



Why was Jesus baptized?

At first glance, it seems that Jesus being baptized has no purpose at all. John's baptism was the baptism of repentance, but Jesus was sinless and had no need of repentance. Even John

was taken aback at Jesus coming to him. John recognized his own sin and was aware that he, a sinful man in need of repentance himself, was unfit to baptize the spotless Lamb of God: "I need to be baptized by You and You are coming to me?" Jesus replied that it should be done because "it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness".

There are several reasons why it was fitting for John to baptize Jesus at the beginning of His public ministry. Jesus was about to embark on His great work, and it was appropriate that He be recognized publicly by His forerunner. John was the "voice crying in the wilderness" prophesied by Isaiah, calling people to repentance in preparation for their Messiah. By baptizing Him, John was declaring to all that he was the One they had been waiting for, the Son of God, the One he had predicted would baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire".

Jesus' baptism also showed that He identified with sinners. His baptism symbolized the sinners' baptism into the righteousness of Christ, dying with Him and rising free from sin and able to walk in the newness of life. His perfect righteousness would fulfill all the requirements of the Law for sinners who could never hope to do so on their own. When John hesitated to baptize the sinless Son of God, Jesus replied that it was proper to "fulfill all righteousness".

In addition, Jesus coming to John showed His approval of John's baptism, bearing witness to it, that it was from heaven and approved by God. This would be important in the future when others would begin to doubt John's authority, particularly after his arrest by Herod.

Perhaps most importantly, the occasion of His public baptism recorded for all generations to come the perfect embodiment of the triune God revealed in glory from heaven. The testimony directly from heaven of the Father's pleasure with the Son and the descending of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus is a beautiful picture of the Trinitarian nature of God. It also depicts the work of the Father, Son and Spirit in the salvation of those Jesus came to save. The Father loves the elect from before the foundation of the world; He sends His Son to seek and save the lost; and the Spirit convicts of sin and draws the believer to the Father through the Son. All the glorious truth of the mercy of God through Jesus Christ is on display at His baptism.



Due to the closure of the Church during the January 2021 Ontario shut-down, public Masses are not being held. We hope to be able to welcome parishioners back to Mass on Saturday Jan. 23 at 5:00 pm. However, Father will celebrate his daily Mass for the following intentions.

Postponed intentions from the end of December have been re-scheduled.

Tuesday, January 5

+ FR. MIRKO CAJKA

Wednesday, January 6

+ ANITA FIGUEIRED

+ JACK HANNENBURG

+ WITOLD WALKOWSKI

+ JEANNIE ESCOBAR

+ JOHN BATISTA

+ SOULS IN PURGATORY

- for the intentions of the Kelly Family

Thursday, January 7

+ JORGIANA MELO, JAIME TEIXEIRA, WILLIAM FURTADO; JOAO, LUIS, and EDUARDO – Tina

Friday, January 8

+ JOSE VARGAS – Luisa

Saturday, January 9

- for the intentions of Maria Correia

- for the intentions of Olympia and George Comini

+ MILDRED KAVANAGH

+ WILLIAM AND PAULINE MCKAY

+ MARK VALENTINO CHAVES

+ MANUEL PAIVA, JR.

+ MARK VALENTINO CHAVES

Sunday, January 10

+ CARMELO CAMPIONE



The parish office is closed to the public until January 25, due to the Ontario shutdown.

Emails and phone messages will be checked regularly. Barb will be occasionally in the office as well as working remotely.

FORMED.org

Catholic Faith on Demand

We are excited to announce that St. Ambrose Church has purchased for all our parishioners a one-year subscription <https://formed.org/>

FREE for parishioners to sign-up. Your family will appreciate the quality entertainment and the enriching Catholic faith content – movies, podcasts, music, audio books, etc.

Re:Start – A Separation and Divorce Recovery Program, will resume once again in early 2021, either in person or on line depending on the situation with COVID-19.

You are invited to look on the Diocesan website www.hamiltondiocese.com to see the programs offered and then check back in January for dates and registration.

