

We welcome you and invite you to share in the spiritual and social activities of your parish.

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St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 8:15am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Weekday Masses: Tues & Thurs: 12:05 pm

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday

4:10 pm – 4:45 pm

Pastoral Visiting Ministry

Frances Mantle; 905 844 3303

office@standrewoakville.com

Music Ministry

Stephen Hegedus, Music Director

Sarah Zbogor, Director, Children's Choir

Angela Kim, Organist

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

For those interested in the Catholic Faith please

contact Iah Jung – ijung@hamiltondiocese.com

PASTORAL STAFF

Father Joseph Akanbi ~ Pastor

Father Michael Uso-Ereyi ~ Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr. Richard Tan ~ Deacon

Iah Jung ~ Parish Life Co-ordinator

Baptisms

Please contact the office

Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office 9 to 12 months in advance

Catholic Funeral Rites

When death occurs in the family, please contact the parish office and we will assist you in making the liturgical arrangements

Office Hours

Frances Mantle, Office Administrator

Monday - Office closed

Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 am - 12:00 pm;

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm; Friday 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

The Most Holy Trinity, May 31, 2026

Upcoming Events:

May 30th/May 31st – Masterworks of Oakville Chorus and Orchestra Concert at St. Matthew's.

June 2nd @ 6pm – CWL Potluck Dinner

June 7th 2pm-4pm – Annual Strawberry Tea

June 18th – CWL Bus Trip to St. Augustine Seminary.

"Mystery So Deep-So Accessible-So Real"

+The Sign of the Cross+

We are so accustomed as Catholics to making the sign of the Cross that we seldom stop to ask what the gesture means. Making the sign of the Cross is gesture that says, in shorthand that a person is Catholic. The same sign is ubiquitous in Catholic piety (*U.S. Catholic*, vol. 60, No. 8, Aug. 1995). However, for us Catholics, the sign of the Cross is not just a formal beginning and conclusion of all prayers as it may seem. It is a very formidable prayer in itself. It is an invocation. And when it is done in public it says something, it is an act of faith. So, the sign of the Cross *speaks and confessed!*

Making the sign of the cross speaks of our belief in the saving actions of Jesus Christ. That Jesus Christ died for us on the cross to redeem us. Signing ourselves is also a constant reminder and profession of our faith that **God is One in Three persons, that God is Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit**. That is the great mystery of faith that Trinity Sunday celebrates!

Mystery of Our Faith

The Most Holy Trinity is the preacher's nightmare says Bishop Robert Barron of *Word on Fire*. It is the most fundamental mystery of our Christian faith and life. If I talk about it, I will only make it more mysterious. For, *Oh the depth of the riches both of wisdom and knowledge of God. How unsearchable are His judgements and unfathomable His ways* (Rom. 11:33). It is such a deep mystery that we can never fully comprehend its depth or get to the bottom of it; we won't just be able to wrap our head around it. Many of the brightest and greatest theological minds of all times like Sts. Augustine and Thomas Aquinas only succeeded at scratching at its surface. St. Thomas for instance admitted just before he passed unto glory that: *"all I have written (in the 'Summas') is only but a straw in the fire" ... only a tip of the iceberg!* And St. Augustine concedes, *"We are talking about God. What wonder is it that you do not understand? If you do understand, then it is not God"*.

However, the fact of the unfathomable depth of this mystery does not mean that God is not know at all. But that we can't come to full comprehension of the width and breath of the mystery of the triune God. He is known the extent to which he reveals himself. And we have come to know God with the utmost certainty of faith from what has

been revealed and passed on and through the light of reason. The fact that we cannot full comprehend it does make it less real, just as the fact that love is not "tangible" doesn't make it less true! The fact that God is beyond definition can be considered liberating (LARC, June 2020).

For many of us who read the Bible so well, in case you decide to conduct a research for the word *Trinity* in the Bible, you may get the shock of a life time, because you wouldn't find it there; just as you wouldn't find the coinages *Christmas* or *Easter*. Trinity is not explicitly found in the Christian Bible but implicitly and that what it represents and celebrates. Trinity is the name our ancestors (*cf. St. Theophilus of Antioch & Tertullian*) in faith had given to the reality of God of their faith and experience.

Testimony from the Scriptures

People of the Old Testament and adherent of the Abrahamic faith did not know about the three persons in God but they had the strong belief that there was only ONE God and that He had chosen them to be his people (*cf. Deut. 6: 4- Shema*). Gradually, in the New Testament, it is revealed that there are three persons in one God. In the Gospels, we hear of Jesus who is the image of the invisible God, the God-made-man, giving the command to baptize in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Hearing from the horse's mouth, from God who became one with us, we are more than convinced that God is Trinity and that through baptism, we are called to share the life of God. In the person of Jesus, the mystery of God has a face, a voice, a language, a love and a life.

The fact that God is one in three persons reminds us that our God is great and his greatness cannot be measured. Paul the Apostle emphasizes that even though God is so great, He is still very near to us (Rom. 8:14-17). He has made us his children. We can call him *Abba, Father*. He desires a relationship with us!

