

# ST RAPHAEL PARISH COMMUNITY

4072 New Street (corner of New St. and Longmoor Dr.) Burlington, ON L7L 1S9

Tel: 905.637.2346

Email: [straphaelburlington@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:straphaelburlington@hamiltondiocese.com) Website: [www.StRaphaels.ca](http://www.StRaphaels.ca)

*Served by the Holy Cross Fathers*

Fr. Wilson Andrade C.S.C. - Pastor

Fr. Emmanuel Ralte C.S.C. - Associate Pastor

Catherine Osborne - Office Administrator

Ms. Maureen Lawlor - Office Assistant



## *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

**Mass Intentions** 

**Monday, January 2** at 9:00 a.m.  
Ints. Bishop Douglas Crosby

**Tuesday, January 3** at 9:00 a.m.  
† Jan Rybansky

**Wednesday, January 4** at 9:00 a.m.  
Ints. Bill Gittins

**Thursday, January 5** at 9:00 a.m.  
Ints. Dan Dominic; Ints. Nadia Plach; Ints. David Schick;  
† Wenceslao Santos; † Elizabeth Curran;  
† Beverly Herridge

**Friday, January 6**  
9:00am † Rosita Balderama  
6:30pm † Stanley Musial

**Saturday, January 7** at 5:00 p.m.  
† Stanley Musial; † Frank Sicoli; † Alvaro Trigo  
† Adelia Coimbra; † Tom Kehoe;  
† Deceased Members of Lucy Family

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

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

At the beginning of a new year, the Church invites us to contemplate Mary’s divine maternity as an icon of peace. The ancient promise finds fulfilment in her person. She believed in the words of the angel, conceived her Son and thus became the Mother of the Lord.



Through her, through her “yes”, the fullness of time came about. The Gospel we have just heard tells us that the Virgin Mary “treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart” (Lk 2:19). She appears to us as a vessel filled to the brim with the memory of Jesus, as the Seat of Wisdom to whom we can have recourse to understand his teaching aright. Today Mary makes it possible for us to grasp the meaning of events which affect us personally, events which also affect our families, our countries and the entire world. Where philosophical reason and political negotiation cannot arrive, there the power of faith, which brings the grace of Christ’s Gospel, can arrive, opening ever new pathways to reason and to negotiation. Blessed are you, Mary, for you gave the Son of God to our world. But even more blessed are you for having believed in him. Full of faith, you conceived Jesus first in your heart and then in your womb, and thus became the Mother of all believers. Send us, O Mother, your blessing on this day consecrated to your honour. Show us the face of Jesus your Son, who bestows upon the entire world mercy and peace. Amen.

*Extract from the Homily of Pope Francis.*

**Please pray for:**  
Jeannine Bannan  
Lee Olds  
Gustavo Cáceres  
Jean Damiani  
Danielle Bieque  
Christopher Ryan  
Tom Olds  
Vincent Stanford  
Archie Damiani  
*Names on this list will remain for a period of four weeks to allow space for other names. Please phone the parish office before Tuesday morning to have a name added.*

**Offertory Collection**

Date: December 17/18, 2022

Sunday Envelopes (124) \$7,434  
Loose \$971

Thank you for your generous support

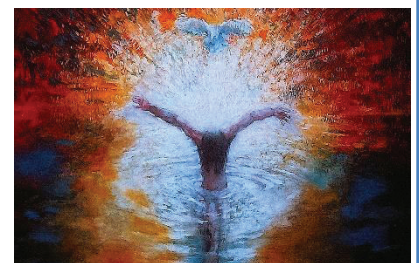
**Holiday Office Hours**

**January 02, 2023** Office Closed  
**January 03, 2023** Office open  
Normal hours resume



**January 2023 – For all who prepare for receiving the Sacraments of Initiation**

Let us dedicate the Month of January for those are receiving the Sacraments of Initiation as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus. We thank God for all the blessings that we receive in our personal, family and community life. We celebrate our Year of Prayer, and we dedicate this month for all who preparing to receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. May all the spirit of God, inspire them as they commit themselves in following Jesus. Let us make every effort to pray for our family and our community. May God bless our families, bringing healing, love, and peace. Amen.



**Happy New Year!**

The New Year can often bring a mixed bag of emotions and memories for many of us. Some may have just experienced the best year ever and look forward to an even greater one ahead. Others may have just slogged through one deep struggle after another. The fresh calendar year brings desperate hope for things to be better, with an ache for the still-fresh wounds to slowly begin their process of healing. Let us not forget that Our God is “with us” – Emmanuel. So, we pray, *Dear God,*

*Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.*

*May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.*

*We ask this through your son Jesus who is born for us. Amen.*

***On behalf of the Parish Staff, we wish you all, a Happy and Blessed New Year.***

**The Big Band Concert is Back –  
For the 10<sup>th</sup> Year Live and In Person**

Sunday, January 29, 2:00 TO 4:30 PM at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre

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. If you missed the concert last year, now is the time for you to reserve your seats. The price per ticket is only \$48.00. To reserve your seat, call the box office at 905-681-6000 or visit the website at [www.burlingtonpac.ca](http://www.burlingtonpac.ca).



**CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE GATHERING:**

Members and all women are welcome to join the Catholic Women’s League first gathering of the year on **Sunday, January 22, 2023** after the 11 am Mass in the St. Francis Room. We will toast the New Year as we build our plans and resolutions for our council. Come and join women of faith/service and social justice.



**THANK YOU TO OUR MINISTRIES:**

On behalf of the pastoral team, we would like to thank *all the volunteers* who spent a lot of time in making this season of Christmas, a joyful celebration. Thanks to all the *Readers, Altar servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Decorating Committee, Ushers, and Offertory Counters.* A special thanks to *all the participants, their families and the co-ordinators* who took part in the Christmas Story play and the dramatization of the gospel for the 5 pm Christmas Eve Eucharistic celebration.



Each of your contributions has helped all of us to experience the joy of Christ’s birth and made it a meaningful celebration for our community. We are indeed a vibrant and joyful community. Let us continue to share this joy with one another.

**2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** Please pick up your envelopes in the parish entrance, by the elevator. If you cannot locate your donation envelope box, or would like to start using donation envelopes, please contact the office.

**USHERS NEEDED AT SATURDAY EVENING MASS:** Our Usher Ministry is looking for volunteers for our Saturday evening 5pm mass. If you are interested in helping with this ministry please contact George O’Brien at (905) 335-0412.

**THANK YOU:** We would like to thank all parishioners who brought in flowers to our Parish for Christmas. The plants looked lovely and the church was radiant with the flowers arranged by the Liturgy Decorating Committee. Thank-you to everyone involved.



**NEW SUNDAY MISSALS:** If you would like your own copy of the 2022-2023 Sunday Missal, please pick one up in the church lobby after Mass (suggested donation \$5).

**FATHER WILSON AWAY:** Father Wilson will be away and out of the country from January 3 until January 25. Please phone Father Emmanuel at the parish office if you require assistance with any pastoral matters.

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