



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

February 02, 2025

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Issue 05 | Volume 6

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Father Ranjan D'Sa OCD

This weekend, we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. The origin of this feast goes back to the early fourth century. The entire celebration of this feast is based on Jewish customs at the time of Jesus. In Leviticus chapter 12, Moses gave instructions about the purification of a woman after childbirth. It instructed them to go to the temple on the 40th day after the birth and to offer sacrifices as a sign of their purification. And if the child was the first-born male, he was to be offered to God.

Every first-born male belonged to God (Exodus 13:2, 12-13). The first-born animal was sacrificed but humans had to be redeemed. After offering the child to God in the temple, the child's father had to redeem him by paying what was prescribed in the law. The price of redemption for a child was five "shekels of silver" (Num 18:15-16). Being devout Jews, Mary and Joseph followed all that was commanded in the books of the law.

There were a lot of things happening at the time of the presentation of Jesus. Luke, in a way mentions that Mary and Joseph were poor and could only offer two doves or two pigeons. For Luke, the poverty of Jesus is something essential – Jesus had to take on himself all forms of human limitation or misery, to set humanity free to worship God alone.

Now there was an old prophet, Simeon, in the temple who glorified God for the gift of Jesus. He proclaimed that Jesus is a gift to all of humanity – "a light for revelation to the gentiles" (Lk 2: 32). Then he gave his prophecy to Mary, saying to her that, "a sword will pierce your own heart too" (Lk 2:35). Many authors believe that this prophecy is about Jesus' passion, crucifixion and his death in the presence of Mary being at his side near the cross. But there is something more to it – Mary is also seen as a symbol of Israel (a holy daughter of Zion). Jesus's entire life is a great contradiction to Jewish customs, traditions and thinking. He brought division and great pain – those who believe in him will have eternal life (Jn 3:16), and those reject him will have eternal condemnation (Jn 3:17). The redemption or the suffering of Israel thus depended on their commitment to God in Jesus Christ.

Traditionally, on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the Church would have a procession of lighted candles and would bless the candles that would be used in the liturgy for the full year. People even brought the candles, which they would use at home as light, for blessings. (In early days, there was no electricity, so candles were the main source of light in homes.) Simeon's proclamation that 'Jesus is the light to nations' is the inspiration to these simple rituals that seek for God's blessings. –

PARISH LITURGIES

—THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD—

Tuesday, February 04 - Bl. Rabanus Maurus

8:30 am + Gerald McGraw

Wednesday, February 05 - St. Agatha

8:30 am Int. Liz Khosla

Thursday, February 06 - St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30 am Int. Judi Kingry

Friday, February 07 - Bl. Felipe Ripoll Morata

8:30 am + Rita Evans

9:00 – 10:00 am **Adoration**

—5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—

Saturday, February 08 - St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Josephine Bakhita

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Reconciliation**

5:00 pm For:

+ Michael Clark, + Maria & Jose Gomes, + Maria & Manuel Silva, + Ada Barnes, + Cecile Archie

Sunday, February 09

9:00 am For our

11:00 am Parishioners



FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION MEETING

There is a First Communion Preparation Meeting this Wednesday, February 5th at 7:00 pm in the parish centre. We strongly recommend and encourage all parents and children who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Communion to attend this meeting.

FIDDLESTIX CONCERT, DINNER & DANCE



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. Tickets will be on sale this weekend, or you can contact Rod Rafauli at 905-691-4700.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Will be held on **Thursday, March 20th at 6:30 pm** for the children from St. Dominic and St. Nicholas Schools, who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in the Spring of 2025. Parents are advised to prepare for the sacrament with their children and to also participate. Help them prepare with an examination of conscience for kids. You can find one on our website: saintdominic.ca/sacraments and click on 'Reconciliation'.

*"A light for revelation to the gentiles,
and glory to your people Israel."*

DIOCESAN CHOIR

The Diocesan Choir leads and supports the assembly's song at major Diocesan liturgies, such as the Chrism Mass and Ordinations, and is looking for new members. For more information, please contact Mrs. Sharon Fazari, Choir Director, at sfazari@hamiltondiocese.com.



SANCTUARY LAMP

*Our Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week:
In Memory of Kevin O'Connor
Intentions of the Paikeday Family*

CWL MEETING



There is a CWL Meeting this Monday, February 3rd, 2025 at 7:00pm in the parish centre. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

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 is available online at hamiltondiocese.com/events)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS OF HOPE

During Lent this year, the Liturgy Office invites all Liturgical Ministers to gather for a Lenten retreat on the theme of Liturgical Ministers of Hope. Saturday, March 22, 2025, Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, Ontario, 10:00am to 12:30pm or Saturday, March 29, 2025, St. Matthew Parish, Oakville, Ontario, 10:00am to 12:30 or Saturday, April 5, 2025, Annunciation of the Lord Parish, Hamilton, Ontario, 10:00am to 12:30pm.

RCIA

As we approach Lent, the Diocese of Hamilton will celebrate the Rite of Election at 1:30 pm on Sunday, March 09, 2025, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton, for all parishes in the Diocese. The Rite of Election closes the catechumenate period and begins the Elect's final spiritual preparation to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

***PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION.***

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

VALENTINE'S-THEMED CHOCOLATE-DIPPED PRETZEL RODS

Looking for the perfect Valentine's Day treat? The Social Committee Volunteers have something special for you:

- A treat for yourself
- A treat for your special Valentine
- A treat for family and friends

When: After all Masses on the weekend of February 8/9

Where: Parish Narthex

Indulge in these festive and scrumptious **Chocolate-Dipped Pretzel Rods**, lovingly decorated for the Valentine's season.

Proceeds will support the Social Committee FREE annual events, including:

- Summer Garden Party
- Ice Cream Sundae-Sunday
- New Year's Eve Game Night
- Treat yourself while helping make these events possible.

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone!

If you would like to be part of our Parish Social Committee, you can stop by the Social Committee table in the Narthex after Mass, or you are welcome to join our next meeting on Monday, February 17th, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Centre or you can contact the parish office at 905-827-2373

16TH ANNUAL DYNAMIC WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE

This conference will bring together Catholic women to share in hearing informative presentations, enjoy delicious food and fellowship with all those present. The event will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at the Old Mill (included light lunch) in Toronto. For more information or to register for this conference, go to the dynamicwomenfaith.com

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday, February 03	Rev. James Petrie
Tuesday, February 04	Rev. Charles Galea
Wednesday, February 05	Hospitaller Order of St. John of God, O.H.
Thursday, February 06	Parents and Guardians
Friday, February 07	Rev. Pablito Labado
Saturday, February 08	Rev. William Meehan

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM! 

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 are 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

MEN'S MINISTRY GROUP

A ministry for men, focused on personal prayer and development, that will primarily incorporate the program TMIY, or That Man is You, is beginning its second semester for interested men in Oakville. It will run Saturdays at 7:00 am at Mary, Mother of God Parish. Previous attendance is not a prerequisite. All men are welcome! For info session, registration details, or more information, please contact: oakvilletmiy@gmail.com or scan this QR Code.



SAINT DOMINIC PARISH

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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!

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