

# 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](mailto:office@straphaels.ca) Website: [www.StRaphaels.ca](http://www.StRaphaels.ca)

*Served by the Holy Cross Fathers*

Fr. Francis Salasiar C.S.C. - Pastor

Fr. Roshan D'Souza C.S.C. - Associate Pastor

Anna-Marie Grimminck - Office Manager

Ms. Maureen Lawlor - Office Assistant



*prepare the way...*

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Monday, December 23** at 9:00 a.m.  
+ Richard McAuliffe

**Tuesday, December 24**  
5:00 p.m. + John Yurincich  
8:00 p.m. + Margaret & Bernard LeGree  
10:00 p.m. + Tony Ogborn

**Wednesday, December 25**  
8:30 a.m. + Emil Komac  
10:00 a.m. + Pasquale Biello  
12:00 noon Ints. Angela Gillies

**Thursday, December 26** at 9:00 a.m.  
Ints. Louisa Miranda; Ints. Roselynn Brown;  
+ Erminio D'Alessandro; + Mary Gagula; + Bill Scott

**Friday, December 27** at 9:00 a.m.  
+ Walter Daciuk

**Saturday, December 28** at 5:00 p.m.  
+ Danilo & Daria Del Rosario; + Bill Jennings;  
+ Bertilo Beraldo; + Arthur Wilcock;  
+ Angelo Ligotti; + Danny Poliziani Sr.

**Sunday, December 29**  
9:00 a.m. + Francis Onuska  
11:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners



**ST. RAPHAEL GREEN CORNER**  
*Pope Francis writes: "...Purchasing is always a moral – and not simply economic – act". [146] Today, in a word, "the issue of environmental degradation challenges us to examine our lifestyle". [147] Laudato Si' #206*

**Did you know:** food waste has reached massive proportions across the planet with much of the food produced, then wasted. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, between 25% to 30% of all the food that is produced winds up being lost or wasted worldwide.

<https://www.sustainability-times.com/green-consumerism/un-food-waste-alone-leaves-a-vast-carbon-footprint/#disqus>

**PLANNING A ZERO-WASTE CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
Want to help wage war on Christmas food waste? Plan your food needs in advance to reduce the impact on the planet and shop for local, organic produce whenever possible. It's natural to succumb to seasonal treats and when you are catering for family and friends its easy to end up with surplus supplies. To avoid food wastage, plan your meals carefully so you are not buying food you and your family won't eat. If you think there may be more leftover food than you need, invite guests to bring a container with them to take home extra food.

Alternatively, plan to have your own reusable containers handy to package and freeze leftovers for future meals. Don't forget to plan for turkey soup! Everyone loves hot soup in the winter. Remember to check serving sizes when purchasing meat such as turkey or chicken or other meat. If you are not sure, ask someone in the meat department of your local grocery store!  
Merry Christmas to you, to Your Family and Friends

**IN OUR PARISH**



**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** The decoration group invites parishioners to bring in **RED AND WHITE** poinsettias or flowers for Christmas to decorate our parish. If you would like to remember a loved one, feel free to include a small card with their name on it. Please bring plants/flowers to the back of the church no later than **Mon. Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> before 12 noon** for the decoration group to place around the church for Christmas. Thank-you for your generosity.



**BOOMERANG CARDS:** There will be no cards on **Mon. Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>** or **Mon. Dec 30<sup>th</sup>**. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Cards will resume on Mon. Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**PLEASE NOTE BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS DEADLINES:**  
Fri. December 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 am for January 5<sup>th</sup> bulletin.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** interested in becoming a member? Call the SSVP Hotline 905-681-6394 (also listed on the cover of the Parish Bulletin). For more info., see our bulletin board in the church foyer.

**Please pray for the following:**

John Scharer	Nicola Izzi	Barbara Kennedy
Mary Berry	Sarah Scharer	Maritza Garcia
Doug Pudsey	Jim Singer	Gonzalez
Peggy Evans	Elizabeth Talatala	Milan Heck
Jill Ascah	Asia Rae Landry	Helen Weppler
Lee Olds	Noah Landry	Jane Urquhart
Stephen Pustai	Alison Zierl	Laith Yousif
Michael Smart	Rosario Herve	Mary Lilly
Kyle Elliott	Jill Olds	Vincent Stanford
Karen Beeho	Joanne Pringle	Lucie Jennings
Pat Malcolm	Aileen Smith	Frank Clarke
Elizabeth Elder	Robert Connelly	Marie Bond
Michael Colameco	Jones Rodney	Sandra Beyer
Joseph & Madeleine	Barbara Fisher	Tony Hymes
Zucco	Laurie Suddaby	Helen Sheehan
Ron Robertson	Gary Olds	

