



Monday, December 27 at 9:00 am + Luisa Candelaria

Tuesday, December 28 at 9:00 am + Anne-Mary Hoang Thi Hoe

Wednesday, December 29 at 9:00 am Ints. Rev. Ranjan D'Sa

Thursday, December 30 at 9:00 am Ints. Jonathan Fowler; Ints. Heald Family Ints. Rev. Francis Salasiar C.S.C.; + Rita Carubba + Claire Fedeyko; + Peter Peloso

> Friday, December 31 at 5:00 pm + Roberto Moniz

Saturday, January 1 9:00 am + Souls in Purgatory 11:00 am + Patrick Keenan

## Sunday, January 2

9:00 am For Our Parishioners 11:00 am + Theresa Ngo Thu Ha

#### Please prav for:

Jasmine Leigh Emma Goodale Vanessa Rodrigues Albert Rodrigues John Scharer Doug Pudsey Peggy Evans Lee Olds Stephen Pustai Michael Smart Kyle Elliott Elizabeth Elder Heather Allen Frank Sicoli Nicola Izzi

Joseph & Madeleine Zucco Sarah Scharer Elizabeth Talatala Asia Rae Landry Noah Landry Alison Zierl Rosario Herve Jill Olds Joanne Pringle Robert Connelly Jones Rodney Barbara Fisher Laurie Suddaby Rev. Fred Olds

James Cook Maritza Garcia Gonzalez Milan Heck Helen Weppler Jane Urguhart Laith Yousif Mary Lilly Vincent Stanford Frank Clarke Marie Bond Ron Robertson Gary Olds Helen Sheehan Lorraine Evans

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 morning.

The Sunday that follows Christmas is always the celebration of the **Holy Family.** There are wonderful readings from the Book of Sirach, the First Book of Samuel, and the First Letter of John. The gospel is the story of the teenaged Jesus teaching in the temple while his parents could not find him. Jesus goes back home with his family. "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man."

Taken from the "Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on the Creighton University's Online Ministries web site: http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html Used with permission.



**ST. RAPHAEL GREEN CORNER:** Pope Francis writes: "Care for nature is part of a lifestyle which includes the capacity for living together and

communion. Jesus reminded us that we have God as our common Father and that this makes us brothers and sisters. Fraternal love can only be gratuitous; it can never be a means of repaying others for what they have done or will do for us. That is why it is possible to love our enemies. This same gratuitousness inspires us to love and accept the wind, the sun and the clouds, even though we cannot control them. In this sense, we can speak of a "universal fraternity".

## Laudato Si #228

At the beginning of the New Year, our hearts and minds turn to New Year's Resolutions! Perhaps our resolutions for this year could include a way that we might develop ecological attitudes and environmentally friendly habits that would support our efforts towards peace and justice in our world and a deeper appreciation of God's gift of our beautiful planet.

### "Green" New Year's Resolutions: Sustainability Starts at Home.

Consider working towards **Zero waste in your Home**: Follow the 5 R's; Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot!

Buy Less and Use less of Everything! Think, "Do I need it or Do I want it"?

Involve your whole family in Energy Conservation: "Last out, Lights out! "And talk to your kids why this is important!

Commit to using fewer "Single use Plastics": straws, bags, containers.

https://harmony1.com/green-new-years-resolutions/

\*\*\*\* This New Year make a commitment with yourself to become more familiar with Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter Laudato si, On care of our Common Home! \*\*\*\*

# <u>IN OUR PARISH</u>



**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** December 2021

Monthly Pre-Authorized Giving (73)	\$7,365
December Building Fund Collection (35)	\$1,784
Thank you for your continued support!	

2022 ENVELOPES & CALENDARS: Please pick up your 2022 donation envelopes and a St. Raphael Parish Calendar in the parish entrance, by the elevator.

# "THIRD SATURDAYS" BIBLE STUDY:



Women of all ages join us via Webinar January 15th, at 9:30am. A monthly onehour webinar igniting passion for reading the Bible and applying the Word to our lives. Refresh, restore and renew our faith. No

bible experience required. Pray and share together with other women. To sign up please RSVP to michele@forgionegroup.com or leonyhettinger@bell.net See you soon.

