

Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Parish, Waterloo

CONTACT US

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www.facebook.com/OLOLWaterloo/ https://twitter.com/our_parish

PARISH TEAM

Pastor: Rev. Rafal Tomon lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Patrycja Wiecek lourdeswaterloo@rogers.com



The Nativity of the Lord

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Dec 20 to Dec 25

Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	+ Marguerite & Emmanuel Freitas – Geoff & Pat Wall
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	+ Michael Murray – Rosemarie Murray
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	+ Angela Ianni Carmela Garasto
Friday	8:30 a.m.	+ Jack Cassidy – Joan Cassidy
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	+ Albin Perko – Niklaus Potvin
Christmas Eve	7:00 p.m.	Special Intention
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Living & deceased members of our parish
Christmas Day		
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Spiritual Bouquet BISHOP CROSBY'S 25TH Anniversary of Ordination
Christmas Day		

Offertory Collection for Sunday, Dec 4 & 11, 2022: \$6,744.15
(Note: This amount does not include donations received through pre-authorized giving.)

Monthly Budget Review as of Dec 11, 2022		
Cumulative financial objective – 50 weeks @ \$7,500		\$375,000.00
Weekly contributions year to date	\$158,064.88	
Pre-authorized giving (year to date)	\$128,726.89	\$286,791.77
Over (under) objective		-\$88,208.23

OUR LADY OF LOURDES SMALL FAITH GROUP – invites you to join in our living rosary and pray for the needs of the parish and the community in December 2022 and January 2023. Members of the Small Faith Group believe Christmas lights remind us for our need of light, both the physical light to see by and the spiritual light to live by. For the coming months, we would like to encourage everyone to actively seek our Light that delivers us from all darkness, so that darkness will not prevail but serves the Light! The prayer intentions of our Dec 2022 and Jan 2023 Living Rosary are as follows:

- 1. We pray that God brings light into our darkness. May His light shine brightly in our broken world and bring hope to our hearts.**
- 2. Pope Francis' prayer intentions: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations (December 2022) and For Educators (January 2023)**
- 3. The sick and their caregivers.**
- 4. The living and deceased members of our parish.**
- 5. The special intentions of the members of our parish.**

By volunteering, you will be responsible to say one decade of the mysteries of the Rosary every day for the coming months. If you are interested or would like more information, please sign up online <https://forms.gle/97uQaHrRmavZWpy86>.

CHRISTMAS FLORAL TRIBUTE: During the Holy Season of Christmas, it is a fitting gesture to dedicate floral tributes to be placed in the church in memory of deceased relatives and friends. These tributes are a sign of remembrance and an expression of faith in Christ's promise of eternal life. Forms are available at the church entrance if you wish to make such a tribute. The floral tribute sheets will be placed in the sanctuary in a gift-wrapped box. Those loved ones named will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.



DIOCESAN BOOKKEEPING POLICY: As we approach year end, parishioners frequently wish to make contributions to the church that will be credited to their tax receipt for the current year. Diocesan bookkeeping policy requires that parish books close on **December 31**. Contributions made in January cannot be applied to 2022 offerings.

please join us

Our Lady of Lourdes Café

Open Next
on Sunday, **Jan 8, 2023**
after 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Mass in the parish hall.

MENU: Coffee, tea \$1
Cake & desserts \$2

BAKERS ARE NEEDED AND VOLUNTEERS
Sales from Dec 11, 2022, were \$205.75
All proceeds from OLOL Café will go to support parish committees.
Please be a part of something extraordinary.
Please call the parish office if you can help as we hope to have the Café open **2nd Sunday** of the Month.

HELPING CHILDREN THROUGH OUR BOWING ANGEL: A long-standing tradition at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is the presence of the bowing angel by the manger scene, who graciously bows her head after an offering is made. Again, this year, all donations received from the bowing angel will be sent to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Children's Project in Kenya who work with children whose parents have died of HIV-AIDS. Since the bowing angel cannot digest paper, a plate will be by the angel to accept paper offerings. (Cheques should be made payable to "Our Lady of Lourdes Church".)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Any time is a good time to invite family, friends, and neighbours to attend Mass. Especially so during the beautiful Christmas season. What better gift can we give a loved one who is away from the Church than a warm invitation to Come Home for Christmas? Whether they have been away for a short time or a long time, we want all Catholics to know that they are warmly welcomed back to our Parish community. Please consider extending this invitation to loved ones, neighbours, and colleagues – for more information, visit <http://hamiltondiocese.com>

