

# 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 Salaslar, C.S.C. - Associate Pastor

Mr. Cristian Lecanda - Youth Minister

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
Tues & Thurs	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Sunday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*closed on Statutory Holidays*



## 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*

### 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](http://www.TheCatholicCemeteries.ca)

### PARISH SCHOOLS

- Assumption High School  
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Please visit these websites: The Diocese of Hamilton [HamiltonDiocese.com](http://HamiltonDiocese.com)  
Catholics Come Home [www.CatholicsComeHome.org](http://www.CatholicsComeHome.org) Vocations [www.HamiltonDiocese.org](http://www.HamiltonDiocese.org)

SECOND DAY OF THE LORD OF ADVENT  
*Prepare! God's Merciful Justice will bring joy.*



**Monday, December 7** at 9:00 a.m.  
+ Alex Beaton

**Tuesday, December 8** at 9:00 a.m.  
Souls in Purgatory

**Wednesday, December 9** at 9:00 a.m.  
Ints. Vanessa & Isaac Mercurio

**Thursday, December 10** at 9:00 a.m.  
+ Bill Southon; + Greg Podgorski;  
Ints. Darryll Malley; Ints. Irene Krawchuk;  
Ints. Marion Van de Vrande

**Friday, December 11** at 9:00 a.m.  
+ Ted Curtin

**Saturday, December 12** at 5:00 p.m.  
Deceased Members Santi Family; + Julian Anders;  
+ Michael Szkitalinski; + Seamus Gallen;  
Ints. Lorraine Scharer

**Sunday, December 13**  
9:00 a.m. + Santa Lucia  
11:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners

**Please pray for the following:**

Maureen Fisher	Isabelle Wild
Helen Plouffe	Martin Dawson
John Scharer	Darryll Malley
Mary Berry	Molly Laporte
Nicola Izzi	Sarah Scharer
Vincent Stanford	Jim Singer
Barbara Kennedy	Maritza Garcia Gonzalez
Michael Dowson	Milan Heck



*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 afternoon.*



**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

\$7,242.00

*Thank you for your continued support of our parish.*

**2016 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** Please pick up your 2016 Envelopes in the parish entrance, next to the St. Anthony Room. 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.

**NOTICE OF UPCOMING MARRIAGE:** There is a promise of marriage between *Giovanna Brunogallo* and *Brian Alford*. The wedding will take place on December 19th.

**ADVENT • CHRISTMAS • EPIPHANY**

On this Second DAY OF THE LORD of Advent, we are called to **prepare** ourselves during this week to be more open to God's promise that **merciful justice will bring joy**. Being prepared to experience mercy is proclaimed to the exiled people longing to return to Jerusalem, to the Philippians from the imprisoned Paul, to those caught in political turmoil during Jesus' lifetime. In our time we hear voices all around us longing to experience hope and mercy.



Pope Francis has called for a **Year of Mercy beginning on December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary**. This extraordinary grace of God for Mary prepared her to be the Mother of God. Through her act of faith Mary accepted to prepare for the coming of Jesus into the world. He would bring the hope of God's merciful justice for all of us. Like Mary, we are called during the Advent season to prepare ourselves by prayer and

action to be open to God's merciful justice which alone will bring joy to the world.

The other great saint of this Advent season is **John the Baptizer**, whom we hear announcing in today's Gospel that Jesus is the longed for Christ. Today we also hear John's cry to **prepare the way of the Lord**. This is not a message meant just for those in Palestine 2,000 years ago. This is a message to people of every time and every place. Let us pledge ourselves to hear and heed this message, and faithful like Mary, let our response be joyful preparation. We **prepare** our hearts to be open to new possibilities of joy by calling on God for mercy. *Fr. Frank*

**ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATION**

Monday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24**

*No morning Mass*

5:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day: Friday, December 25**

9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

**POPE FRANCIS IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

Pope Francis concluded his tour of Africa on Monday with a forceful call for Christians and Muslims to unite against religious violence in this war-torn country and by urging Catholics to be "artisans of peace" who renounce vengeance for past wrongs. Speaking in an inter-religious meeting with some 200 Muslims at a Bangui's central Mosque, located in an area of the city known for frequent violent inter-religious clashes, Francis exhorted:

**"Christians and Muslims are brothers and sisters!**

We must therefore consider ourselves and conduct ourselves as such. Those who claim to believe in God must also be men and women of peace! Together, we must say no to hatred, to revenge and to violence, particularly that violence which is perpetrated in the name of a religion or of God himself -- God is peace, *salam*," he said, using the Arabic word for peace.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS:** Please note the following submission deadlines for bulletin announcements:  
Monday, Dec. 14 at 9 a.m. for December 19/20 bulletin  
Friday, Dec. 18 at 9 a.m. for the Christmas bulletin  
Thursday, Dec. 24 at 9 a.m. for the Jan 2/3 bulletin

