



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

January 12, 2025

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Issue 02 | Volume 6

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Deacon Terry Murphy

The baptism of Jesus signals the end of the Christmas season. It is celebrated as a great feast because it is the first public revelation of a Triune God – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. On this particular moment, heaven and earth, the human and the divine are reunited. Heaven is opened, the Holy Spirit descended, and the voice of the Father is heard.

In her famous book and film, “The Hiding Place” Corrie ten Boom tells the story of a Dutch Christian family, her family, who had a heart for the Jewish people. Corrie tells a curious story about her father Caspar ten Boom.

When the Jews were forced to wear the “Star of David,” Casper lined up for one. He wore it because he wanted to identify himself with the people for whom he and his family had been praying all those years. He was prepared to be so completely identified with the Jews that he was willing to wear a sign of shame and suffer persecution for the sake of the people he loved. He didn’t *have* to wear the Star, but chose to.

And in that story, we find a clue in this as to why Jesus felt the need to be baptized.

He didn’t *have* to get baptized as a sign of repentance and turning from sin – because he was sinless. He didn’t *have* to be baptized as a sign that he was now leaving his past behind and following God – because his life was already totally in tune with His Father’s.

But like Caspar ten Boon, he was baptized to identify with us, a fallen people – a people that he loved.

Why did Jesus need to be baptized by John? Baptism was the outward sign of repentance from sin, and Jesus was sinless. His baptism was the assurance that He is like us in every way, except for sin. That’s why He submitted to baptism at John’s hands. He is like us and not like us at the same time. His identity came from God, but His role was confirmed by John the Baptist as He began an earthly phase of His life. Although John’s was a baptism of repentance, Jesus did not need to repent. For Him, baptism was a means to identify Himself with sinners in order that they might identify with Him in His life.

The baptism of John is that of repentance, meaning it is intended for sinners. That is why in the other accounts, John initially refused to baptize Jesus because He was not a sinner. However, Jesus insisted He be baptized for the reason that He identifies Himself with the sinners. By embracing humanity, God became like us in everything, except sin.

After Jesus was baptized, the Father’s voice was heard that He was indeed the Beloved Son with whom the Father is well pleased. In faith, we also believe that after our own baptism – especially in infant Baptism – we become sons and daughters of God and we become heirs of the Kingdom.

It is for us that Jesus came to earth because God loves us so much.

(... Read the rest on the parish website.)

PARISH LITURGIES

— THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD —

Tuesday, January 14 - St. Hilary

8:30 pm Int. Liz Khosla

Wednesday, January 15 - Bl. Frances de Capillas

8:30 am +Charlie & Rita McAlinden

Thursday, January 16 - St. Fursey

8:30 am +Sean Floyd

Friday, January 17 - St. Anthony of the Desert

8:30 Int. Fr. Peter Houghton

9:00 - 10:00 **Adoration**

—THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD —

Saturday, January 18 - Bl. Victoire Gusteau

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

5:00 pm For:

+ Fred Farrlley, + Elizabeth Huber, + Mark Cordero, +Julian Martinez de Hoz, + Rita Merrick, Int. Saundie Rowat and Family, + Deceased Members Gomes Family, + Horatio Figueiredo

Sunday, January 19

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parishioners

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Jan 18–25



JUBILEE OF HOPE 2025

The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025, "Pilgrims of Hope!" All invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been designated 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 available on the Diocese Website: hamiltondiocese.com/jubilee

FIDDLESTIX CONCERT, DINNER & DANCE

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, February 8th, Fiddlestix will perform live at our annual dinner/dance event.

What's Included:

Live music and dancing, a light dinner, cash bar available

Tickets:

Cost: \$35 per person

On sale: Following all Masses starting the weekend of January 18th

Proceeds will support the Bronte Winter Coat Drive & our Parish Social Committee

Want to Volunteer?

Be part of the fun by joining our Parish Social Committee! It's easy to get involved:

1. Speak to a volunteer at the ticket table in the Narthex.
2. Attend our next volunteer meeting on January 13th, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Centre.
3. Contact the Parish Office: Leave your name and phone number and a Social Committee member will follow up with you.

We hope to see you there for an evening of music, dancing and community!

"Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations."