God is Trinity, and So What?

Even though we may not be able to fully understand the doctrine of the Most Blessed Trinity; we celebrate our faith in it because it helps us to ask the right question about what it means to be Christians in the world of today. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (n. 254) teaches that: *"God is ONE but not solitary."* It means that our God is relational. Since we are made in the image and likeness of God (Gn. 1:27), we are also to manifest that oneness by being single minded in the pursuit of what is True, Good and Beautiful. And to be in solidarity with people of goodwill anywhere and everywhere. Being made in the likeness of One God, three divine and distinct persons, it behooves us to value the diversity of life which surround us, no matter how annoying; to value persons irrespective of their abilities or otherwise. Our God being relational calls us to value human relationship and be truthful in them. We must learn healthy respect for one another's differences.



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL THANKS YOU

Saint Vincent de Paul would like to give a heartfelt thanks to all who generously donated to support our families in need. Your kindness bring comfort, hope and practical help to people facing difficult times. Through your generosity and prayers we have been able to lighten the burdens of those we serve. Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors in need. God bless.

Senior/Shut-in "Pilgrimage" Mass at St. Andrews.
Wednesday, June 3, 2 pm. A mass *specifically* offered for members of our community who because of mobility issues are unable to attend mass. If you have a loved one and would like to bring them to this mass which will include the Sacrament of the Sick please email gsp@standrews.gmail.com. In order to accommodate all mobility equipment within the church registration BY JUNE 1, is required.

Healing Hearts – Bereavement Peer Support –
Following the program developed by Dr. Bill Webster, our first informal drop-in session will be held on Wednesday June 3 from 7-8:30 in the Marian Room of the Parish Centre. Anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one is welcome to join. No registration is required.

SEMINARIAN DAMIAN FREDRICK is here! He came into residence this past Wednesday May 27th and has already met a few of the Parish Staff. I'm pretty sure he's looking forward to getting to meet and know the larger family of St. Andrew's even as we journey with him in discerning his vocation. **YOU ARE MOST WELCOME DAMIAN!**

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, June 7 is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ and our Scripture will be:

Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14-16

Psalms 147

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Sequence

John 6: 51- 59

Please be advised that His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has released his first encyclical, **Magnifica Humanitas** ("Magnificent Humanity"), entitled On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence. The Diocese of Hamilton has posted the encyclical on our website, including links to the full text and related Vatican resources: bit.ly/PopeLeoXIVMagnificaHumanitas

The bulletin cover shows a photograph of the Crowning of Mary on May 14th with the St. Andrew's Children's Choir.

The unity of the Trinity is love. The Father is the *Lover*, the Son is the *Beloved* and the Holy Spirit is the *Love* between (St. Augustine of Hippo). This implies that love is the very nature of God. We are therefore called in our Christian life to emulate the community of love that exists in the Trinity, a love that is selfless and all-giving. Love is the essence of the Christian life. *God is love (1Jn.4:7). The Trinity is only a technical name for that*" (G.K. Chesterton)!

SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST)

"Jesus does not just wish to be with us, but to live and be in us, so He gave us the Holy Eucharist." Next weekend 6/7th June will be the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. It is a feast that invites us as Catholics to pause and give thanks for the immense treasure of the Lord's self giving of His risen Body and Blood made present for us under sacramental signs. "If we really understood the Mass we would die of joy" says St. John Mary Vianney. **As a Eucharistic Community, we shall have the opportunity to adore our Eucharistic Lord following the 11:30pm Mass of the weekend and a short procession within our Parish space.** We are all invited to come spend some time in adoration and procession with the Lord, even if its just a few minutes.

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS will be celebrated on Friday 12th of June in our Parish at the 9:00am Mass. We are all invited to participate in this Feast of the *"Transforming Love of Christ... the living sign of Christ's love for humanity"* as Bishop Dabrowski phrases it. *In the Heart of Jesus, we encounter both the source of Divine Mercy and the call to love as He loves* says the bishop. The Solemnity will be preceded by a 9day Novena, starting on Wednesday June 3rd following the recitation of the Holy Rosary each day and throughout the month of June. We may also join the novena as a family at your convenience privately. Copies of the prayer are in the pews and on our parish website.

St. Andrew's Children's Choir Annual Strawberry Tea Sunday, June 7th, 2026 2 pm- 4pm

Join us for a delightful afternoon full of tradition as our young choristers perform many of your favourite songs. Enjoy a scrumptious English high tea and wear your best hat or fascinator. Don't miss out on this fun afternoon with door prizes, raffle prizes and so much more!
Tickets are \$30. per attendee and will be available for purchase after all masses on Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31. A limited number of tickets are available in the church office.

Methods of payment include e-transfer, cash or cheque.

Tickets sell out so don't be disappointed. **For more**

information please contact:

sachildrenschoir@gmail.com



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