### UPCOMING MASS SCHEDULE

Feast of Mary Mother of God New Year's Eve: Friday, December 31st 5:00 pm New Year's Day: Saturday, January 1st 9:00 am, 11:00 am

> Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00 am, 11:00 am



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dear Parishioners, on behalf of our office staff, and myself, I want to wish you, your family, and friends a joyful and Merry Christmas. By now we know that we live in an unprecedented time and a lot of us could be confused or lose our faith and hope. It has been almost

two years that we are battling this pandemic, and the arrival of Omicron variance could push us into a deeper corner. All of these are true, but we are men and women of hope. And our hope is born for us. Christ's birth in historical time is not much different from ours. He was born into a mess of political, social, and religious upheaval. The coming of Christ brought hope to the people of Israel. And the same Christ is born for us. Even though the situation seems dark and bleak, the light has come. Let us share this light with others. Let us become light to the darkened world. Let us take the light of Christ to the world.

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 can join us to celebrate the birth of Christ. Now let us take him to our families and the world.

Fr. Francis

NEW SUNDAY MISSALS: If you would like your own copy of the 2021-2022 Sunday Missal for \$5 please purchase them in the parish office during the week or in the Welcome Area of the church after weekend masses.

**DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE STAMP PROJECT:** Please continue to save your cancelled stamps from Christmas Cards and any other mail. The Stamp Project raises funds for Development and Peace to support their ongoing Social Justice work. We will notify you at the end of January as to how we will collect the stamps from you! Thank you for your thoughtfulness and support of Development and Peace and their work in the world! Cecilia Racine and Lorene Dicorpo

#### **HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:**



Dec. 24th until Dec. 28th Wednesday, Dec. 29th Thursday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> to Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> normal hours resume

CLOSED 9 am - 4 pm 9 am – 4 pm CLOSED 9 am - 4 pm

# **IN OUR COMMUNITY**

MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH: Intentional divorce and conscious uncoupling are two terms becoming popular in North American vernacular, but what we should be promoting is intentional marriage and conscious coupling. The research is clear that couples can take steps to remain and even deepen their love. Consciously making the decision to spend time together, to share our deepest feelings (good and bad), to use touch throughout the day, to make date-night (however that looks) a priority will build your couple relationship. Looking for moments of gratitude and thanking your spouse will increase the loving bond between you. This Christmas make conscious coupling your gift to each other; it may be the best gift you will ever receive!

#### YEAR OF AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY - HAMILTON **DIOCESAN SPEAKER SERIES:** The kick off to the

Diocesan speaker series, meant to celebrate the year, will be in January, with a special three-part presentation by Bishop Lobsinger, with input from the Pastoral Offices staff. The evening sessions will be held from **7 - 8:30 pm** on Jan. 12th, 19th and 26th, and will unpack the great wisdom in Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love in Families and Church. The presentations, by zoom, are meant to engage all members of the Diocese in looking at both the challenges and blessings of families in the world today. Check the Diocesan website at

https://amorislaetitia.hamiltondiocese.com/ for more information about both the year and the Diocesan Speaker Series. Online registration will be necessary to receive the link, where you can join in by phone or internet. For more information contact Teresa Hartnett at thartnett@hamiltondiocese.com or 905-528-7988 ext. 2250.

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY IN THE DIOCESE OF

**HAMILTON:** The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis has produced a video showcasing the wonderful ministry of our Diocesan University Chaplaincy Centres. Do share this video with a young person in your life who may be preparing for post-secondary education, or someone who is looking for a faith community on campus within the Diocese. Special thanks to the Priests Chaplains, campus ministers and students who helped make this project possible. To view the video, visit:

https://hamiltondiocese.com/offices/evangelizationcatechesis/young-adult-ministry.

# **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOST BIG BAND MUSIC:**



After a long wait, the Knights of Columbus of Burlington are hosting an afternoon of "Big Band Music" at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre featuring the Toronto All-Star Big Band on

Sunday, Jan. 30 at 2 pm. The price per ticket is \$48.00. Call the box office at 905-681-6000 or visit: www.burlingtonpac.ca.



