

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

(FOUNDED IN 1849)

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.ca

2016 Blairholm Avenue, Burlington, On. L7R 1V4

905-634-2485 FAX 905-634-6460



Rev. Robert Sims, Pastor
Rev. Mr. Rob Thomas, Deacon
S. Suzanne Medley, Office Manager
Leslie Polci, Director of Music
Victor Liskauskas, Custodian

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon, 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday Closed

WEEKEND LITURGY

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGY

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 6:15 - 6:45 p.m.
Saturday 11:30 a.m. - 12 noon, and by appointment

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Tuesday evening Mass

SACRED HEART DEVOTION

First Friday of every month at 8:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS

Please take a baptism package from the tables in the church entrances.

MARRIAGES

Please contact the Pastor at least nine months in advance.

PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

For more information or assistance contact our parish priest(s) or see www.vocationinfo.ca

MINISTRY TO SICK/SHUT-INS

Please notify the Rectory Office and arrange Communion.

CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES

When a death occurs in your family please advise the priest immediately and they will assist you in making the liturgical arrangements. For information on Catholic burial, contact the cemetery office at 905-522-7727 or 1-800-661-5985.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We invite you to take the time to complete a census form, located at all doors of the church. Please drop it into the collection basket.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All bulletin announcements MUST be received by the parish office no later than Monday at 3:30 p.m. to ensure publication in the upcoming Sunday Bulletin.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT EVERY FRIDAY AFTER 9 AM MASS - 12 NOON



Mass Intentions

"...stand secure before the Son of Man."

- Luke 21:36

Monday December 3 – St. Francis Xavier

Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11, 13++ – No Mass

Tuesday December 4

Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24

7 PM – Lillian & Edward Scime

Wednesday December 5

Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37

9 AM – Ronald Scherloskie

Thursday December 6

Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

9 AM – Vicky Vancas

Friday December 7 – St. Ambrose

Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31

9 AM – Rose Giancola

Saturday December 8 – Immaculate Conception of Mary

Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

5 PM – William & Mary Lowry

Sunday December 9 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

9 AM – Pro Populo (for the parishioners)

11 AM – Louis Soldo



Our Parish

Monday December 3

CWL Potluck – 6 PM – Hall

Emotions Anonymous Meeting – 7 PM – WR

Tuesday December 4

CWL Craft Group – 10 AM – Hall

Wednesday December 5

Legion of Mary – 9:30 AM – WR

Women's AA Group – 6:15 PM – Hall

Thursday December 6

Cenacle Group – 9:30 AM – WR

Christian Meditation – 1 PM – WR

Choir Practice – 7 PM – Church

Friday December 7

AA Meeting – 9 PM – Hall



Christmas cakes and Christmas cards will be available at the Brant Street entrance after all Masses this weekend.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday, December 24: 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 12 midnight

Tuesday, December 25: 10 a.m.

Confession Schedule

Tuesday, December 18: 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, December 19: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday, December 20: 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, December 22: 11 a.m. to noon

CWL Message

Please mark Wednesday, December 12 on your calendar as our C.W.L. is hosting an **Advent Morning of Reflection**, facilitated by Father Bob Sims from 9 a.m. to noon. All women of the parish and beyond are invited to attend and bring a friend. Registration forms are at all the church doors. The morning will begin with Mass at 9, followed by Fr. Bob's talk, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation and closes at noon with Benediction. For information, phone Marie at 905-637-1677.

The Giving Tree will be up until December 9. Note that our **Christmas Potluck** will be on Monday, December 3 at 6 p.m. in the parish hall. Please bring a dish to share, your own plate and cutlery and a \$5 wrapped gift to be used for Bingo prizes. Tea and coffee will be provided.

