

BASILICA OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE

Parish Community



PARISH ESTABLISHED IN 1827

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: *As the Eucharistic family of Our Lady Immaculate we believe in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We foster a welcoming and active faith community by sharing our gifts of time, talent and treasure. We continue to grow in the Spirit loving and serving God and each other.*

28 Norfolk Street, Guelph, Ontario N1H 4H8 519-824-3951 FAX 519-824-1920
E-Mail: ourlady@churchofourlady.com Website: www.basilicaofourlady.com

Pastoral Team

Father Ian Duffy, KHS, Rector
 Father Bill Foote, Honourary Assistant
 Deacon Quinto Tami

Basilica Staff

Joe Finocchio, Business Manager
 Susan Potvin, Parish Secretary

Music Ministry

Joe Carere, Organist & Choirmaster
 Julian Mason, SubbOrganist
 Bruce Taylor, Organ Scholar

Parish Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 9:00am - 12:00 noon
1:00pm - 4:30pm

St. Vincent de Paul Society: 519-731-2563

Elementary Schools:

Saint Michael School
 9 McElderry Road
 Principal: Brian Munaro.....519-823-2455

Saint Paul School
 182 Clairfields Drive East
 Principal: Dawn Uliana.....519-824-9470

Saint Ignatius of Loyola School
 251 Colonial Drive
 Principal: Michelle Nagy.....519-822-6192

Welcome to Newcomers in the parish.

Registration forms are available at the office, at the back of the Church or on our website.

Hospital Registration:

Please be sure to indicate your religion and parish when entering the hospital.

Lord's Day Masses:

Saturday: 5:15 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Weekday Liturgies:

See schedule inside

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Wednesday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon
 First Fridays 9:30 am to 12:00 noon

Sick and Shut-in Ministry:

Contact the parish office if you would like someone to bring Communion or to visit/call you.

High Schools:

Bishop Macdonell High School
 200 Clair Road West
 Principal: Stephen Gulyas.....519-822-8502

Our Lady of Lourdes
 54 Westmount Road
 Principal: Valerie Markes.....519-836-2170

Saint James High School
 57 Victoria Road North
 Principal: Sandra Cummings.....519-822-4290

St. John Bosco
 19 Northumberland Street
 Principal: Corey Malone.....519-824-8909

Bequests:

Please consider a bequest to the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate to maintain our parish as a Symbol of Faith for future generations.

Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
 First Saturday of the Month: 8:00 am - 8:45am

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Office at least two months prior to the proposed date of Baptism. Application forms are available on the website.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Please contact the Parish at least one year in advance before the proposed date of the marriage.

Sacrament of Anointing: Available upon request.

Correspondence Course:

This program is available to assist parents in the religious education of their children. It is available from Kindergarten to High School.

Funeral and Burial Arrangements:

When a death occurs in your family, please advise the parish immediately and we will assist you in making liturgical arrangements. For information on Catholic burial please contact the Cemetery Office at 836-8814 or 1-800-661-5985. www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MASSES OF THE WEEK

Monday, December 18 – Ferial

8:30 a.m. The Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer)

9:00 a.m. Mass – *Eileen Seigfred, Nancy Guchardi, Manuel Pires*

Tuesday, December 19– Ferial

8:30 a.m. The Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer)

9:00 a.m. Mass – *Maria Carmela Alpe*

Wednesday, December 20 – Ferial

7:00 a.m. The Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer)

7:30 a.m. – Semlok Family

8:00 a.m. Perpetual Help Devotions

8:30 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

12:00 p.m. Angelus & Benediction

12:15 p.m. Mass – *Leona De Genova, Harry Perrets*

Thursday, December 21– Ferial

8:30 a.m. The Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer)

9:00 a.m. Mass – *Cecelia Tomaso*

Friday, December 22 – Ferial

8:30 a.m. The Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer)

