



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

934 Highway #8, Stoney Creek, ON L8E 5H7
Ph: 905-643-1637; ihmchurch@cogeco.net; 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
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

VISIT: 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.

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

CONFESSION 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 (Offering)
We thank you for your generosity & support.



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✂----- 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 21, 2025 MASS INTENTIONS: December 22-28, 2025	Diocesan Vocation Prayer Intentions
MONDAY	9:00 AM	FOR THE INTENTIONS OF DAVID ZYCHOWICZ —Jadwiga Zychowicz		Rev. Richard Dordunu
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	†MATEO †HENRY STACHURSKI—Family †AUDREY & WILLIAM STANLEY JOHNS —Family SOULS IN PURGATORY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THERESIA CANDY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF EDUARDO KABILING		Rev. Robert Kiffman
CHRISTMAS EVE	4:00 PM	DECEASED OF PASCAL & JOBITY FAMILIES DECEASED OF BERALDO & LUCATO FAMILIES FOR THE INTENTIONS OF FRANK & MARIA LUCATO & FAMILY		Consecrated Virgin Candidates
	12MIDNIGHT	FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE PARISHIONERS OF IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY		
CHRISTMAS DAY	9:00 AM	PRO POPULO		The Nativity of The Lord
	11:00 AM	FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH		
FRIDAY	9:00 AM	†TADEUSZ ZYCHOWICZ - Family		Rev. Jason Kuntz
SATURDAY	5:00 PM	†BENNY CARBONE & SERGIO SCATTOLON — Cathy †SCOTT DUFFIELD — Assenza Family †FERDINANDO GIGLIOTTI — Joe Kiefer †DANILO MARTINELLO — Family †ROSE MIELKO—Family †EMIDIO NARDINI, ANNA LEDONNE — Filippo Santini †JAMES W. KING, RICHARD KUNKEL & DECEASED OF KUNKEL & COLTERMAN FAMILIES—Kunkel Family HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY—Kunkel Family FOR THE INTENTIONS OF FR. GREG MERKLEY—Yvonne McNiven FOR THE INTENTIONS OF TATYANA TYMCHUK - Walter & Patricia Tymchuk		Rev. Andrew Lopatniuk
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	†STAN & PHYLLIS SZEWC — Mike & Patricia Boucher		
	11:00 AM	†FERNANDO MACIEL — Donna & Family		
	4:00 PM	PRO POPULO		



As Advent continues, we will now light the fourth and final Advent candle this week, which represents love. God loves you, and we are called to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength. God's love for us is like that burning flame, burning and shining the light of God's grace upon our lives. May we reflect that flame of love back to God and

to others by the way we speak, pray and act according to the teachings of Jesus!

Although Christmas hasn't arrived yet, already many people have been very kind to me and shared kind cards and gifts with me. I am blessed to be the pastor here, in such a kind and thoughtful community! Thank you so much very much for your kind thoughtfulness, and may God reward each and everyone of you!

Our parish has recently hired Claire Mackness to assist us in the office and with various parish activities. Although she is only here for a short time, has already helped out Ilaria and myself a lot! Here is a little message from Claire:

Hi everyone! My name is Claire, and I'm grateful to share that I've recently joined IHM Parish as the Lay Pastoral Assistant. It has already been a blessing to be

here with you and to serve however I can. If you see me around, please feel free to say hello — I'd love to meet you! I'll be at the parish until the end of January, as I am discerning Religious Life with the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ. They are a beautiful community, and if you'd like to learn more, their website is here: <https://www.sisterspoorofjesuschrist.com/>. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all, and please know you are in my prayers!

Our new parish website has been completed, so take another look 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!

May God bless you all superabundantly,

Fr. Greg Merkley



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Visit: kofc.org/join (Council # 14421)

Annual Christmas Food Drive - continues this weekend (Dec. 21-22). Thank you for all the donations so far!

Christmas Raffle - The draw was held after the 4:00pm Mass on Dec. 14th. Prize winners have been contacted. Congratulations to everyone who won an item! Thank you to everyone who supported and donated prizes, we had a great selection of items this year!