WRAP (White Ribbon Against Pornography) - Research has shown that pornography exposure is addictive, connected to domestic violence, sexual abuse, sex trafficking and abortion. In order to protect our children from exposure to pornographic websites, please pick up a sample letter asking Justice Minister, J. Wilson-Raybould and our government, to create laws requiring mandatory age verification for accessing these websites. Also send copies to Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau and to your MP. No postage is required. Sample letters are at all church doors and you may leave your signed letter, including address, in the box provided if you would like us to send them for you.

Calling all Singers

Singers (adults and teens) are needed for the **Christmas Eve Masses** at 5 & 7 p.m. Children, are you interested in singing in the **Children's Choir** at 5 p.m.? Please come up to the loft and see Leslie after Mass for more information. Thanks!

FORMED Presents Advent Reflections:

Preparing for the birth of our Saviour

How will you prepare for Christmas? This Advent, enrich your daily prayer by walking with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal. Ready your heart for the coming of Christ. Sign up to watch an inspiring video reflection from Dr. Tim Gray, read a passage from the Word of God and Reflect on how you can prepare for Christ's coming every day of Advent. Sign up from our St John the Baptist page on FORMED.org in the "Community" tab. Not registered on FORMED yet? Register at saintjohnthebaptist.formed.org and follow the instructions.

Children's Liturgy Message: The children will be performing the Christmas Gospel this year at the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. If your children would like to participate, e-mail childrensliturgystjohns@gmail.com or phone Anne Marie at 905-317-3539. There will be 2-3 small practices after 11 a.m. Mass to prepare during the month of December.

IN THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Hamilton is conducting the One Heart, One Soul Campaign to raise money for every parish in the Diocese and for shared ministries. A compilation of all frequently asked questions are available throughout the campaign at oneheartonesoul.ca.

Who will actually conduct the campaign at each parish?

The Diocese, with the help of the Steier Group, will manage the overall campaign effort, including the preparation of materials. At each parish, the pastor will identify campaign leaders who will work with the Steier Group. Those parish leaders will help recruit other volunteers to form a campaign team that will conduct the personal visits and other elements that are the key to the success of the campaign.

How much help with the campaign can the parish expect to get from the Diocese and the consulting firm?

The Diocese will pay the financial costs of the campaign. Parishes will not be responsible for any campaign expenses such as postage, printing or Diocesan events held at the parish. If a parish hosts an event to promote the campaign to its parishioners, the parish will bear those costs. In addition, several Steier Group Campaign Managers will guide the parishes through the process. Each parish will be assigned to

one of four "waves." The parish will be responsible for forming a team of volunteers that implements the necessary elements of the process.

How long will this take?

On a Diocesan level, the entire campaign will run through early 2021. On a parish level, there will be four campaign "waves." A parish's particular wave will run for six to seven months. That includes preparation, solicitation and follow-up phases. The active solicitation period will last three to four months.

What happens if our parish doesn't hit its financial goal?

A clergy committee will implement policies that all parishes will follow on such questions. There will be incentives for parishes to reach their goals. Parishes not reaching their goals face the prospect of not being able to complete needed projects.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN

Programs are available for children from Kindergarten through high school who are not currently receiving religious instruction (i.e. in a public or private school). These instructions prepare your child for the reception of the sacraments of **First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation**. Visit www.hamiltondiocese.com or phone Monica at 905-528-7988, ext. 2238.

IN OTHER PARISHES

An **Advent Retreat** will be held at Mary Mother of God Parish, 2745 North Ridge Trail, Oakville, on Saturday, December 8 from 9 a.m. until noon. Join "*Attentiveness to the Lord's Presence*" for meditation, Mass and fellowship, Marian Consecration at 12 p.m. Bring your own lunch – suggested donation is \$10. To register, e-mail Tawnya at tawnyaarsenault@gmail.com or online at www.regnumchristiontario.org.

A **Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long** is taking place on Wednesday, December 19 at 7 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle parish in Burlington. Your free-will offering will go to support a refugee family.

Join a **Taize Musical Advent Service** on Thursday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel's Church, Burlington. This is a night of lights and reflection with refreshments to follow. All are welcome.

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