Catechetical Correspondence Courses - Programs are available for children from Kindergarten through to High School who are not currently receiving religious instruction. Preparation for First Communion and Confirmation for children not in Catholic Schools also available. Families work through the programs at home. Contact Monica in the Catechesis Office at 905-528-7988, ext. 2238 or check the website at www.hamiltondiocese.com and click on the Catechesis Office for more information, printable registration forms or to register online.

CHURCH ENVELOPES for 2021 – If you had not yet picked up your envelope box in December, you can still make arrangements to get it by contacting the parish office via email.

IF YOU HAVE NOT USED CHURCH ENVELOPES BUT WOULD LIKE TO DO SO FOR 2021.... Please contact the parish office to have this arranged.

Answering the Call to the Priesthood

A new video series hosted by Father Michael King, *Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation* at the Diocese of Hamilton.

Each episode will feature an interview with a Diocesan priest and explore their journey towards priesthood.

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/answeringthecall>

A Walk Through “Fratelli Tutti” - These are the opening words from Pope Francis in his latest encyclical, *On Fraternity and Social Friendship*. Wednesday, January 27th the Diocese will host a **90-minute Zoom webinar** to walk through of this beautiful document. Written by Pope Francis to “all people of good will.” Presented by Mrs. Teresa Hartnett, Director of the Family Ministry Office - register online at

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/family-ministry/fratelli-tutti>

Thank You

A great looking group (masks included) of dedicated St. Vincent de Paul Society volunteers of St. Ambrose Parish ready to deliver Christmas food vouchers 3 weeks ago. The Knights of Columbus Galt 2184 supported the cause with a \$2,500 donation of bingo funds received from the Cambridge Gaming Centre, in order to leave no neighbour unassisted during the holiday season.



Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Hamilton

His Grace, Archbishop Luigi Bonazzi, Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, has announced that Reverend Father Wayne Lawrence Lobsinger has been appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton by His Holiness, Pope Francis.

Auxiliary Bishop-elect Wayne Lobsinger was born on December 1, 1966, in Kitchener, Ontario. After studies at St. Jerome's University and St. Peter's Seminary, he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Anthony Tonnos, on May 7, 1994, at the Cathedral of Christ the King, Hamilton.

Bishop-elect Lobsinger has served the Diocese of Hamilton as Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Hamilton, St. Anthony Daniel Parish, Kitchener, St. Eugene Parish, Hamilton, and Holy Cross Parish, Halton Hills. He has also served as Pastor at St. Anthony Parish, Kincardine, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Kitchener, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Waterdown, and St. Ann Parish, Ancaster, where he currently serves. During this time, Bishop-elect Lobsinger has served on the Diocesan College of Consultors, the Diocesan Episcopal Board, the Canadian Federation of Presbyteral Councils and as Chairman of the Diocesan Council of Priests, Chaplain for the Legion of Mary, and Spiritual Director at St. Peter's Seminary, London.

The episcopal ordination is expected to take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, in early February 2021.

Christmas and New Year's Message from his Excellency, Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of Hamilton Diocese:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/news/2021/January/a-message-of-hope-from-his-excellency-bishop-crosby>

Catholic Moms Group continues to host virtual meetups for Catholic mothers on Zoom.

<https://www.catholicmomsgroup.com/>

Do you know about...

The Liturgical Year

The liturgical year is made up of six seasons:

- **Advent** - four weeks of preparation before the celebration of Jesus' birth
- **Christmas** - recalling the Nativity of Jesus Christ and his manifestation to the peoples of the world
- **Lent** - a six-week period of penance before Easter
- **Sacred Paschal Triduum** - the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year, where the Christian people recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus
- **Easter** - 50 days of joyful celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead and his sending forth of the Holy Spirit
- **Ordinary Time** - divided into two sections (one span of 4-8 weeks after Christmas Time and another lasting about six months after Easter Time), wherein the faithful consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and works among his people

The mystery of Christ, unfolded through the cycle of the year, calls us to live His mystery in our own lives. This call is best illustrated in the lives of Mary and the saints, celebrated by the Church throughout the year. There is no division between the mystery of Christ and the celebration of the saints, but rather a marvelous harmony. The Blessed Virgin Mary is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son, and the feasts of all the saints proclaim the wonderful works of Christ in His servants and offer the faithful fitting examples for their imitation.