

## **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Peter Tuyen Nguyen, Pastor

Email: pnguyen@hamiltondiocese.com

Rev. Pierre Edward Luc, SJ, Associate Pastor

Email: pluc@hamiltondiocese.com

Ms. Donna Slaviero, Office Administrator

Email: stannancaster@hamiltondiocese.com

Mr. David Dayler, Parish Lay Minister

Email: dgdayler@gmail.com

#### Welcome and Registration

Welcome to St. Ann's! May the Lord bless you! If you would like to register with our Parish, please fill out a registration form. These can be found at the main entrances. We ask you to inform our office if you are moving out of the parish.

**Memorial Donations:** Please keep our love for the parish alive: when recommending expressions of sympathy, please remember St. Ann Parish.

#### Prayer Network — 905-648-3341

Lynn Vallentin — jamantval@hotmail.com

#### Legion of Mary — phone/text Julia 289-489-9487

#### **Knights of Columbus**

Grand Knight - Dan Marranca dannymarranca@gmail.com

#### St. Vincent de Paul

Collection held first Sunday of the month.

#### Parish Schools

| Falish Schools          |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| St. Ann's               | 905-523-2340 |
| St. Joachim's           | 905-523-2341 |
| Holy Name of Mary       | 905-523-2342 |
| Immaculate Conception   | 905-523-2463 |
| Bishop Tonnos Secondary | 902-523-2331 |
|                         |              |

# St. Ann's Parish

11 Wilson Street West Ancaster, Ontario L9G 1N1

Tel: 905.648.6874

Email: stannancaster@hamiltondiocese.com Website: https://stannparish.ca/

#### The Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

#### Weekday Mass

Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Wednesday—Friday 8:00 a.m.

## Reconciliation

Tuesday 6:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Saturday 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Friday 8:30 a.m.—9:15 a.m.

#### Parish Office Hours

Monday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Tuesday to Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### <u>Baptism</u>

Please call the parish office. Six weeks notice is usually requested.

#### Marriage

You are asked to call the parish office to make wedding arrangements at least six months in advance.

#### Anointing of the Sick

Upon request. Please call the parish office.

#### Catholic Funeral Rites

When a death occurs in your family, please call the parish office and we will assist you in making the necessary liturgical arrangements.

# **Mass Intentions**

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time August 31, 2025

# Tuesday, September 2nd

7:00 p.m. **†** Vyvyan Reilly

Intentions of Teresa Sarabora

# Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:00 a.m. All Souls in Purgatory

† Anthony Vallentin Intentions of Mary

# Thursday, September 4th

8:00 a.m. † Thomas Bennett

Intentions of Janis Leslie

† Vyvyan Reilly † Anthony Vallentin

# Friday, September 5th

8:00 a.m. † Ruth & Ron Watts

† Joyce Ernest

# Saturday, September 6th

5:00 p.m. + Gabriele Runco

† Olivia Smosarski

† Angela Baldin

**†** Fausto Baldin

† Maria Conceicao Arruda

# **Diocesan Prayer Calendar**

Week of August 31, 2025

This week we especially pray for:

Rev. Jeff Bergsma | World Day of Prayer

for the Care of Creation - Labour Day

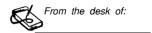
Tuesday Rev. Gerald Mulhall Wednesday Our Parish Community Rev. Michael Anderson

Friday Rev. Patrick Ohl

Monday

Saturday Rev. Mario Fernando Cabal Muriel, S.J.

God, the source of creation and love, You invite each of us to serve you through the life which is your gift. May your grace encourage men and women to heights of holiness through service to the Church as married couples, priests, consecrated virgins, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give of themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen.



# **DAVID DAYLER**

# ST. MONICA: A MODEL OF HOPE

With the end of August and the beginning of September, another school year begins -the air is filled with both excitement and apprehension. Students pack their bags with new notebooks and pencils, parents juggle schedules, and teachers prepare their classrooms with anticipation. Amid this yearly rhythm, we are reminded of the power of hope — a quiet yet unyielding force that helps us endure challenges, foster growth, and remain faithful in uncertain times. In this season of transition, we can look to **St. Monica**, whose feast we celebrated this week, as a powerful and relatable model of hope, especially for parents, guardians, and educators walking alongside children in their educational journey.

