



# IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

934 Highway #8, Stoney Creek, ON L8E 5H7  
Ph: 905-643-1637; [ihmchurch@cogeco.net](mailto:ihmchurch@cogeco.net); [www.ihmchurch.ca](http://www.ihmchurch.ca)



## PASTORAL TEAM

**FR. GREGORY MERKLEY**, Pastor  
**Ilaria Paletta**, Office Administrator

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

**Tuesday to Thursday**

9:30a.m - 4:30p.m.

**Friday**

9:30a.m-12:30p.m

**Closed: Saturday, Sunday, Monday**

## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 10a.m. until Saturday 9a.m

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Tuesday evenings 8p.m in the church  
(September to June)

## PRAISE & WORSHIP PRAYER GROUP

Thursdays 7p.m - Parish Hall  
(September to June)

## HOSPITAL VISITS/SHUT-INS

Call/Email the Parish Office.

## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

[ssvp.immaculateheart@gmail.com](mailto:ssvp.immaculateheart@gmail.com)  
Ph: 289-799-2314

## SCHOOLS

Immaculate Heart of Mary  
905-523-2332  
St. Gabriel  
905-523-2468

## VOCATIONS

Fr. Mark Morley  
905-528-7988 ext. 2341

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

## ELECTRONIC BULLETIN EMAIL US:

[ihmchurch@cogeco.net](mailto:ihmchurch@cogeco.net)

**VISIT:** [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** @ihmchurchsc

## OUR PARISH'S VISION STATEMENT:

*The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish is a welcoming place of joyful worship where one finds grace, refuge, serenity, strength and compassion.*

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, with the love of the Father, the parish offers outreach, understanding and hope to a diverse community in a meaningful way.*

*Prayerfully, openly and lovingly, the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish provides a faithful witness to our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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## PARISH PRAYER:

*Come Holy Spirit, Come by the means of the powerful intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Your well beloved spouse upon the Parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Amen*

## LORD'S DAY MASSES

SATURDAY 5:00p.m; SUNDAY 9:00a.m; 11:00a.m; 4:00p.m

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 9a.m; Tuesday 7p.m; Wednesday-Friday 9a.m

## CONFESION TIMES

Tuesday 6-7p.m; Saturday 3:45-4:45p.m

30 minutes before all other regularly scheduled Masses  
(including Sunday Masses)

## BAPTISMS

Call/Email the Parish office to book.

## MARRIAGE

Call/Email the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance

## R.C.I.A

(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) Call/Email the parish office

## SPECIAL NEEDS

Families with children that have special needs are always welcome in our parish.  
Please contact us to show us how we can help you.

## STEWARDSHIP

*"Donate to our Parish" through our website. Mail/Drop Off Donations to the Parish Office. E-Transfer: [ihmchurch@cogeco.net](mailto:ihmchurch@cogeco.net) (Offering)*

*We thank you for your generosity & support.*



Scan Here

## REGISTER WITH OUR PARISH:

We welcome you to our Parish! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Greg.  
Kindly complete the information below and place it in the collection basket.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one: Envelopes \_\_\_\_\_ Pre-authorized giving \_\_\_\_\_ (form will be emailed to you)

