

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

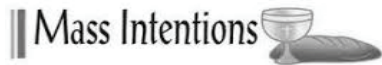
Archangel St. Raphael "God is my Healer"

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

SECOND DAY OF THE LORD IN ADVENT



Monday, December 5 at 9:00 a.m.
Ints. Gert Beaton

Tuesday, December 6 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Joan Brazier

Wednesday, December 7 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Ann MacDonald

Thursday, December 8 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Stephen Dunn; + Marie Hendrenen;
+ Clinton Cox; Ints. Isaac & Vanessa Mercurio;
Ints. Arleen & Steven Gaspar

Friday, December 9 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Selvina Morta

Saturday, December 10 at 5:00 p.m.
Deceased Mbrs Santi Family;
+ Julian Anders; + Michael Szkitalinski;
+ Bill Rice; + Clinton Cox;

Sunday, December 11
9:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:00 a.m. + John Jaroz

SECOND DAY OF THE LORD IN ADVENT Prepare for God's Reign in harmony, faithfulness and steadfastness.

The Scripture readings for this second week call us to **prepare for God's Reign**. St. Matthew's Gospel presents St. John the Baptizer in the wilderness proclaiming because the Kingdom of heaven has come near, we must **change our hearts and prepare** and make straight the pathway of the Messiah. St. Paul's Letter to the Romans and us encourages us to do so in **harmony with one another and steadfast faithfulness**. The images in the reading from Isaiah of the animals in harmony and the child playing over the viper's nest symbolically refer to the **ultimate fulfillment of God's Reign**.

For many of us, these weeks can be a time of great stress and activity, as we look at our long shopping lists, decorate our homes, and plan holiday meals. As our calendar get filled with events, it can be easy to lose sight of the true reason for the season. **Advent is a time of preparation**. A time for creating space in our hearts and in our lives to prepare for the Christ Jesus. This is not just the Jesus who was born over 2,000 years ago in a simple manger in Bethlehem. This is also the Jesus who is waiting to be born in our world right now through hearts of peace, hands of compassion, and acts of justice.

It can be easy to crowd out the space for Jesus through busyness and buying. And yet, when we do that, as **Pope Francis** reminds us in **Laudato Si**, the impacts are dire: *"The pace of consumption, waste and environmental change has so stretched the planet's capacity that our contemporary lifestyle, unsustainable as it is, can only precipitate catastrophes, such as those which even now periodically occur in different areas of the world... We need to reflect on our accountability before those who will have to endure the dire consequences."* (LS, 161)



OPERA AT ST. RAPHAEL: Here's an idea for a Christmas present for someone you know who loves music! Presented by the **Southern Ontario Lyric Opera Company**. Join us for an evening of operatic arias & sacred music on **Tuesday, December 6th at 7:00pm**. *Featuring: Mezzo-soprano Cassandra Warner, Tenor Romulo Delgado & Members of the SOLO chorus, accompanied by Maestro Sabatino Vacca*. There will be an intermission where beverages and snacks will be available. Tickets \$25, Available after all weekend masses, in the parish office, by calling (905) 637-2346, or Renata at galwayrenata@gmail.com. All proceeds go towards the Accessibility Project.

CHILDREN'S ADVENT PARTY: Heartfelt thanks to all the amazing volunteers who gave generously of their time and talents to put on a wonderful Advent Party. Many thanks to Santa who was able to visit us. Also, we thank Father Frank and Father Francis for their support. Of course, this would not have been possible were it not for the wonderful families who registered and participated. Thank you! *The Children's Liturgy Program*

LADIES COFFEE MORNING: All ladies are welcome to gather on **Wed., December 7th**, for coffee and fellowship following the 9 a.m. Mass in the St. Francis Room.

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 Weppler |
| 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, November 27 th | \$ 5,609.00 |
| Debt Reduction | \$ 1,055.00 |

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.

