

ST RAPHAEL PARISH COMMUNITY

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

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Email: straphaelburlington@hamiltondiocese.com Website: www.StRaphaels.ca

Served by the Holy Cross Fathers

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

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

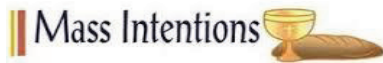
Catherine Osborne - Office Administrator

Ms. Maureen Lawlor - Office Assistant



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



(† = Deceased Intention; Int = Intentions of...;
Thx = Thanksgiving)

Mon. Jan 8, 9am	Thx Harm & Myrla Dewyk
Tue. Jan. 9, 9am	† Clinton Cox
Wed. Jan. 10, 9am	† Dion Alampi
Thu. Jan 11, 9am	Int. Tom & Lee Olds
† Fernando Amorim	† Ferruccio Zanatta
† Ador Joson	† Dave Herd
† Kevin Connolly	
Friday, Jan. 12, 9am	† Nardina Inneo
Saturday, Jan 13, 5pm	Int Helen Data
† Dick Data	† Epifanio Braganza
† Melania Lim	
Sunday, Jan 14, 9am	† Tjitramina
Sunday, Jan 14, 11am	For Our Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Dec 24, 2023

Envelopes (141)	\$3,921
Loose	\$714
<i>Christmas Collection, 2023</i>	
Envelopes (198)	\$15,038
Loose	\$2,144

Please pray for:	Lori Stokes
Vincent Stanford	Janet Stokes
John Bate	Gwen Bate
Sean Hayes	
<i>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.</i>	

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A ROMAN CATHOLIC OR LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH?



Then maybe the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the place for you. The RCIA journey introduces the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church through a series of prayerful reflections, video presentations, faith sharing and small group discussions designed to help participants to become full members of the Catholic Church. Classes (usually 75 minutes long) will continue on **Wednesday, January 10 at 7:00pm** with the topic **“The Eucharist: Source & Summit of Christian Life”** All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact the parish office.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST: The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast at our parish on **Sunday, January 21, following the 9am and 11am masses.** Sign up in the parish lobby if you plan to attend. All are welcome!

YOUNG ADULTS’ NIGHT: Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30pm-7:30 pm), social with food (7:30pm-8:00pm), praise night and vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Friday, February 3rd** at St. Michael Catholic Church (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL kicks off the 2024 season on **January 25, 2024 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**, with the film *Gather*, an intimate portrait of the movement among Indigenous communities to reclaim their spiritual, political, and cultural identities through food sovereignty. **The dynamic duo of Kitty R Lynn Lickers and Dr. Adrienne Xavier from McMaster University’s Indigenous Studies Department will be guest speakers for the evening.** Educators in Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Indigenous Food Sovereignty, they also managed the *Our Sustenance* program, a sustainability and food sovereignty program in their community of Six Nations. **The screening and discussion will be hosted online via Zoom. Register and view our full schedule of events at: <https://reeljustice.hamiltondiocese.com/>** A partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace, the Reel Justice Film Festival shines a spotlight on issues of social, political, and economic injustices.

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your envelopes in the parish entrance, by the elevator. Please note some envelope numbers have changed for the New Year to reduce waste. For assistance, please contact the office.

HOME EUCHARIST MINISTRY: “Service is the sign of true love. Those who love know how to serve others.” - Pope Francis. Are you interested in participating in our Home Eucharist Ministry? We have a need for volunteers to serve our homebound, LTC and hospital parishioners by bringing Sunday communion. For more information please contact: John Fauteux, tjfauteux@me.com, **905.635.2586 (h)**

Epiphany of the Lord

Reflections by Rev. Wilson Andrade, CSC

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The term epiphany comes from the Greek term *epiphaneia*, which means “*manifestation, striking appearance.*” For us it is to say that God manifested or appeared in Jesus Christ. This feast is powerfully symbolized in the ‘*arrival of the three wise men who offered gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*’ That is to proclaim that the child born to Mary in Bethlehem is the ‘*long awaited Messiah and King.*’