9:00 a.m. Mass – *Eleanor & Lanny Sorbora*

Saturday, December 23 – Ferial

8:00 a.m. – Confessions

9:00 a.m. – **Advent Mass** Garnet, Marguerite and Andrea Duffy

3:00- 5:00 p.m. - Confessions

5:15 p.m. Mass Edward & Paul Garcia, Zofia Pokora, Janina Dolegowski, Ryssard Jakiela, Basil Krusky

Sunday, December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. The Office of Lauds (Morning Prayer)

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

5:00 pm Vigil Mass of Christmas

7:00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas

11:30pm Christmas Carols

12:00pm Solemn Midnight Mass of Christmas

PARISH & OTHER NEWS

Regina Caeli Shrine Lamps

During the 3rd Week of Advent, beginning on Sunday, December 17th, the lamps at the Regina Caeli Shrine will burn in loving memory for the Deceased Anton, Joe and Steven Markovinovic Intentions for Peverly Family.

To request that one of the lamps be lit for your intentions, or in memory of a loved one, please call or visit the Parish Office. A donation of \$10.00 per lamp is requested.

Stewardship of Treasure

† Thank you for your gift of \$16,578.25 in support of your parish community in gratitude for God's blessing.

Vocations

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!"... and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacons, please contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations and Priestly Formation, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

Email: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

Website: www.hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/

Catholic Young Adult Book Study Group

The Catholic book study group will resume in January, meeting every other Wednesday in the Basilica of Our Lady parish hall at 5:30pm. On January 10th, the group will discuss St. John Paul II's "Letter to Artists," and on January 24th, they will begin discussing "A Canticle for Leibowitz" by Walter M. Miller Jr. Young adults in their 20s and 30s are welcome to join for a potluck dinner, fellowship, and discussion. Please RSVP by emailing hannaruthcaruso@gmail.com

Membership in the Basilica Catholic Women's League

The Catholic Women's League of Canada has a core purpose, uniting Catholic women to grow in faith, and to promote social justice through service to the Church, Canada, and the World. For more information about the league, visit cwl.ca and cwl.on.ca. The cost to become a member of the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate CWL is \$40. Payment can be made by cheque or cash and can be dropped off at the Parish Office or placed in the weekly offertory in an envelope clearly marked – CWL Membership Fees. Please include your name and contact information.

Basilica Gift Store (Parish Hall)

New items have arrived this past week: new Nativity Sets, including special nativity sets for children, and one-piece sets. Statues that we have not had before include Our Lady of Knots (actually the "undoer of knots") and a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Lourdes with St. Bernadette kneeling before her. There are small angels, stocking stuffers, sets that light up – perfect for your home or office. We have plaques just right for children and yes, those difficult-to-buy-for teenagers. There are Books for little ones, and the list goes on and on. Please drop in after Mass and check us out.

Save the Date – Guelph Catholic Churches

Fun Family Bingo – St. Joseph's Parish Hall 6pm, Bingo starts at 6:30pm, Entrance fee is \$3.00, six cards per person. Saturday Evenings Jan. 13th, Feb. 3rd, March 2nd, Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 10631.

Grief Relief

Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you looking for relief from the feelings associated with the loss of this loved one? Are you wondering if your feelings are normal? You are not alone! The Diocese of Hamilton will be offering a six week grief program starting January 17, 2024. The sessions are held from 1:30 – 3:00pm at the Chancery Office at 700 King St. West. You are welcome to join in person or

by zoom. To register go to hamiltondiocese.com and look for the start date under upcoming events.

CWL at St. John's Parish, Guelph

St. John the Baptist Parish in Guelph is in the process of reinstating the Catholic Women's League. We welcome back members who registered with other councils during our hiatus. Please contact St. John's Parish Office at 519-824-7311 if you would like to join us again.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will resume at the 9:00am and 11:00am masses next Sunday, December 17th. This is only for children age 4 to Grade 3. If you are a teen or adult, we still need more volunteers to run this every weekend. Call Mary Muller at 289-230-8856 for more information.

