

Mass Intentions – September 1 st – 6 th			
Date/Time	Feast Day	Intention	Requested By
Tuesday 1 st 9:00 AM	Ferial	• +Joseph Dao & Anna Pham	•Ninh Dao
Wednesday 2 nd 9:00 AM	Ferial	• +Jane Pritchard-Bowers	• Anne Pritchard
Thursday 3 rd 9:00 AM	St. Gregory the Great	• +Laura Donald	•Marj Simon
Friday 4 th 9:00 AM	Ferial	• +Joao Pereira	• Rosalina Pereira
Saturday 5 th 5:00 PM	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	• +Ildebrando Silveira • +Dec. Members of Fisher Family • Int. Maria Ferreira & Family	• Maria Silveira • Gail & Ruthann Fisher
Sunday 6 th 9:00 AM		• Int. Terrianne Moulton	•St. Francis Choir
11:00 AM		• For Parishioners of St. Francis	

Diocesan Prayer Calendar
Mon. August 31: **Rev. Kevin D’Souza**
Tues. September 1: **Rev. Piotr Jurzyk**
Wed. September 2: **Salesians of St. Don Bosco, S.D.B.**
Thu. September 3: **Rev. Robert Bulbrook**
Fri. September 4: **Very Rev. Joseph Okoko, I.v.Dei.**
Sat. September 5: **Rev. John Iyekowa, O.S.A.**

What’s Happening this Week?
Monday
Senior Gentle Exercise (H) 1:15 & 2:30 pm
OEA (H) 7:00 pm
Wednesday
Senior Gentle Exercise (H) 2:30 pm
Friday
First Friday Adoration 9:30 am

Stewardship Report
August 22nd /23rd
Envelope & Loose \$2, 175.00
Automatic Withdrawal \$1,338.75
Total Collection Last Week \$3,313.75
2026 Total Collection \$174,997.15

Thank you for your generosity!

Annual Christmas Bazaar Planning Meeting
There will be a BAZAAR PLANNING MEETING on **Sunday, Sept. 13 at 2:00 pm** in the church hall. If you are interested in helping to plan this year's bazaar please join us! Mark your Calendars: this year's St. Francis Christmas Bazaar is on Saturday, November 14, 2026.
Questions? Email: marykdiemert@yahoo.ca

St. Francis of Assisi Summer Corner – Friends of St. Francis

St. Padre Pio: the “Second St. Francis”



The connection between Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Padre Pio is rooted in their shared religious order, the rare physical phenomenon of the stigmata, and Padre Pio's deep personal devotion to Francis. Padre Pio was an ordained Capuchin Franciscan friar who modeled his life after Saint Francis. Both men chose a life of strict poverty, intense prayer, humility, and complete surrender to God. Padre Pio joined the Capuchin Franciscan friars in 1903. On Aug 10, 1910, Fr. Pio was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of Benevento and offered his First Mass in Pietrelcina as Padre Pio. Less than a month later, on September 7, the first signs of the Stigmata—the bleeding wounds of Christ's crucifixion, appeared after praying in the Piana Romana countryside. In 1224, Saint Francis of Assisi became the first recorded saint in Christian history to receive the stigmata on his own body. Nearly 700 years later, in 1918, Padre Pio also received the stigmata, bearing the visible wounds of Christ on his hands, feet, and side for 50 years, making him the only priest in history known to bear them. Because of these matching physical manifestations and shared spiritual traits, many Catholics refer to Padre Pio as a "Second Saint Francis". Padre Pio’s most famous charitable work is the founding of *Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza* (Home for the Relief of Suffering) in 1956, alongside global prayer groups and direct material aid to the poor. On September 23, 1968, after years of health issues, Padre Pio renewed his Religious vows and died in the Odor of Sanctity, with his Holy Rosary in his hands and the words “Gesù... Maria”

(Jesus... Mary) on his lips. In the days leading up to his death, the stigmata had slowly started to vanish, and on the morning of the 23rd, there were no traces of the wounds on Padre Pio’s body. Saint Francis of Assisi was Padre Pio's favorite saint, and Padre Pio reported experiencing mystical visions and personal interactions with him throughout his life. In honoring Saint Francis, we also honor the Franciscan charism that shaped Padre Pio’s priesthood and continues to lead souls to God through his powerful intercession. St Padre Pio’s Feast Day is September 23rd commemorating the day of his death.