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Bulletin yes/no

ROSARY  
30 mins before  
All Masses

Confession  
30 mins  
before All  
Masses

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS: December 8-14, 2025

Diocesan  
Vocation  
Prayer  
Intentions

The Immaculate  
Conception of  
the Blessed  
Virgin Mary

MONDAY	9:00 AM	IN REPARATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	
	6:00 PM	CHANT MASS	
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	†ARCHIE ALTONBERG - Ivo & Zjelka †GIUSEPPINA BLANDA (Australia) - Jack Bidinost †SISTER JEAN CUNNINGHAM - Walter & Patricia Tymchuk †FERDINANDO GIGLIOTTI - Ralph & Mary Fascione †ALBERT MARRONE - Christine Franciosa †ANNA NGUYEN - Family SOULS IN PURGATORY - Joe Kiefer FOR THE INTENTIONS OF CELINA SANFORD - Walter & Teresa Rzsezotko FOR THE INTENTIONS OF MARIA SIMONE FOR THE INTENTIONS OF EDUARDO KABILING FOR BLESSINGS & GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR ISABEL & PITER & FAMILIES - Grace & Janusz	Rev. Ronald Voisin
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	†KAZ BIALACH - Family	Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer
THURSDAY	9:00 AM	FOR THE INTENTIONS OF ANDREW RZESZOTKO — Walter & Teresa Rzsezotko	Catholic Young Adults
FRIDAY	9:00 AM	FOR UNBORN CHILDREN & PROTECTION OF LIFE — Jadwiga	Our Lady of Guadalupe
SATURDAY	5:00 PM	†SANDRO ALBERICO & DECEASED OF ALBERICO & MERCURI FAMILIES †FRANCES BOZZO - Mitch & Alice Szajrber †EUGENE DASILVA PIQUES — Marisa & Daniela †EMILIA FONTANA — Family †DORA GIGLIOTTI — Family †IRENE LULIC—Willy †JOHN MARIO MASARO — Jack Bidinost †EMIDIO NARDINI — Vallorani & Paletta Families †STELLA NARDINI — Mirella Paletta †IVAN TURCIC — Family †MAVIS & STAN EHLERT, JENNY LANGEROCK & JOSEPH WISNIEWSKI †GIOVANNI, MARIA & GIANFRANCO PIRO, CORRADO & ANNA VARRASSO, ANTONIO CALDARELLA - Piro Family FOR THE INTENTIONS OF MICHELLE BLAIS — Walter & Patricia Tymchuk FOR THE INTENTIONS OF ANGELA HOFFBAUER FOR THE INTENTIONS OF LUCINDA KUNKEL — Kunkel Family FOR THE INTENTIONS OF TANYA RODGERSON FOR THE INTENTIONS OF EMILIO & GLORIA MARCONATO	Rev. Michael McHugh
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	†DAVID ARNOTT — Family	
	11:00 AM	†EMIDIO TIRABASSI — Family	
	4:00 PM	PRO POPULO	



My dear parishioners,

As we continue our Advent journey, here is an excerpt from the *Modern Catholic Encyclopedia* about Advent: *"The four-week liturgical season preceding Christmas in which the Church prepares to celebrate the birth of Christ while also anticipating his second coming. Advent begins on the Sunday nearest to 30 November (the feast of St. Andrew), called the First Sunday of Advent. The Church's liturgical year also begins on this day.*

*Readings and practices of the Advent season emphasize both penitence and the joyful expectation of the Lord's coming. From the First Sunday of Advent to 16 December, the liturgical focus is on penitence and preparation for the second coming—with readings centered around the messianic prophecies of John the Baptist and Isaiah, and gospel selections which depict Jesus as the fulfillment of those prophecies. Also during this period, violet vestments are worn by the clergy (rose vestments are also acceptable on the Third, or "Gaudete" Sunday), further emphasizing the theme of repentance.*

*Liturgies of the final week of Advent focus on the approaching birth of Christ, with the role of the Blessed Mother receiving special emphasis. The observation of a preparatory season prior to the celebration of Christmas dates back to the fourth century."*

Our new parish website has been completed, so take another look [www.ihmchurch.ca](http://www.ihmchurch.ca)! There you will find several new features including more information about the Sacraments, and our parish groups. Please let me know what you think! If there is something you suggest should be changed or improved about our parish website, please don't hesitate to let me know; I am always passionate about trying to make things better in any way we can!

Thanks to the profound generosity of a donor, our Parish has received a gift in the amount of \$30,000. This gift is part of a significant bequest left to the Diocese of Hamilton by a parishioner whose intent was to support Parishes and charities within the greater Hamilton area. This transformational gift will provide much-needed funds over the next ten years – a profound testament to what is possible through the generosity of legacy giving. Have you ever considered an estate gift to the Church in your will? For more information, please call 905-528-7988 ext. 2235 or e-mail [give@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:give@hamiltondiocese.com).

May God bless you all superabundantly,

Fr. Greg Merkley



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**  
Visit: [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join) (Council # 14421)

**SANTA CLAUS PARADE - THANK YOU** to all Knights and volunteers who set up and took down the float, and who sang, walked and spread our message of Keeping Christ in Christmas in this annual event. Your presence and our message are important for the world to see. Special thank you to John van Troost for all your hard work in organizing this event!

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE** - Some great prizes are in store! Tickets will be sold on the weekends of December 6-14 before and after all the Masses.

**KNIGHTS** - If you can assist with the selling of tickets at any of the masses, please let me know: [gk14421@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk14421@ontariokofc.ca).

**FOOD DRIVE - DEC 13-21** Thank you for your support of this yearly initiative!



**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:**  
**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW EXECUTIVE** who will be installed in January of 2026: President: Lucia Marchionda; Secretary: Mary Anilowski; Treasurer: Adele vanTroost; Committee Chairs: Theresa Bennett, Carol McIntosh & Daphne Valles.

