

St. Mary Immaculate Church

267 Geddes St.

Elora, ON N0B 1S0

Phone 519-846-5093

email: stmaryelora@hamiltondiocese.com

www.stmaryimmaculate.com

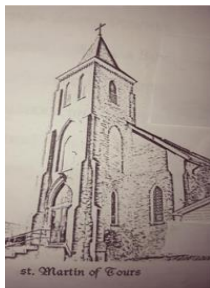
St. Martin of Tours

12 Union St., P.O. Box 525

Drayton, ON N0G 1P0

Reverend Father Hayden Starczala - Pastor

email: hstarczala@hamiltondiocese.com



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 Although Advent is not a penitential season in the way that Lent is, it is still a time that calls forth in us works of penance. With the exception of the third Sunday, the clergy wear purple vestments. We do not sing the *Gloria*. And we learn from Isaiah and John the need to do penance to prepare for Christ. Traditionally, the Church has observed three "Ember Days" during Advent as penitential days of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. If the Ember Days were still in the calendar, they would fall on this Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. I would encourage you in this final stretch of Advent to resist the tide of our secular culture that has no use for this season. It wants to have a feast without a fast. Instead of feasting now, let's do penance together and so prepare our hearts to meet Christ when he comes.

In Christ,
 Fr. Hayden Starczala, P.P.

Gaudete Sunday, The Third Sunday of Advent,

December 16th to 22nd

<u>Saturday</u>	5:00 p.m.	+Patrick Logel (Frances Mantler & Family)
<u>Sunday</u> St. Martin of Tours	9:00 a.m.	+Toni Sutter (Franz & Imelda Ruest)
St. Mary Immaculate	11:00 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo
<u>Tuesday</u> <i>The Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King</i>	7:00 p.m.	+Kramar Family Deceased (Maria Berlot)
<u>Wednesday</u>	9:00 a.m.	For Peace in the World (Kropf Family)
<u>Thursday</u> <i>St. Peter Canisius (OM)</i>	6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Expositon & Adoration +Gesualda Pellegrini (Pellegrini Family)
<u>Friday</u>	9:00 a.m.	+Edward Smith (St. Mary's CWL)

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say:
 Rejoice!”
 - Philippians 4:4

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Dec 10 th & 11 th	St. Mary's	St. Martin's
Offerings	\$ 1,273.00	\$ 350.00
Initial Offering	45.00	
Christmas Offering	540.00	40.00
Loose	242.80	21.00
Building	2,600.00	300.00
Cemetery Purposes	10.00	
Flower Offering	15.00	

Total: \$ 4,185.80 \$ 711.00

Your generosity is very much appreciated!

VOCATION SEEDS

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. Is it possible God could be calling your name to witness to the Light of Christ in our day? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call **Fr. Mark Morley**, 905-528-7988 vocations@hamiltondiocese.com



Angel of Truth Giving Freedom and Liberty to the Slave Jules Vallée Guérin (1866-1946)



A. Hierosolym, unde mittunt Iudaei.
 B. Venientes ad Ioannem legati.
 C. Bethabara, sive Bethania, ubi Ioannes.
 D. Duo Sacerdotes cum Levitis ad Ioannem perueniunt.
 E. Ioannes vestitus cilicio ex piliis Camelorum.
 F. Elum se esse negat Ioannes.
 G. Negat se esse quem Moyses in solitudine se venturum praedixit.
 H. Profitetur tandem se esse vocem Dei clamantis in deserto.

The Jews Are Sent to John – Jerome Nadal (1507-15800)

CWL CHRISTMAS CHARITY SUCCESS

Thank you to all those who participated in our donation drive for Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis. We were pleased to present this group with \$220 in cash, 14 local merchant gift cards in various denominations, bedding, towels, women's and children's pyjamas, slippers, mittens and many, many hygiene and personal care items. The folks at GWWC were delighted with our delivery. A thank you card from this organization can be viewed on the bulletin board in the vestibule. A special thanks to Made You Look Designs, Geddes St, Elora for providing our advertising signs.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The 2024 envelope packets are ready for pick up! Please find yours on the table at the back of the church. If you are new to the parish and/or wish to begin donating please contact Mary Clark at email: stmelbadmin@wightman.ca

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. Any concerns contact Mary at stmelbadmin@wightman.ca or 519-993-7915 before December 31st.

SAVE THE DATE: DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 26, 2024, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 1:30 pm. Registration online at www.hamiltondiocese.com

GRIEF RELIEF

Has someone you cared about died? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? You are not alone! The Diocese of Hamilton will offer a six-week grief program starting January 17, The sessions are held from 1:30-3:00pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or by zoom. To register go to hamiltondiocese.com and look for the start date under upcoming events.

MASS SCHEDULE AND CONFESSION TIMES

Parishioners can also see the website for the full Advent and Christmas Mass schedule and Confession times www.stmaryimmaculate.com

UPCOMING EVENTS	
December 16	Liturgy of the Hours – 4:00 p.m. each Saturday Catechesis/instruction on the Liturgy of the Hours at 3:45 p.m. All are welcome to come participate and learn more about the prayer of the Church.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE	
December 24	4th Sunday of Advent St. Mary's – 5:00 pm (23 rd) St. Martins – 9:00 am St. Mary's – 11:00 am Christmas St. Mary's - 5:00 pm Vigil Mass*
December 25	St. Mary's – Midnight Mass St. Martin's – 9:00 am St. Mary's – 11:00 am*

*Preceded by Carols

