

ST RAPHAEL PARISH COMMUNITY

4072 New Street (corner of New St. and Longmoor Dr.) Burlington, ON L7L 1S9
Tel: 905.637.2346 Email: office@straphaels.ca Website: www.StRaphaels.ca



Fr. Frank Wagner, C.S.C. - Pastor
Fr. Francis Salasiar, C.S.C. - Associate Pastor

Mrs. Rosanne Nusca - Office Manager
Ms. Maureen Lawlor - Office Assistant

OFFICE HOURS Mon-Fri 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Saturday 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
closed on Statutory Holidays

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Mon - Fri 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM
or by appointment

PRAYER BEFORE WEEKDAY MASS

8:00 AM in the Adoration Chapel
8:30 AM Rosary in the church

PERPETUAL ADORATION

We encourage you to spend some time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel, anytime, day or night.

SACRAMENTS BAPTISMS & BECOMING ROMAN CATHOLIC

- For newborns, every first and third Sunday at 1:00 PM
- For school aged children, after being catechized.
- For adults interested in becoming Roman Catholic call the office for more information.

WEDDINGS

Please contact us at least one year in advance.

MINISTRY TO AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please advise us if you have someone ill at home, in the hospital, or in a local nursing home so that we can minister to them.

FUNERALS

Please contact us and your choice of funeral home. For information on Catholic burial, please contact the cemetery office at 905.522.7727 or 1.800.661.5985, or visit www.TheCatholicCemeteries.ca

PARISH SCHOOLS

- Assumption High School 905.634.1835
- St. Raphael's Elementary 905.637.3810
- St. Paul's Elementary 905.632.1424

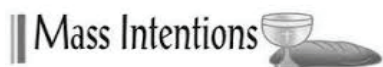
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HOTLINE
905.681.6394

Archangel St. Raphael "God is my Healer"

The angel of joy; patron of: travellers, bearers of good news and men and women seeking a good spouse.

See the Book of Tobit, especially chapter 12

Please visit these websites: The Diocese of Hamilton HamiltonDiocese.com
Catholics Come Home www.CatholicsComeHome.org Vocations www.HamiltonDiocese.org



Monday, December 12 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Stephen Dunn

Tuesday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Santa Lucia

Wednesday, December 14 at 9:00 a.m.
St. Raphael School Mass
+ Marie Hendreken

Thursday, December 15 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Joan Brazier; + Clinton Cox;
Ints. Sylvia Gzik; Ints. Cathy VanHeukelom;
Ints. Claire Starr

Friday, December 16 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Anita Bannan

Saturday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m.
+ Rose Marie & Vincenzo Luppino;
+ Diana Raposo; + Clinton Cox;
Ints. Nereus Rodrigues

Sunday, December 18
9:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:00 a.m. Ints. Lynn Gzik

Please pray for the following:

Isabelle Wild	Molly Laporte	Barbara Kennedy
John Scharer	Nicola Izzi	Maritza Garcia
Mary Berry	Sarah Scharer	Gonzalez
Doug Pudsey	Vincent Stanford	Michael Dowson
Sylvia Gzik	Jim Singer	Milan Heck
Rosy Santos Perez	Catherine Gee	Helen Wepler
John O'Boyle	Elizabeth Talatala	Jane Urquhart
Frances Wentges	Maria Szkitalinski	Laith Yousif
Diane Svazas	Sr Rosalie Siegler	Irene Groves

If you would like a loved one prayed for by the parish and included in the weekend Prayers of the Faithful, please call the Parish Office by Tuesday a.m.



OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, December 4th \$ 5,883.00

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

2017 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your 2017 Envelopes in the parish entrance, next to the Religious Articles Store. Please open your box to find a letter from our Pastoral Team and Finance Council. Forms to enroll in our Pre-Authorized Giving Plan are also available in the parish entrance or the parish office. Please contact the office if you require any assistance.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: The Decoration Group invites Parishioners to bring in red or white poinsettias (or a combination of red and white) to put around the Altar in memory of a loved one. Please bring in flowers **no later**

than Friday, December 23rd at 5:00PM. Flowers can be left in the parish entrance. Thank you for your generosity.

THIRD DAY OF THE LORD IN ADVENT

Be patient for the Lord is near

The Third Sunday of Advent liturgy is signaled by the **rose colour** of the liturgical décor and the **call to rejoice**. Isaiah's prophetic voice reminds us to sing for joy at the **blossoming of the desert** and the **healing of the afflicted**. The same joy is echoed in the **signs of healing by Jesus the initiator of the Messianic Reign**. St. Paul counsels us to **be patient for the coming of the Lord** more deeply in our lives as the farmer who awaits the precious crops and the Prophets who suffered while awaiting the Messiah. *Fr. Frank,*

We are called to be people who bring joy to a fearful world. The basic attitude of a Christian is joy. And the Lord is close to you and to me. He is closer to us than our fondest imagination. **The Kingdom of God is at hand**, as close to us as our hand is to our face. God loves us. He cares for us. We are His. His Son, Jesus is with us. His Spirit is our life-force. Our lives have meaning, and purpose. Our lives will have fulfillment. **The New World of the Kingdom of God is so close. We must rejoice!**
Msgr. Joe Pelligrino

CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY CHILDREN PAGEANTS

Any children wishing to take part in the Christmas Eve Pageant at the 5 p.m. Mass, please note that rehearsals will take place Friday, Dec 16th at 5:30-7:30pm and Friday, Dec 23rd at 5:30-7:30 pm. Rehearsals for the Epiphany enactment for the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. masses on Jan 8th will be Friday, Jan 6th, 5:30-7:30 pm. Please contact Charlie at 905-681-6221, bcarpenter2@cogeoc.ca with your name and contact information.

