

# BASILICA OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE Parish Community



PARISH ESTABLISHED IN 1827

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***Pastoral Team:***

Father Ian Duffy, VF, KCHS, Rector  
Father Paul Niesiobędzki, Associate Pastor  
Father Bill Foote, Honourary Assistant  
Deacon Quinto Tami

*prepare the way...*



## ADVENT

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

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

9:00 a.m. – Mass – Maurice & Frances Zadro, Liam & Nuala Connolly, Victor Zadro

### Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

8:30 a.m. – The Office of Lauds

9:00 a.m. – Mass – Bonnie (Paula) Bendo, Intentions of Yvonne & Oswald Fernandes

6:30 p.m. – CWL Adoration

### Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve

#### The Nativity of The Lord

9:00 a.m. – Mass

5:00 p.m. – Mass

7:00 p.m. – Mass

11:30 p.m. – Christmas Carols

12:00 a.m. – Midnight Mass

### Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas

#### The Nativity of The Lord

8:30 a.m. – The Office of Lauds

9:00 a.m. – Mass

11:00 a.m. -- Mass

### Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> – St. Stephen

8:30 a.m. – The Office of Lauds

9:00 a.m. – Mass – Margaret & Jerzy Skowron, Larry Lobsinger, Intentions of Blake Sloan

### Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup> – St. John

8:30 a.m. – The Office of Lauds

9:00 a.m. – Mass

4:00 p.m. - Confessions

5:15 p.m. – Mass – Danny Michieli, All Unborn Children, Nicola Stefano, Victor Zadro, Doug Gilbert, Intentions of Gareth & Tracey Poole

### Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:30 a.m. – The Office of Lauds

9:00 a.m. – Mass

11:00 a.m. – Mass

### Regina Caeli Shrine Lamps

During the week beginning Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, the lamps of the Regina Caeli Shrine burn for the repose of the soul the Sorbara Family and the Dupuis Family and burn for the intentions of the Sorbara Family and the Dupuis 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 gifts collected in the amount of \$8,584.50 in support of your parish community and in gratitude for God's blessing.

### Vocations

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Are you willing to respond as Joseph did?

If God is calling you contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905 528-7988. Email [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).

### PARISH NEWS

#### Christmas Message from Father Ian Duffy

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate the holy night when the Word became flesh, I extend to each of you my heartfelt Christmas blessings. In the humble manger of Bethlehem, we behold the infinite love of God made visible—Emmanuel, God with us. May the light of Christ's birth dispel every darkness in our hearts and homes, renewing us with hope, peace, and joy.

At this sacred time, I thank you for your faith, your prayer, and your generous love for one another throughout the year. I pray that we will each welcome Christ anew, especially in the poor, the lonely, and the suffering, and carry His mercy into the coming year.

May Mary and Joseph guide us closer to their Son and may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts and families.

On behalf of Bishop Ustrzycki, Fr. Bill, Fr. Paul, Deacon Quinto and the Parish Staff I would like to wish a blessed and holy Christmas to you all.

I remain yours in Christ,  
Fr. Ian

### Basilica Bible in a Year - 2026

The entire goal of the Christian life is Jesus Christ himself. For he is the way, the truth and the life. Yet how do we, as Thomas asks, know the way? The surest way to know Christ is through God's Word, for Jesus is the Word made flesh. As Saint Jerome says: "Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ." Therefore, I am pleased to invite all Basilica parishioners to journey through the entire Bible as a parish community in 2026. Using the Bible in a Year podcast, we will follow along daily individually, receive weekly motivational emails, and attend monthly optional in-person meetings as we allow God's Word in Holy Scripture to penetrate our hearts and minds, shape our lens, and transform our lives in accordance with His Word.

For details and to register email Mary at [biybasilica@gmail.com](mailto:biybasilica@gmail.com)

**Message from the Office – Re: Donations for 2025**

Any donations that you would like to go towards your 2025 offerings need to be **received** no later than December 31, 2025. Anything received after this date will go on your donations for 2026. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

**Message from the Office – Closures during the Holidays**

The Parish Office will close at 4:30pm on Tuesday December 23rd and open again at 9:00am on Monday December 29th. It will then close at 12:00pm on Wednesday December 31st, and open at 9:00am on Friday January 2nd.

**Regina Caeli Academy Gala**

The private Catholic school opening in September 2026 will host a gala at the Italian Canadian Club on Saturday, April 11, 2026. The event will feature dinner, dancing, a silent auction, and many prizes. Tickets are \$140 each and can be purchased at the parish office starting on January 2, 2026. For a table of 8, tickets are \$135 each; for a table of 10, they are \$130 each. A portion of the ticket sales may be eligible for a tax receipt. Thank you for supporting Regina Caeli Academy.

**Catholic Young Adult Book Study Group**

The young adult book study group will resume meeting in January. Young adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to a movie night on Wednesday, Jan 14th, starting at 6pm in the Lourdes Room. The film is "Flannery: The Storied Life of the Writer from Georgia," and is about Catholic author Flannery O'Connor. On Jan 28th, the group will begin discussing "In This House of Brede," a novel about Benedictine nuns by Rumer Godden. To RSVP, email [hannaruthcaruso@gmail.com](mailto:hannaruthcaruso@gmail.com). For more info, visit [quelphbookstudy.wordpress.com](http://quelphbookstudy.wordpress.com)

**Catholic Women's League**

The fees for 2026 are now due. Fees are \$40 of the \$40.00, \$34.50 per person is sent to National. The breakdown is as follows:

National Fee: \$25.00  
Provincial Fee: \$3.00  
Diocesan Fee: \$6.00  
Insurance: \$ .50

**Total: \$34.50**

The balance of \$5.50 is for our League. Please include your name, address, email and phone number when submitting your fees. Fees can be paid by cash or cheque and left in the offeratory baskets or paid at the office. We also accept e-transfers to [treasurercwlguelpbasilica@gmail.com](mailto:treasurercwlguelpbasilica@gmail.com). Thank you to returning members and to new members who wish to join this incredible League."

**OTHER NEWS**

**CHRISTMAS YOUNG ADULTS' NIGHT**

During the Christmas Season, Fr. Mark Morley invites all young adults (ages 20s and 30s) of our diocese to attend an evening of prayer, 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 with vocations testimony (8:00pm-9:00pm), and Compline (9:00pm) on **Saturday, January 3rd at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton)**. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton:

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

**The Real Justice Film Festival**

Is back with another year of enlightening films and meaningful dialogue! Our lineup for 2026 explores topics of housing insecurity, intellectual freedom, Indigenous rights, and ecological debt. Visit us online at <https://hamiltondiocese.com/reel-justice-film-festival/> to view our full event schedule, learn more about our films, and register for screenings. 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.

**Grace Before Meals**

(Can be sung to the tune of Edelweiss)

Bless our friends, bless our food  
Come oh Lord and sit with us  
May our talk glow with peace  
Bring your love to surround us.  
Friendship and peace,  
May it bloom and grow  
Bloom and grow forever  
Bless our friends, bless our food  
Bless our parish forever.



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