**CHILDREN'S ADVENT PARTY:** Heartfelt thanks, to all the amazing volunteers who gave generously of their time and talents to put on a great Advent Party for our youngest parishioners. Also, thanks to Patrick, Cristian, Father Francis and Father Frank for their support. Of course, this would not have been possible were it not for the wonderful families who came out and participated. Thank you! *Katie and Charlie*

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our 6th Annual Women's Day of Reflection '*Nurturing the Nurturer*' will be on **Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** from 8:45am to 3:00pm, St. Raphael's Parish Centre. Our theme this year will be "*the Fire in my Soul*". Our keynote speaker will be *Dr. Josie Lombardi*, a wife, mother, teacher, theologian, author and a professor at St. Augustine's Seminary. Tickets will go on sale Jan. 16th, 2016 (\$30 or \$20 for members of St. Raphael's C.W.L.)



**ATTENTION SNOW BIRDS!** Renew your CWL membership before you fly south. Please renew your membership by enclosing \$25.00 into the blue offertory envelopes for 2016 or by using a plain white envelope with this information: your name; full address; telephone number and email address, if available. These funds will enable the CWL to carry out our social justice projects for next year. Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

**BOOMERANG CARDS:** Bridge and euchre sessions are held in the Parish Centre on Monday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of fun for only a toonie.



**NEXT YOUTH MASS:**

Please note that our Youth Mass for January is **Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**BLESSING AND OPENING OF THE DOOR OF MERCY**

As the extra-ordinary Holy Year of Mercy begins join Bishop Crosby and parishioners from across the Diocese for the celebration of the blessing and opening of the Door of Mercy at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, Hamilton on **Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.** The celebration will begin in McNally Hall (basement of the Cathedral Basilica) and then move to the doors for the blessing and opening, and then into the Cathedral for the rest of the celebration of the Word.

**DISCERNMENT GATHERING:** If you are interested in learning more about vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life please join our monthly Discernment Gatherings: Mass, Holy Hour, Discussion, and Lunch. Next gathering is on **Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** at Canadian Martyrs Church in Hamilton (9am-12noon). More details at [www.HamiltonVocations.com](http://www.HamiltonVocations.com)

**MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH:** Life is not perfect and neither are we, which means that in every relationship there will be moments when things go wrong. When these times occur we can discuss what is wrong and find a solution to the situation, or we can tap into the "blame game" by attributing the problem to our spouse's behaviour, a character weakness within them, or one of their so called "flaws." This type of behaviour never resolves problems or issues, but leads to defensiveness and anger in both spouses. When you make solving the issue or problem your common goal, you will look together at what needs to be done to make the situation better. When that happens you can unite in a solution, instead of isolating yourselves from the one you love.

**DAY OF REFLECTION:** St. John's C.W.L. is hosting an Advent Day of Reflection on **Wednesday, December 9** with Father Allen Varlaki as facilitator. The day will start with Mass at 9 a.m. and will also include a presentation, Exposition and Reconciliation. Closing will be at noon with Benediction. The cost is \$10 and refreshments will be served. All women are welcome! Please register by Monday, Dec. 7 by phoning Marie at 905-637-1677.

**CANDY CANES FOR LIFE:** Halton Alive reached over 6000 people in our community with a pro-life message. Education brings change. Partner with us in creating a culture of life at [www.candycanesforlife.ca](http://www.candycanesforlife.ca)

**PRIESTLY ORDINATION:** It is with great joy that we announce that *Deacon Scott Whitfield* will be ordained a priest by Bishop Douglas Crosby on **December 19, 2015**, at 10 a.m. The Ordination Mass will be celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Waterdown, where Deacon Whitfield has been ministering for the last six months. All are invited to join us for this joyful occasion as we welcome our newest Diocesan priest.

**2015 WHITE MASS** - Consistent with the white coats and uniforms formerly worn by physicians and nurses, the WHITE MASS is celebrated annually for the spiritual support of healthcare professionals, clergy, chaplains and all caregivers. Join ACTheals, Hamilton Region, as we welcome the Most Reverend Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Hamilton, who will celebrate this year's WHITE MASS on the vigil of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, **Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church**, 2261 Parkway Dr., Burlington. Refreshments and video of Our Lady of Guadalupe to follow. A good will offering would be appreciated to help cover expenses. For more information call 905-335-6902.



**MUSICAL EVENING:** Most Blessed Sacrament Parish is hosting An Evening In Concert with the Canadian Orpheus Male Choir on **Friday, December 11** at 7:00 p.m.. You are cordially invited to come enjoy this pre-Christmas musical evening. Tickets at \$15 each can be purchased at the Parish Office (905-385-3570), or at the door. The proceeds of the evening will help about 15 youthful parishioners be able to participate in the 2016 World Youth Day experience in Poland. Blessed Sacrament Church is located at 920 Fennell Avenue East, just west of Upper Gage, in Hamilton.



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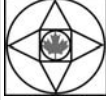
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"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added to you." --- Matthew 6:33



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