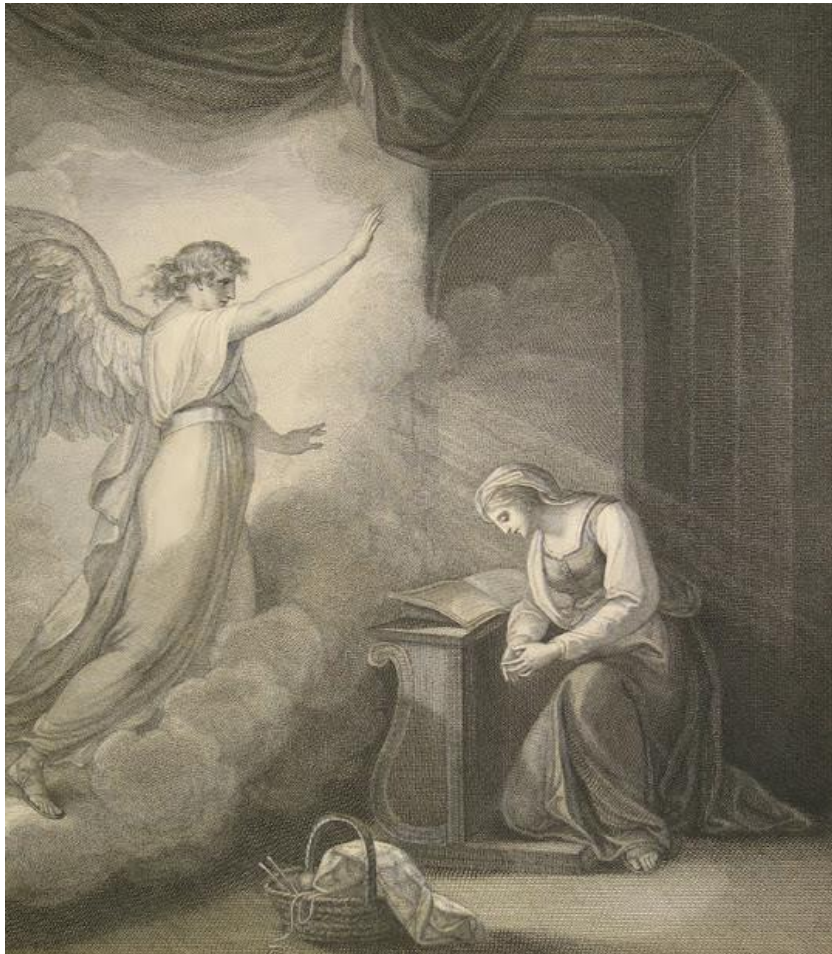
From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life, and she said "Yes!" ...and so, the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, call **Fr. Mark Morley, 905-528-7988** [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The 2024 envelope packets are ready for pick up! Please contact Mary Clark at [stmelbadmin@wightman.ca](mailto:stmelbadmin@wightman.ca) if you wish to begin donating electronically.

### INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

In order to receive a tax receipt for 2023 for any donations you wish to make, all money must be received by December 31st, 2023, at the latest.



*The Macklin Bible – The Annunciation*

*William Hamilton (1751-1801) and Francesco Bartolozzi (1727-1815)*



*Annunciation – Filippo Lippi ca. (1406-1469)*