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



ST. RAPHAEL EVERGREEN CORNER
**"A voice crying in the wilderness,
 Prepare the way of the Lord!"**

Mark 1:3 Pope Francis writes: "*The*

urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. Here I want to recognize, encourage and thank all those striving in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we share. Particular appreciation is owed to those who tirelessly seek to resolve the tragic effects of environmental degradation on the lives of the world's poorest. Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded."

Laudato si #13

It is now the Second Week of Advent and many of us are in the midst of Christmas preparations and shopping. Have you considered how you might celebrate a **Sustainable Christmas** this year? Here are some **environmentally and sustainable Christmas gift ideas**. Think about giving the **gift of a service to a family member, neighbour or friend**. Perhaps each family member could choose the name of someone in the family and think of some way that they could perform some small act of love or service. Make a coupon book that includes these acts of service. Are you planning to buy gifts for family, friends or neighbours? Ideas might include a night of free babysitting, shovelling a neighbour's snow for them, making a batch of homemade cookies, cake or candy, or sharing an at home movie night /games night together. Gifts that are simple and given from the heart create memories that last and are meaningful. **Try simplifying your gift giving**. Gifts do not need to be bought but can be an act of love or service. **Next week: more Green Christmas Ideas!**



ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS: Ladies of the CWL, please renew your membership before you fly south. You can use the blue envelope found in the offertory envelopes (second from the front in the box) or a plain white envelope along with \$25.00 and write your name, full address, telephone number and email address. Thank you and have a safe and happy winter.



CHURCHES ON NEW STREET AND

LAKESHORE *For the love of God compels us...* (John 17: 6-26)

As are Christians all over the world, we are going to take part in the "World Week of Prayer". Save the dates for a beautiful program.

Sunday, Jan. 22, 2017 - We start at CRC - Christian Reform Christian, 3422 New St. at 6 pm. **Jan. 23 till Jan 30**, Monday to Monday (8 days) we will be alternating from church to church (3 or 4 different churches, including St. Raphael) for a shorter service. Details will follow. Come to as many as you can. For more information, please call Wilma or Frank (905 870 0641)

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 thru 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: Thank you for your contributions! To date we have raised \$1,534.10! After this weekend, we will be 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.

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



ATTENTION CWL MEMBERS: We are having our Christmas lunch at THE RUBY restaurant on **Tuesday, December 6th at 1:00 p.m.** (4100 Upper Middle Rd., 10th floor at the Village of Tansley Woods). Parishioners who are not CWL members, kindly feel free to join us. Please call Helen Sheehan at 905-634-7481 or email at helen.sheehan@cogeco.ca to let her know if you will attend by Monday, December 5th. We wish a joyful Christmas to all our members.

SAVE THE DATE: Our 7th Annual Women's Day of Reflection '*Nurturing the Nurturer*' will be on **Saturday, February 4th, 2017** from 8:45 am to 3:00 pm in St. Raphael's Parish Centre. Our theme this year will be "*Forgiveness a New Day*". Our keynote speaker will be Miriam Wright and we will enjoy a play by Elisa Lollino. Tickets will go on sale Jan. 14th, 2017. \$30.00 (or \$20.00 for members of St. Raphael's C.W.L.)

THANK YOU to everyone who donated so generously to the **CWL Christmas Tree of Wishes**. An SUV load of presents went to the Good Shepherd on Monday and they are most appreciative. The gifts will be put to good use. *God bless you all this Christmas season.*

FAMILY CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG! Wednesday, December 14, 7:15 - 8:30 pm, St Paul the Apostle Parish. No better way to escape a cold, snowy night during this Advent season than to join Anthony Cheam and his friends, as they lead us in a Contemporary Christmas Carol Sing-Along (For Kids of Any Age!). With a series of upbeat Christmas Carol sing-along in unison and two-part choir (w/occasional solo) which will be a blessing and blast! The evening will enlighten our Faith, anoint our Family, bring to life the joy of the Gospel and the mercy of God revealed to us in his son, Jesus Christ! "*Christmas is joy, religious joy, an inner joy of light and peace.*" Pope Francis. Date: Cost: Free will donation for Shifra Home

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