

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





Monday, January 2 at 9:00 a.m.
Ints. Phyllis Dwyer

Tuesday, January 3 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Patricia Lamb

Wednesday, January 4 at 9:00 a.m.
Ints. Sr. Rosalie Siegler

Thursday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m.
+ Hank Forani; + David DeLong;
Ints. Joan Lawlor; Ints. Sylvia Gzik

Friday, January 6 at 9:00 a.m.
Ints. Sylvia Gzik

Saturday, January 7 at 5:00 p.m.
+ Clinton Cox; + Bob Neely;
+ Raymond McLean; + Carole Andrade

Saturday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m.
YOUTH MASS

Sunday, January 8
9:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:00 a.m. Ints. Harm & Myrla Dewyk

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 18th
Including Debt Reduction \$6,959.00
Sunday, December 25th please see next bulletin

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.*

EPIPHANY CHILDREN PAGEANT: Rehearsals for the Epiphany enactment for the 9 am and 11 am masses on Jan 8th will be Jan 6th, 5:30-7:30 pm. Please contact Charlie at 905-681-6221 or bcarpenter2@cogeoc.ca with your name and contact information.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: We will resume our program on **January 14/15**. Wishing all our leaders, student helpers and families a happy New Year!

THE REIGN OF GOD IN MARY'S WOMB

In the fullness of time, scripture says, the Word of God became human and dwelt among us: The Word-Made-Flesh: earth was forever joined to heaven. God does not cling to the safety of heaven: **God's Reign is happening in the womb of young girl.** The child of Bethlehem is the son of Mary and the Son of God. **Mary** is presented as **a treasure chest**. She bore within her womb the living Word of God, the bringer of God's Reign. She **ponders in her heart** words spoken of him. There is much naming today. An angel names him: **Jesus, "God saves."** Mary is named **the mother of God**. God's name is upon us; we are called **God's people**. The Spirit within us cries out, "Father! Father!" We are **God's children**. Because we are children, we are **heirs** – heirs to the treasure of salvation. God has been gracious to us. God has given us peace beyond understanding. Truly God has blessed us.

Fr. Frank with thanks to Margaret Bick

When we pray, "Holy Mary, Mother of God," we are not suggesting that Mary is a goddess that gave birth to a god. She did not create divinity within her, but she did give birth to a child who was for all eternity the Eternal Word of God. Saturated with the Word of God, **the person of faith** naturally gives birth to the presence of Christ in the world. I am not just speaking about Mary, Mother of God. I am speaking about us, **you and me, Christians, people who make the Word of God present in the world** by allowing ourselves to be overshadowed with his presence. People of true and deep faith make God present in our parish, our community, our country and our world. If we allow the grace of God to work in us and through us, **if we allow his word to take flesh, then we can live in peace.** We can be people of peace. To be Mother of God, is to be a carrier of the Prince of Peace. To ensure peace in the world, we have to, like Mary, "Hear the Word of God and treasure it." **"Pray for us sinners, holy Mother of God."** Help us to live up to our capability of making the Eternal Word present in the world. Pray for us to your son. Ask Him for the grace that we might be so permeated with the spiritual that we might make the spiritual physical. Help us to live the Life of Christ. Help us to be People of Peace." *Msgr. Joe Pelligrino*

FEAST DAY MASS: There will be a Mass for the **Feast of St. Andre Bessette C.S.C.** on **Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 9 a.m.**



7TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY OF

REFLECTION 'Nurturing the Nurturer':

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.)

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Monday, January 2nd – Closed
Tuesday, January 3rd – Closed
January 4th – 6th – 9AM – 4PM





NEW YEAR'S PEACE MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

The Message for the coming World Day of Peace has as its theme: **Nonviolence: A Style of Politics for Peace**

Nonviolence is a typical example of a universal value that finds fulfilment in the Gospel of Christ but is also a part of other noble and ancient spiritual traditions. In a world like our own, sadly marked by wars and numerous conflicts, to say nothing of widespread violence evident in various ways in day-to-day life, **the choice of nonviolence as a style of life is increasingly demanded** in the exercise of responsibility at every level, **from family education, to social and civil commitment, to political activity and international relations.** In every situation, this means rejecting violence as a method for resolving conflicts and dealing with them instead through dialogue and negotiation.

In a particular way, **those who hold public office** on the national and international levels are called to **cultivate a nonviolent style in their consciences and in the exercise of their duties.** This is not the same as weakness or passivity; rather it presupposes firmness, courage and the ability to face issues and conflicts with intellectual honesty, truly seeking the common good over and above all partisan interest, be it ideological, economic or political. In the course of the past century, marred by wars and genocides of unheard-of proportions, we have nonetheless seen outstanding examples of how nonviolence, embraced with conviction and practised consistently, can yield significant results, also on the social and political plane. Some peoples, and indeed entire nations, thanks to the efforts of nonviolent leaders, peacefully achieved the goals of freedom and justice. **This is the path to pursue now and in the future. This is the way of peace.** Not a peace proclaimed by words but in fact denied by pursuing strategies of domination, backed up by scandalous outlays for arms, while so many people lack the very necessities of life

The next gathering of **Secular Franciscans** will take place in the St. Francis Room downstairs, on **Sunday, Jan 8th from 2-4pm.** All interested in knowing more about lay Franciscans are welcome to attend. For more info please contact us at 905-320-3293 or at burlingtonsfo@gmail.com.

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND: March 5 – 14, 2017 (10 days) Under spiritual leadership of **Fr. Francis Salasiar C.S.C.** This is the last call for anyone interested in joining this pilgrimage. There will be a final information meeting on **Tuesday, February 14th at 7:30 p.m.** in the parish centre. For further details pick up a flyer and registration form or contact the parish office at 905-637-2346.

BULLETIN REMINDER: Do you have something to publish in our weekly bulletin? Please send bulletin notices to bulletin@straphaels.ca by **Tuesdays at 9 a.m.** Thank you!



THANKS FOR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The festive reception which I experienced on the occasion of my 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood was indeed wonderful and a blessing for me. Thanks to all who planned it, prepared the scrumptious desserts, worked hard in setting up, serving and cleaning up, did the presentations of gifts on behalf of parish ministries, and all who extended their congratulations through prayers, kind words, cards and gifts. I have been enormously blessed in my priesthood. I do hope to be able to continue to serve the People of God, in whatever place and in whatever time still left for me on this journey of grace. **Fr. Frank**

BOTTLE DRIVE UPDATE: The bottle drive will resume January 7/8. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** 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.



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 Church, 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)

THE DAILY TV MASS is now available Monday-Saturday anytime from anyplace. Take a moment to visit their new website at www.dailytvmass.com to watch the Daily TV Mass and to find out more about how to stay connected with our faith. Please feel free to call the NCBC at 1-888-383-6277 for more information.

VOCATIONS: Mary treasured all that God had done for her, and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God and ponder what He wants from you? You may have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ. If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister contact Fr. Michael King, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton: 905-528-7988 mking@hamiltondiocese.com, www.hamiltonvocations.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. For more information contact Rocco at 905 637 1220 or 905 464 0562.

GIVE THE GIFT OF SWING: The Burlington Knights of Columbus are presenting a tribute to Dean Martin & Ella Fitzgerald with the Toronto all-star big band! **Sunday, January 29, 2017, 2:00 MATINEE** at The Burlington Performing Arts Centre. You can reserve your "GIFT OF SWING" by calling the box office at 905-681-6000. The ticket price is only \$45.

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