**UPCOMING EVENTS (APART FROM MASS AND CONFESSIONS)**

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Dec 6/7		SSVP Collection & Clothing Drive
Dec 6/7		Holy Land Religious Article Sale
Dec 6-14		K of C Christmas Raffle
Dec 8	6 PM	Chant Mass, Men's Recollection
Dec 8	7:15 PM	Men's Recollection, Mtg Rm 1
Dec 8	6:30 PM	Card Group, Parish Hall
Dec 9	8 PM	Christian Meditation, Church
Dec 10	9 AM	DeMazenod Cooking Group, Parish Hall
Dec 10	7:30 PM	K of C Meeting, Parish Hall
Dec 11	11:50 AM	St. Gabriel School Mass
Dec 11	7 PM	Praise & Worship, Parish Hall
Dec 12	6-9 PM	Youth Night, Parish Hall
Dec 13	7:30-9 AM	COR Men's Program, Meeting Rm 1
Dec 13	6:15 PM	Young Adults, Church & Parish Hall
Dec 14	2 PM	Family Catechism, IHM School Gym
Dec 14	2 PM	Smith's Funeral Home Memorial Service
Dec 13/14		Bambinelli weekend, bring your Baby Jesus to Mass
Dec 15	6:30 PM	Card Group, Parish Hall
Dec 16	8 PM	Christian Meditation, Church
Dec 17	9 AM	DeMazenod Cooking Group, Parish Hall
Dec 18	7 PM	Praise & Worship, Parish Hall
Dec 19	10:30 AM	IHM School Mass
Dec 20	7:30-9 AM	COR Men's Program, Meeting Rm 1
Dec 20/21		Blue Box Collection
Dec 24	4 PM	Christmas Eve Mass
Dec 24	12 Midnight	Christmas Eve Mass
	9 AM 11 AM	Christmas Day Mass

**STEWARSHIP NOVEMBER 29/30, 2025**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

Envelope	Loose	E-transfer	Canada Helps	Pre-Authorized (15th/30th)	Total
\$4078.30	\$1016.70	\$500.00	\$260.36	\$2055.00	\$7910.36

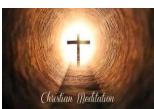
**2026 SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE READY:** You are welcome to stop by the parish office Tuesday to Friday or wait until December 20/21 to pick them up. Going **"Green"** email the parish office: [ihmchurch@cogeco.net](mailto:ihmchurch@cogeco.net) or visit: [ihmchurch.ca](http://ihmchurch.ca) for more options



**SOCIAL ACTION:** Please remember there are many families who would like your help to ensure their family has a wonderful Christmas. There are 24 envelopes from the JESSE TREE where you can choose ONE FAMILY to help with Christmas dinner and gift(s) for their children. Your kindness would be much appreciated especially at this time of the year. Please stop by the desk in the narthex to pick up your envelope and help a family in need.



**CLOTHES COLLECTION WEEKEND:** The SSVP donation truck will be parked at the back of the church on December 6 and 7. Volunteers will be collecting gently used clothing and linens for the SSVP Barton Store 30 minutes before each Mass. These donations directly support our neighbours in need. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. **Next Collection: December 6/7, please make any cheques payable to "The Society of St. Vincent de Paul".** Thank you for your generosity and for helping us serve those in need within our parish community. Your support truly makes a meaningful difference.



**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION** every Tuesday from 8-9 pm, We meet in the church for a brief teaching and a period of silent meditation followed by discussion. All are welcome. "When we begin to meditate we recognize the constant whirl going on in our mind...The task of meditation is to bring all of this mobile and distracted mind to stillness, silence and concentration." Father John Main OSB, The World Community for Christian Meditation.



**COR MEN'S GROUP** at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish will meet on **Saturday, December 13th at 7:30am** in the Parish Meeting Room. The theme for our meeting is "Mission of the Family: The Gift of Children" and includes a video and discussion. The Cor Men's Group meets regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at 7:30am in the Parish Meeting Room for 60 to 90 minutes. The purpose of our group is to prayerfully explore our Catholic Faith over coffee and donuts. All men of the parish are welcome!



**BAMBINELLI SUNDAY:** All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines from your homes to Mass the weekend of December 13, 14 to be blessed. After the blessing you are encouraged to take your 'Bambinelli' home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day and as you lay Jesus in the Manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONE OVER CHRISTMAS?** We are taking monetary donations for our Christmas flowers. If you wish to donate, please email the parish office with your donation amount **\$25** and the name(s) of your loved one(s) **before Wednesday, December 17**. Donations can also be dropped off at the parish office or E-transferred to: [ihmchurch@cogeo.net](mailto:ihmchurch@cogeo.net), please indicate the name of your loved one.



**HANDICRAFT HOLY LAND SALE:** This weekend December 6-7, we will welcome our special guest Paul from Sebastien Cardinal, representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who after all the masses will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land. Cash, debit, credit cards and cheque will be accepted. You can visit and support us at: [www.HolylandChristians.ca](http://www.HolylandChristians.ca). May God Bless you for your generosity, for your help and for your prayers.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY THIS WEEK**  
*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*



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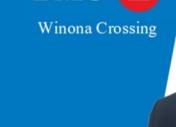
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