Advent Resource for Teens

The Office of Youth Ministry is pleased to announce the release of the 2023 Advent Resource, "Shine Your Light". This resource has been developed for youth aged 13-16 in mind. The resource is an interactive journal, inspiring prayerful reflection on the Sunday Gospels, in addition to suggestions for living out the Advent Season. <https://tinyurl.com/2s3h2ejs>.

Divine Mercy PowerPoint Presentation

There will be a whole day seminar at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate on Saturday, January 13, 2024 from 9:00am to 3:00pm (Bring your Lunch).

A great treasury of revelations, teachings, insights, and prayers of the Devotion to the Divine Mercy. In addition to the many significant revelations of Our Lord about trust and mercy, there are major teachings on several subjects, including the Holy Eucharist, Confession, Blessed Mother, spiritual life and suffering of others.

Jesus said: "Write down these words, my daughter. Speak to the whole world about My Mercy; let all mankind recognize My unfathomable mercy. It is a sign for the end times; after it, will come the day of justice. While there is still time, let them have recourse to the fount of My Mercy; let them profit from the blood and water which gushed forth for them."

Renewed by Love – Marian Residence Retirement Home

There is a campaign called Renewed by Love and it seeks to transform the living spaces of the residents of Marian Residence Retirement Home and nurture an environment at Marian Residence that fosters the five values of our organization: Faith, Compassion, Dignity, Respect and Responsibility. For more information please contact: Sister Maria Goretti Figueiredo, SOLI at social@marianresidence.ca.

Special Day Envelopes

Parishioners who donate by weekly or monthly electronic fund transfer (EFT) we now have special donation envelopes available at the parish office for your use.

Christmas Craft Nigh for Catholic Children

St. Mary's Catholic Church in Linwood will be hosting a Christmas Craft Night where we will be building Graham Cracker Gingerbread Houses. Everyone of all ages are welcome. Supplies will be provided

When: Tuesday December 19th after mass

Where: St. Mary's on Linwood will begin at 7:30pm in the basement hall. To sign up please visit

<https://forms.gle/r2e4DPTE5NUFtyhQ9>

Why Do We Exchange Gifts At Christmas?

When Jesus was born, there were wise men, or magi, who came from distant lands to worship him. They offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. One reason we give gifts at Christmas time is to follow the example of the magi.

We also follow in the example of the generous St. Nicholas.

Giving gifts is also a way to remember how, on that first Christmas night in a stable in Bethlehem, God gave us the greatest gift of all – his only son, who would die for our sins about three decades late. When we give gifts at Christmas, it is a wonderful opportunity to give of ourselves, imitating God's amazing generosity and showing his love to others.

Where did the Christmas Tree come from?

For thousands of years, the evergreen tree has been a sign of hope and life. For ancient people, it was a reminder in the winter that sunlight and good weather would come again. For Christians, it's a reminder that Jesus came to bring us the hope of eternal life.

While sixteenth century Germans are said to be the first people to bring Christmas trees into their homes, St. Boniface, an eighth century Catholic missionary to the Germans, is credited with creating the first Christmas tree. This happened one Christmas Eve when he chopped down a large oak tree that the Germans used for Pagan worship. He pointed to a nearby evergreen tree, saying that it represented peace and eternal life. He told the crowd of Germans to gather around evergreen trees in their homes in a spirit of kindness and love, to commemorate the Child Jesus.

In the early 1800s, German settlers brought the Christmas tree tradition to Pennsylvania. The rest of America adopted the tradition in 1846, and slowly but surely the Christmas tree gained popularity. Now, Christmas trees are seen in homes and on display all over the world. Their beauty and light remind us of the hope we have in Jesus.

Offertory Envelops and Missals

2024 envelopes and missals are available for pick up now at the back of the church.

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