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped Stoney Creek Santa Claus Parade and at all our events, and to all parishioners who donated to or participated in our fundraising events! This Christmas season we made donations to: Martha House (Good Shepherd); DeMazenod Door; Christian Refugee Relief; Global Wheelchair Mission; Euthanasia Prevention Coalition; Hamilton Right to Life; and Hamilton Food Share; and the IHM Building Fund. These donations would not be possible without your participation and the participation of our Bulletin Sponsors.

We wish everyone a blessed and happy Christmas! -Joe van Troost, Grand Knight



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:

Wishing all our Members a Blessed Christmas Season.

UPCOMING EVENTS (APART FROM MASS AND CONFESSIONS)

Dec 20	10 AM-12 PM	Advent Retreat, Church, Meeting Rm 1
Dec 20/21		Blue Box Collection
Dec 20 - Jan 4		Eucharistic Chapel Closed
Dec 24	4 PM	Christmas Eve Mass
Dec 24	12 Midnight	Christmas Eve Mass
Dec 25	9 AM / 11 AM	Christmas Day Mass
Dec 27	7:30-9 AM	COR Men's Program, Meeting Rm 1
Dec 31	5 PM	New Year's Eve Mass, Holy Day of Obligation
Jan 1	9 AM / 11 AM	New Year's Day Mass, Holy Day of Obligation
Jan 5	6:30 PM	Card Group, Parish Hall
Jan 6	8 PM	Meditation Group, Church
Jan 9	6:30 PM	Youth Night, Parish Hall
Jan 10	8 AM	COR Men's Program, Meeting Rm 1
Jan 10	6:30 PM	IHM Parish Volunteer Dinner, RSVP req'd
Jan 11	2 PM	Family Catechism, IHM School Gym
Jan 12	6 PM	Chant Mass
Jan 12	7:15 PM	Men's Recollection, Church, Mtg Rm 1
Jan 12	6:30 PM	Card Group, Parish Hall
Jan 13	8 PM	Meditation Group, Church
Jan 14	10:30 AM	IHM School Mass
Jan 14	7:30 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting, Parish Hall
Jan 15	7 PM	Praise & Worship, Parish Hall
Jan 17/18		Blue Box Weekend

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be closed from December 24 to January 5. We will re-open on Tuesday, January 6. Wishing you a Blessed Christmas & New Year.



2026 SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK UP: Going "Green" email the parish office: ihmchurch@cogeco.net or visit: ihmchurch.ca for more options. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please let the parish office know!



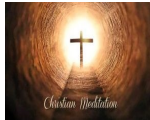
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL will be Closed on Saturday, December 20 at 9a.m. and will re-open on Monday, January 5 at 10a.m. You are invited to sit in the church throughout the Christmas Season.



will be given out over the Christmas holidays. **THANK YOU** for your **KINDNESS & THOUGHTFULNESS** for those who are less fortunate. **This weekend (December 20/21) is BLUE BOX weekend** and your continued generosity will be greatly appreciated. As you have seen from your own grocery bills, prices are increasing and that goes for us as well. However, we are able to keep cooking delicious meals for over 700 people a month who come to DeMazenod door for their food and drink because of you so **THANK YOU!** HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS and a **HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR.**



As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we thank you for your generosity and compassion toward our neighbours in need. Your support brings hope, dignity, and the light of Christ into many lives. May the peace and joy of Christmas fill your hearts and homes. **Next Collection: January 3/4, 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, (No Meditation Dec 23) 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 be this will be on SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 AT 8 AM in the Parish Meeting Room. The theme for our meeting is "Mission of the Family: Healing in the Family" and includes a video and discussion. The Cor Men's Group meets regularly on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 8:00am 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!



CLOSE OF THE JUBILEE OF HOPE: All are welcome to join Bishop Crosby and Bishop Lobsinger for the close of the Jubilee Year at a Eucharistic Celebration on **Sunday, December 28, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton. We will have an opportunity during this Mass to offer thanks for Bishop Crosby's ministry as Bishop of Hamilton at this celebration.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY THIS WEEK:
Michele Ciarmoli

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

STEWARDSHIP DECEMBER 13/14, 2025

Envelope	Loose	E-transfer	Canada Helps	Pre-Authorized (15th/30th)	Total
\$4122.20	\$1229.80	\$125.00	\$533.08	0	\$5885.08

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