SANCTUARY LAMP

Our Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week in memory of Ephraim Guytingco

Parishioners are invited to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp that hangs above the tabernacle. This candle burns 24 hours a day seven days a week as a sign of honour to our Lord. If you wish to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for a special intention during a specific week, you are asked to please contact the parish office. The cost is a \$10 donation per week. Your intention will be noted in our weekly bulletin.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM OSCR!

On behalf of all the seniors at OSCR (Oakville Senior Citizens Residence), I would like to thank everyone who helped make this Christmas season so special for them. Thank you for making them smile on Christmas morning and for your continued support of the OSCR seniors. Your gifts and generosity means the world and we are so lucky to have your beautiful community support.

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday offering envelopes for 2025 are available in the Narthex for all who are currently using envelopes. As we approach a new fiscal in January we ought to consider our individual and collective responsibility for the upkeep of our parish facilities, the support of our parish staff and the promotion of God's reign through the many educational and outreach activities of our parish. Parishioners who are not currently using envelopes but wish to do so, please contact the parish office during office hours. Another option is pre-authorized giving. More details are found at saintdominic.ca/support-us

BAPTISM OF THE LORD - JANUARY 12, 2025

As John the Baptist introduced the people of this time to Jesus a voice from heaven said, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased." Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon or religious. If He is, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988. Email:

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

SUPPORT FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Does your marriage feel like it is more trouble than joy, does it feel stagnant or disconnected? Is it causing you stress? The solution is Retrouvaille – whose one purpose is to help couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. This is a practical program, where sharing is not required, except between couples themselves. It is designed to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect. For struggling couples, including those who may be considering separation or divorce. The next Retrouvaille weekend is March 07-09, 2025. For more information, call 905-664-5212, or email 1013r@helpourmarriage.org

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

Parenting Tip #165 – Family time matters as much when our children age, as when they are young. It helps to ensure this happens by building traditions that everyone partakes in regularly. Traditions that everyone looks forward to and enjoys – pizza and movie nights, a special breakfast after attending Mass, games night – anything that brings you together for fun will do. The emotional health of children with these kinds of connections is stronger throughout their lifetime. As a family, plan your together time weekly and remember to share meals together daily, whichever meal of the day that is to be. With a solid family foundation, your connectedness can and will stay intact as your children grow older. (From Teresa Harnett, Family Ministry Office 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

CHRISTMAS – YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT

During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer and fellowship, and praise music in support of your vocations on Saturday, January 4th beginning at 6:30 pm, at the Annunciation of Our Lord Parish, 280 Limeridge Road W., Hamilton. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, January 13	Rev. Alan Varlaki
Tuesday, January 14	Rev. Rajesh D'Souza, O.C.D.
Wednesday, January 15	Sisters of St. John the Baptist, C.S.J.B.
Thursday, January 16	Rev. Jerzy Tomon
Friday, January 17	Rev. Peter Tuyen Nguyen
Saturday, January 18	Rev. Pierre Luc, S.J.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM! 

NEW NEIGHBOUR

A speed camera has been installed by the municipality, in front of our church. The speed limit in this school zone is 40 km/h. Town Council approved the use of 14 speed cameras to be installed and rotated through the town's community safety zones.

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS SAVE THE DATE

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? Then you are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 01, 2025, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Registration will be available online in January at hamiltondiocese.com)

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH

January is the perfect time to sit together as a couple with a good cup of coffee or hot chocolate and do a little year-in-review. Did we spend enough time with each other and with our families? What went well for us and where do we recognize challenges? Discuss how these things could be better in 2025 and commit to making it happen for your couple relationship. A little marriage reflection and tune up can keep the spark alive!

(From Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

"I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you"

SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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Oakville, Ontario, L6L 2B1

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Pastor: Reverend Ranjan D'Sa OCD
rdsa@hamiltondiocese.com

Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister: Michael Aguiar
michael@saintdominic.ca

Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy

Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton

Secretary: Mary Evans

Sacristan: Judi Kingry

Custodian: Peter Coffey

Parish Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (*Closed from noon to 1:00 pm*).

Follow us on social media!

Facebook: [@saintdominicoakville](https://www.facebook.com/saintdominicoakville) & [@saintdominicym](https://www.facebook.com/saintdominicym)

Instagram: [@saintdominicym](https://www.instagram.com/saintdominicym)

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