FATHER FRANK'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY: Come and join us for coffee and dessert on **Sunday, Dec 18** after the 11:00 am Mass in the parish centre to celebrate Father Frank's 50 years as a priest. If you can volunteer to help or donate a dessert please call Marlene Cox @ 905-634-0733 or mjc1@sympatico.ca. A sign-up sheet for food donations is located in the parish entrance. Desserts, fruit/veggie trays can be dropped off on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 1-3, also before 10 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: Please note the following submission deadlines for bulletin announcements: Monday, Dec. 12 at 9 a.m. for December 17/18 bulletin Thursday, Dec. 15 at 9 a.m. for the Christmas bulletin Tuesday, Dec. 20 at 9 a.m. for the Jan 1, 2017 bulletin.

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN: If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin in your inbox, send a request to bulletin@straphaels.ca.



Are you looking for a king, a head of state, a financier? Jesus is not here. Go down, my friend, among the poor. You'll find him there for sure.



ST. RAPHAEL EVERGREEN CORNER

Pope Francis writes: *"The earth's resources are also being plundered because of short-sighted approaches to*

the economy, commerce and production. The loss of forests and woodlands entails the loss of species which may constitute extremely important resources in the future, not only for food but also for curing disease and other uses. Different species contain genes which could be key resources in years ahead for meeting human needs and regulating environmental problems." Laudato si #32

Having a Green Christmas does not need to be a challenge! We can protect the biodiversity of our world, which is God's gift to us, in a number of different ways! When we use wrapping paper to wrap our Christmas gifts, we in effect promote the cutting down of trees and degradation of forests and we also create more garbage and pollution! Christmas wrapping paper cannot be recycled! Instead of using wrapping paper consider using a cloth bag, decorated newsprint or plain brown paper.

Perhaps you might even use some of the paper from Christmas flyers to wrap gifts. Did you know that **Burlington Green is offering to wrap Christmas Gifts in environmentally friendly wrap at Mountain Equipment Co-op on the weekend of Dec. 10-11th?**

Trees are home to many of our bird friends, insects and animals. Make a **gift to nature this Christmas** by hanging a **bird feeder** or better still give a gift of a bird feeder to a child in your family. Consider buying a **green plant** for a loved one. Plants, seasonal bulbs, herbs and trees provide enjoyment and hope that last long past Christmas. Purchase a **fabric bag gift** that can be folded and easily carried for shopping. Consider purchasing a **refillable water bottle** as a gift for family members and friends, and buy one for yourself while you are at it! Send **e-cards** and Christmas greetings rather than purchasing and sending cards in the mail. If you are thinking of purchasing a Christmas tree, purchase a live tree that can be composted after Christmas or consider a **live tree in a pot** that can be planted in the spring! **Think Green this Christmas!**

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: The Aboriginal Council and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops have promoted the annual National Day of Prayer since 2002. It is celebrated on **December 12**, the memorial of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**, whom Pope Pius XII proclaimed patroness of the Americas in 1946. The devotion dates to 1531 when the Blessed Mother appeared as an Aztec princess to a humble Aboriginal peasant, Saint Juan Diego [Feast day is December 9], at a place called the Hill of Tepeyac, which eventually became part of Villa de Guadalupe, a suburb of Mexico City. **Pope Francis** will celebrate Mass in Saint Peter's Basilica on December 12 in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe, with prayers especially for the Church in the Americas. The celebration will be accompanied by a number of ancient liturgical hymns composed in various Indigenous languages from Central America.

BOOMERANG CARDS: The **last** card session of 2016 will be **Monday, December 12th** and will resume on Monday, January 9th, 2017.



ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATION

Monday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m. (Family Mass with dramatization),
8:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25

8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

ANNUAL FUNERAL COMMITTEE LUNCHEON: This year 21 of us gathered at the Mandarin to celebrate our Christmas luncheon. A good time was had by all. A very big thank you to all the ladies for their generous gift. Thank you to all for their time and efforts this past year.
Marlene

SUSPENSION OF FUNERAL LUNCHEONS: Due to the elevator construction/noise and in order to complete the project on time the funeral luncheons will no longer be available Monday through Friday effective immediately until spring. However, in the meantime, Saturday Funeral Luncheons will be available. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

BOTTLE DRIVE UPDATE: We are currently taking a break from the bottle drive and we will resume in the new year. Please keep your bottles for the drive and bring them in the weekend of January 7/8. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Also, in the new year we are looking for volunteers to take a weekend for the bottle drive collection and return bottles to the beer store. Please contact Lesley at 905-637-0373 if you can help.

PENANCE CELEBRATIONS: St. Patrick Parish, Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

2016 WHITE MASS – Consistent with the white coats and uniforms formerly worn by physicians and nurses, the WHITE MASS is celebrated annually for the spiritual support of healthcare professionals, clergy, chaplains and all caregivers. Join ACTheals, Hamilton Region as we welcome Fr. Ted Slaman, who will celebrate this year's WHITE MASS on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, **Monday, December 12th at 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church**, 2261 Parkway Dr. Refreshments and video of Our Lady of Guadalupe to follow. A good will offering would be appreciated to help cover expenses. For more information please call 905-335-6902.

EUTHANASIA/ASSISTED – DID YOU KNOW?

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Doctors who object to helping to kill their patients see a direct referral as being an accomplice to assisted suicide. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide has forced health care workers or facilities to act against their conscience. 8 other provinces in Canada have adopted protocols to protect doctors and institutions. Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more and to write directly to the Ontario government.

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