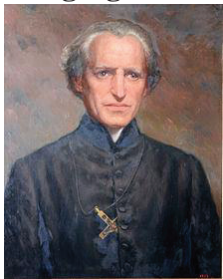
We know and experience Creation, especially our surrounding nature, as an Epiphany of God. Creation reveals God’s presence. A great mystic of our times, Gerard Hopkins, said that *the world is charged with God* and Teilhard de Chardin saw *creation as the Divine milieu*. Then we realize that we are created *in the image and likeness of God*, so we reveal God’s presence.

We belong to God and we are an *epiphaneia – a striking image of God*. The Scriptures, especially St. John, often refers to each one of us as God’s Children. We belong to God and truly are the family of God. Do we live like God’s Children? That question each one of us has to answer before God. So let’s live as the children of God, accepting everyone as our brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

Today, God becoming one like us in Jesus Christ helps us to deepen our awareness of God’s presence. Just as Christ fully revealed God’s presence, we *are called to reveal and proclaim the presence of Christ to all as baptized Christians*. May the feast of the Epiphany deepen our awareness of God’s presence in this world. May we become God’s instruments of love, peace and joy to everyone in this world.

O’ Come, Let us adore Christ our Lord

Feast of Blessed Basil Moreau, Founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross



Come and celebrate with us the feast day of Blessed Basil Moreau, CSC, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, on **Saturday, January 20, 2024**, with:
5:00 p.m. – Festive Mass
6:00 p.m.: Potluck Dinner

All are welcome to join in the for the celebration after the liturgy. Please sign in if you are attending and bringing your favorite dishes for the dinner.

Holy Cross Family Ministries – Canada

We are happy to announce that Fr. Shajymon Mandapathikunnel Lucka “Shaji” is appointed as the Mission Co-Ordinator of the Holy cross family Ministries in Canada. We would like to wish him all the best as he begins his ministry. We would like to thank you for your contributions towards our work of promoting Family Prayer in Canada. Recent research done in USA by the Holy Cross Family Ministries shows that 64% of the families do not have family prayer. We invite you to reflect on your prayer life in your homes. Do make an effort to pray as a family and for families. We encourage everyone to have a Bible, a Rosary, and a Family Prayer book in your homes.

“A family that prays together, stays together.”

Fr. Patrick Peyton, CSC

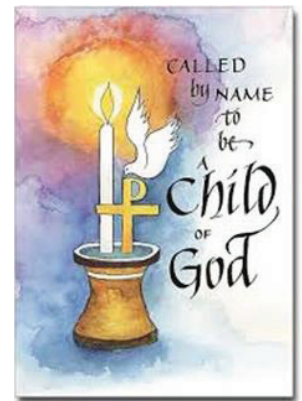
YEAR OF MINISTRY: Sacrament of Baptism

During the Month of January, let us learn about

Contemplative Prayer as we reflect on the Sacrament of Baptism. Pope Francis said: “*in Baptism we put our signature to become saints.*”

We dedicate all the newly baptized in the church and reflect on our baptismal promises. Let us become the Beloved Children of God.

On **January 21st** Sunday, we will have special blessing on all the children who are baptized during 2023. We encourage everyone to support one another in our baptismal commitment serving God and neighbor.



The Word of God Sunday: 21st January, 2024 Bible Project

Pope Francis has established the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as the Sunday of the Word of God to recall the Second Vatican Council’s rediscovery of the Sacred Scripture for the life of the Church. The Theme for this Year of 2024 is “Remain in my Word” (John 8:31).

We would like to invite you and encourage you to take up the challenge to **Read the Bible in 120 days**. It takes average 72 hours to read the entire Bible. We have a developed a program to read the Bible in 120 Days. You need to dedicate **30 minutes a day** or 4 hours a week. Form is available in the office. If you complete the Program, we will give you **an official Certificate**.

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