



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON
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DioceseHamilton
DioceseofHamilton

CATECHIST NEWSLETTER

Advent 2024



The Thrill of Hope...

Dear Friends,

As we journey ever closer to Christmas, we do so with great anticipation for the Ordinary Jubilee Year of 2025, drawing us into great celebration as “Pilgrims of Hope!”

On Christmas Eve, Pope Francis will open the Holy Doors of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, marking the beginning of a year of great restoration, prayer and celebration for Catholic faithful everywhere.

We meditate deeply on the virtue of hope both in the season of Advent, and throughout this experience of Jubilee. Saint Paul’s Letter to the Romans reminds us that, “hope does not disappoint.” (Romans 5:5)

Let us actively participate in this moment of great Jubilee, and may our discipleship be marked by offering hope for others, particularly in a world consumed often by darkness and fear.

Advent Blessings, Christina



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Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as “Pilgrims of Hope!” We are all invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been marked 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 made available on the [Diocesan Website](#).

Resource Orders

Parishes and community groups are welcome to order prayer cards, roll-up banners or replicas of the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica in celebration of the Jubilee Year.

Descriptions, prices and order forms are available [HERE](#) for your review.



Adult Faith Formation Resources: Jubilee Year

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis has produced a 5-part series on the Four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council in celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Council closing. Pope Francis has encouraged the faithful to reflect on the documents of Vatican II as a means of preparation for this Holy Year of celebration. This series is designed for independent or group study, and can be accessed free of charge [HERE](#).

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops also has a variety of resources available reflecting on the Papal Bull for the Jubilee, “Hope Does Not Disappoint!” (Romans 5:5) These can be accessed free of charge [HERE](#).



Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops



Journey Through Advent

A reflection series with Cardinal-Elect Leo

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents Journey through Advent with the Most Rev. Frank Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto.

Join us as we reflect on the Scriptures for the Sundays of Advent 2024 with video messages released weekly throughout the Advent Season. The videos can be found [HERE](#).



The season of Advent restores the horizon of hope, a hope that does not disappoint us, because it is founded on God's Word.

Pope Francis, 2013

Christmas with "The Chosen"

**December 12, 2024
7:00-8:00 pm**

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis invites you to a live virtual viewing party of "The Shepherd", a special Christmas episode of "The Chosen," reflecting on the birth of Christ through the eyes of a young shepherd.

This one-hour gathering will include prayer, free streaming of the 20-minute episode, and well wishes for the Advent Season. Gather your friends and family, make the popcorn, and join us for this wonderful opportunity to prepare for the coming of our Savior! Registration is free and can be made [HERE](#).



Caring for Our Neighbours this Christmas

The De Mazenod Door Outreach Centre downtown Hamilton, works diligently to provide support to local residents in need throughout the year. As we move into the colder months, it is important to consider ways in which we can offer assistance and support to these crucial programs.

The Diocese of Hamilton Office of Justice and Peace would like to extend an invitation to parishes, schools, and families, to participate in a Christmas Gift Bag Drive, in support of De Mazenod Door and its guests. We are in need of warm knitted items, toiletries and food items to make this campaign come to life. Feel called to participate? Find out more [HERE](#).




DIOCESE OF HAMILTON & THE DE MAZENOD DOOR OUTREACH CENTRE

Christmas Gift Bag Drive

Showing hospitality and care to our neighbours! Parishes, schools, families, and individuals are invited to participate in the *Christmas Gift Bag Drive*, in support of the *De Mazenod Door Outreach Centre* and its guests.

Donation Drop-Off:
December 2-13, 2024

 **Chancery Office**
700 King St. West, Hamilton, ON

What You Can Donate:

- Socks
- Gloves
- Hats
- Scarves
- Soap
- \$10 Tim Hortons' gift cards

For more details
& to register, visit:

<https://bit.ly/christmasgiftbagdrive>



A Prayer for Jubilee

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators
of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth, when,
with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Franciscus