# A Mother's Unshakeable Hope

St. Monica, the mother of St. Augustine, is perhaps best known for her **persistent prayers** and unwavering hope in the face of profound personal trials. Her son, brilliant but wayward, rejected the faith she had tried to instill in him and pursued a life far from the teachings of Christ. For years, Monica watched her son make choices that broke her heart. Yet, she **never gave up hope**. Her prayers, tears, and steadfast trust in God's timing ultimately bore fruit — Augustine underwent a powerful conversion, was baptized by St. Ambrose, and eventually became one of the Church's greatest theologians and saints.

This story, while ancient, resonates deeply today. Many parents know the ache of watching a child struggle — whether academically, socially, emotionally, or spiritually. As students head back to school, they may face peer pressure, identity challenges, fear of failure, or internal doubt. In such moments, **Monica reminds us that hope is not passive**; it is active, persistent, and deeply rooted in faith.

# **Hope Amid Challenges**

Returning to school can be daunting. Some children may be entering new environments, making new friends, or adjusting to increased academic expectations. Others may be carrying unseen burdens — anxiety, learning difficulties, or the aftermath of personal or family struggles. Parents often feel

helpless, especially when their child seems unreachable or withdrawn.

St. Monica teaches us that hope does not mean ignoring pain or pretending everything is fine. She wept. She worried. But, she also prayed without ceasing and believed in God's plan even when she could not see it. Her life models the kind of hope that trusts not in circumstances, but in the loving providence of God.

This is the kind of hope we need as we send our children off to school each morning. We hope not just for good grades or perfect behavior, but for their **growth in character**, their resilience in challenges, and their awareness of God's love in their lives. Like Monica, we can anchor ourselves in prayer, trusting that no effort is wasted and that God's grace is always at work, often in hidden ways.

# **A Model for Parents and Educators**

St. Monica is not just a model for parents, but also for **teachers**, **mentors**, **and school leaders**. Like her, educators often invest themselves in the lives of students, praying that their guidance will shape young minds and hearts. Educators, like Monica, must often be both patient and hopeful.

# **Teaching Our Children to Hope**

As we invoke St. Monica's intercession, we also have an opportunity to **teach our children the virtue of hope**. In a world that often equates success with immediate results and perfection, our children need to learn how to hope in the face of failure, to get up when they fall, and to trust that their worth is not measured by grades or popularity.

Hope teaches them to believe that challenges can be overcome, that setbacks are not the end, and that with God, all things are possible. Just as Monica never gave up on her son, we must teach our children not to give up on themselves or on others.

# **Inviting St. Monica into the School Year**

As we begin this new academic year, let us turn to St. Monica in prayer:

St. Monica, mother of great perseverance and hope, pray for our children. Watch over them as they grow in knowledge, character, and faith. Strengthen the hearts of all parents and teachers, that we may guide them with patience, wisdom, and love. Intercede for us when we worry, and remind us that no prayer goes unheard. Amen.

In a world that often feels uncertain, **St. Monica shines** as a beacon of hope, reminding us that with prayer,

love, and faith, transformation is always possible — even when the path seems long. May her example encourage us to remain hopeful and steadfast, trusting that God is always at work in the lives of our children.

— David Dayler —

# St. Ann's Women's Group

Attention Ladies, our new fall program is starting soon and you're invited! "She Shall Be Called Woman" is a transformative journey designed to meet the deepest longings of the feminine heart. Our program is a sanctuary for women seeking to be truly seen, known, and loved, as they grow in their relationship with the Lord. Through vibrant conversations, authentic speakers, and enriching prayer experiences, we equip you with the tools to embark on a profound spiritual journey. Join us for food, fellowship, and faith. The program will run on Tuesdays from September 30 - Nov 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Centre meeting room. All women are welcome!

Learn more at www.SheShallBeCalledWoman.com

To register please email: saintannwwp@gmail.com.

# St. Ann's High School Youth Group

Thank you to all the students who joined us for our first Youth Group gathering last Saturday — it was a wonderful beginning!

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, September 6th at 6:00 p.m., right after Mass, in the parish hall. All students entering Grades 9 through 12 are welcome to come for food, games, friendship, and faith.

For more information, please contact us at saintannhsyg@gmail.com

# **CELEBRATE LINDA'S RETIREMENT!**

Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>, following the 11 am Mass, we will be celebrating Linda Dayler's ministerial contributions here at St Ann's. Join us following the 11 a.m. Mass for a reception and time of fellowship with Linda.

## THE LEGION OF MARY ROSARY RALLY

The Legion of Mary Rosary Rally will be held on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m. at St. Ann's. All are welcome!

# St. Ann, Pray For Us!