GARAGE SALE NEWS!
Our Parish Garage Sale is **Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.**
Do you have any new or gently used household items to donate for our sale? Things that are very popular are books, puzzles, toys, jewelry, dishes, decorative items, bikes, working electronics etc. etc.! Your summer cleanout might be someone else’s treasure find!

Drop off times for donations:
Thursday, September 17 --- 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
Friday, September 18 --- 12:00 pm-7:00 pm
Donations can be brought to the church hall during the scheduled donation times. Thank you so much for all your generous donations! All proceeds will go to support various parish projects. Every little bit helps!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!
Volunteers are needed to take shifts to help unpack donations on donation days or to help on Garage Sale day! If you are interested in volunteering to help out at our Garage Sale fundraiser, please contact Linda Carmichael at carmichaellinda7@gmail.com or (519)-742-0656. Questions? Email: marykdiemert@yahoo.ca

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Save the Date - Sunday October 4th

This year, we have a special celebration planned to celebrate the Feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, in honour of his special Jubilee year!

On Sunday October 4th, we will have ONE Mass at 9 a.m., celebrated by Monseigneur Kroetsch **(There will be NO 11 a.m. Mass)**. Following Mass will be hosting a special Hot Breakfast Buffet, catered by Conestoga Catering. Tickets will be available for purchase for the breakfast in September, so keep an eye on the bulletin. All are welcome!

Sacraments for Students

We are excited to welcome our young people into the church through the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation! Traditionally, students in grade 2 receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion, and students in Grade 7 receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. However, we invite ALL interested young people, above these ages, to also prepare for their First Communion or Confirmation.

Confirmation will take place in the Fall of 2026! We will have an initial student and parent meeting on **Tuesday September 15, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at St Francis of Assisi Church** to outline the preparation and dates.

Reconciliation and **First Communion** will take place in the spring of 2027. More details to follow.

If your child requires the sacrament of Baptism, please contact Lei Ann at lawade@hamiltondiocese.com.

Adults wishing to further their faith journey and become Catholic are welcome to join our RCIA (Rite Christian Initiation of Adults). Please contact the Parish Office.

Around Town

The Virtues of the Saints: Please join us at the Shrine of the Sorrowful Mother (The Cemetery Chapel - 1820 Notre Dame Drive, St. Agatha) at **2 pm on Sundays in September** (September 6, 13, 20 and 27). We will be hosting a series of talks on "The Virtues of the Saints" presented by Joseph Goodwin. Each 30 minute talk will be followed with the prayer of The Divine Mercy Chaplet. All are welcome.

The Shrine in St. Agatha is open for viewing each Sunday in June through September from 1 - 4 pm.

Fall Retreat At The Carmel - The Carmel of St Joseph is hosting their Fall Spiritual Retreat at the Carmelite Monastery on Saturday, September 26, 2026. The theme of our Retreat, given by Fr Peter Turrone, is The Little Way of St. Therese. The Retreat welcomes women and men. Registration opens Monday, September 07, 2026 and closes Tuesday, September 22, 2026 - spaces are limited. Please visit The Carmel website (www.thecarmel.ca) to view our Retreat Poster, Retreat Schedule, and a Registration form. Enjoy a day of quiet reflection, Mass, Adoration.

Young Adults Night - Saturday, September 5th Owen Sound - Fr. John Ha, our new Vocations Director, invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on Saturday, September 5th at St. Mary of the Assumption Church (554 - 15th Street East, Owen Sound). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



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LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00 pm
Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am



WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday - Friday at 9:00 am



KERALA ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Celebrated by Fr. Stephen Gilbert
Sunday at 5:30 p.m.



RECONCILIATION

Saturday from 4:00 - 4:30 pm
or by appointment.



PRAYER NETWORK

Call parish office to request prayers



FUNERALS, BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES

Please call the parish office.

— OUR PARISH TEAM —



Pastor: Fr. Stephen Gilbert
(sgilbert@hamiltondiocese.com)



Deacon: Rev. Mr. Philip Fernandez
(pfernandez@hamiltondiocese.com)



Pastoral Minister: Lei Ann Wade
(lawade@hamiltondiocese.com)



Music Ministry: Mrs. Terrianne Moulton



Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Amanda Michaels



Building Manager: Mr. Lazaro Escobar



Asst. Building Mgr.: Mr. Gary Howell



PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Friday
8:30 am - noon & 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm



"We are a Christ-centered faith community seeking to be instruments of God's peace."



August 30th, 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might know the hope to which we are called".

-Ephesians 1:17-18