WITH THE UPDATE of our rectory fence, we tried to save and repurpose the savable weathered old fence boards, as we had a brand-new fence installed in May 2022. Father Rafal, recognizing these fence boards were something special as they served, Msgr. Sheridan, Fr. Hughes, and Fr. Tomon. Father gave these boards to a carpenter to create something special. During our time of preparation for Advent, and the anticipation of Christmas and our bowing angel is ready. We will auction off this handmade church replica birdhouse to the highest bidder. The proceeds of the sale will go directly to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Mission Fund, for the building of a new school and orphanage in northern Kenya for children whose parents have died from HIV-AIDS. We would like to ask for a starting bid of \$100.00 with increments of \$50. We pray and hope that this church replica birdhouse will help our beloved School Sisters of Notre Dame reach closer to their fundraising goal. Thank you! **To place a bid please contact our parish office**



DO YOU ENJOY SINGING? DO YOU LOVE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON? We are seeking volunteers to sing at 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. **Christmas Eve Mass** and 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. **Christmas Morning Mass.** Practice will be held in the Parish



Hall downstairs. Everyone is welcome to join 12+. If you have any questions and to confirm the practice date and time, please email contact Bruce Cameron at brucecameron57@gmail.com and/or April Philpotts at aprilnotes@yahoo.ca.



Prayer Shawls for Christmas: Our ladies have been busy. We have created 675 beautiful shawls since the onset of this special ministry and have been blessed to be able to provide peace and comfort to many of our parishioners, both young and old. We have also given many shawls to those in need at different organizations, such as Innisfree, the Catholic Missions and, of late, the St. Mary's Spiritual Care Dept. We still have many wonderful shawls from which to choose for someone you know who can benefit from their warmth and prayers, especially at this Christmas season. There are shawls in many colours (for women, men, teenagers, and children) and in different shapes (rectangles, triangles, lap blankets and even ones with sleeves).

Please call Peggy Dietrich at 519-725-5847 if you would like a shawl and many thanks to all who have provided us with yarn and donations. Merry Christmas!!!



COOKIES FOR SHUT-INS: Your response to this request was well beyond expectations!

Each of our over 100 shut-ins and those in need received a beautiful tin containing over four dozen cookies. The 23 residents at the Underhill Residence at Erb and Avondale each received a box also filled with cookies. All the recipients of your generosity were touched by this gesture of kindness. May your celebration of Christmas be filled with joy as you recall the happiness your cookies brought to those special people within our community. Thank you for making this tradition at Lourdes so successful. With prayers of thanksgiving Fr. Rafal

Starting Dec 1, we are continuing a parish family Christmas tradition. It will focus on giving and the true meaning of Christmas. **The Giving Manger** will help families shift their focus of Christmas back to giving. You will be asked to place a piece of straw in the manger located at Mary's altar, for each kind deed or act of service performed. On Christmas Day, Baby Jesus will be placed in the Church manger filled with service and love. We ask each family to work together to give gifts of service to one another, and you will find your hearts and home filled with more joy during the holiday season than ever before.



MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY (USHERS): Men and women of the parish are invited to serve as ministers of hospitality (ushers) on Christmas Eve (5:00 and 7:00 p.m.) and at midnight Mass as we welcome one and all to our parish for Christmas, sign up sheet at the back of the church.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BEARERS: Volunteers are needed to serve as gift bearers at our Christmas Masses: 5:00 p.m. (Pageant) and 7:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, midnight Mass and 9:00 a.m. on Christmas Day. You are also welcomed to volunteer as gift bearers for New Year's Eve/Day.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

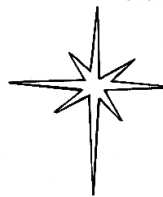
CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24, 2022
At 5:00 p.m. with pageant
and 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25, 2022,
at 12:00 a.m.
& 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Before the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day there will be a program of Christmas carols. Please come early.



Feast of the Holy Family

Friday, December 30, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.



Feast of Mary, Mother of God: New Year's Day

Saturday, December 31, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Feast of the EpiphanyRegular weekend Mass times

Your generous contributions to the weekly Sunday collection, as well as the special collections throughout the year, are deeply appreciated. May your Christmas offering be from a heart filled with gratitude for the blessings the Lord has given you. Thank you

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and New Year 2023!

Fr. Rafal



Thinking of buying or selling? I can HELP! I have a team of professionals who will make the process go as smooth as possible. I have been a member of Our Lady of Lourdes church for 25 yrs and would love the opportunity to help my fellow parishioners with their real estate needs.

Charlene Cardow 519-498-3274 **RE/MAX**

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