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



**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> - Envelopes (226) \$4928.00  
- Christmas (3) \$121.00  
- Loose \$573.00  
- Accessibility (55) \$1099.20

**Thank you for your continued support!**

On the **Fourth Sunday of Advent**, we read in **Matthew's Gospel** about Joseph and his decision to divorce the pregnant Mary. An angel comes to Joseph: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

Used with permission from University's **Online Ministries** web site:  
<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>

**2019 YEAR-END DONATIONS:** Parishioners and visitors who wish to make a year-end donation to St. Raphael parish for 2019 are encouraged to do so **by the end of 11am Mass on Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup>**. Donations received after Dec 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am will be receipted for 2020. As a registered charitable organization, the parish must comply with these CRA Guidelines. Your understanding and timely support is appreciated.

**2020 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** Please pick up your envelopes in the parish entrance, by the elevator, sorted alphabetically by last name. Please contact the office if you currently don't have envelopes but would like a box. Forms to enroll in our Pre-Authorized Giving Plan are also available. For assistance please contact the parish office.



**WE NEED HELP TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY:** by bringing communion to people who are homebound or in long term care or in the hospital. What a beautiful, helpful and rewarding ministry! If you have about an hour or two every 4 weeks to give to this ministry, please call for information. We will help in every way we can, questions, training, etc. Please inquire. Call Wilma 905-870-0641.

**DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE:** Please keep the cancelled stamps from Christmas cards and letters you receive this Christmas for a D&P fundraiser. The stamps can be placed in the large envelope on the Social Justice Board in the Parish Foyer! Thank you and Merry Christmas!

**NEW SUNDAY MISSALS:** If you would like your own copy of the 2019-2020 Sunday Missal please purchase them in the Religious Article Store after Mass for \$5.

**ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATION**

Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas Eve: Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 pm (Family Mass with dramatization),  
8:00 pm, 10:00 pm

**Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 am, 10 am, 12 noon

Feast of the Holy Family

**Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 pm Mass

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am, 11:00 am

Feast of Mary Mother of God

**New Year Eve: Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

5:00 pm

**New Year's Day: Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

10:00 am

(along with Sundays, Christmas and the Feast of Mary mother of God (New Year's Mass) are Holy Days of obligation in Canada)

**Merry Christmas**

On behalf of our office staff, Fr. Roshan and myself, I want to wish you, your family and friends a joyful and Merry Christmas. As you enjoy the beauty of this season and celebrate the gift of our Savior may He fill you with Joy and surround you with Love. Our Prayerful wishes to you all. We are so glad that you are able to join us to celebrate the birth of Christ. *Fr. Francis*  
On behalf of Fr. Roshan and myself I want to wish you



**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday, December 23: 9AM – 4PM  
Tuesday, December 24: 9AM - NOON  
Wednesday, December 25: Closed  
Thursday, December 26: Closed  
Friday, December 27: 9AM – 4PM  
Saturday December 28: 3:30 PM – 6:30 PM  
Sunday December 29: 9 AM – 1 PM  
Monday, December 30: 9AM – 4PM  
Tuesday, December 31: 9AM - NOON  
Wednesday, January 1: Closed  
Thursday, January 2: Closed  
Friday, January 3: 9AM – 4 PM

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2019 FROM THE BISHOP**

For many, Christmas is a wonderful time of year! Homes are decorated, families gather, gifts are shared, the best meal of the year is served, and the music at Christmas Masses is always uplifting – to say nothing of the Christmas homily!

Sadly, for others Christmas is a time to dread! The unemployed, those who are on the streets, those who are alone perhaps isolated from family, those who are in prison, those who are in hospitals or suffering from mental health or other serious illnesses, and those who are mourning the loss of a loved one, can find this time of year challenging and very difficult indeed!

If we have been blessed, we must bless. Can we make the Christmas season a time of blessing for others? We bless when we recognize others to be sisters and brothers, and treat them with the dignity that is theirs, listening to them and speaking to them with respect and affirmation. We bless when we support the *Good Shepherd Ministries* of Brothers of St. John of God, the *DeMazenod Door* at St. Patrick Parish, Hamilton, the *Out of the Cold* programs, hospice care and other similar programs in our Diocese, where people are respectfully cared for and lovingly nourished!

At Christmas, we celebrate our belief that "God comes to us"! God comes to us as a baby, unthreatening, dependent, and in simplicity. All we have to do is open our hearts to welcome the Lord of life and love. We recognize and welcome Him in every person who comes to us in the same simplicity of spirit, seeking from us the same generous greeting of peace.

May God bless you this Christmas and always! Let us pray for one another.

Sincerely yours in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

*+Douglas Crosby, OMI*

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, O.M.I.

Bishop of Hamilton

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