

# 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](mailto:ourlady@churchofourlady.com) Website: [www.basilicaofourlady.com](http://www.basilicaofourlady.com)**

**Pastoral Team**

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

**Basilica Staff**

Joe Finocchio, Business Manager  
 Marion Alexander, Bookkeeper  
 Amy Grey, Parish Secretary  
 Sue Narducci – Part Time Secretary  
 Brendan Shea, Custodian

**Music Ministry**

Joe Carere, Organist & Choirmaster  
 Julian Mason, Sub-Organist  
 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: Corey Malone.....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: Kellie Angerilli.....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: Colin Malone.....519-822-8502  
**Our Lady of Lourdes**  
 54 Westmount Road  
 Principal: Valerie Marks.....519-836-2170  
**Saint James High School**  
 57 Victoria Road North  
 Principal: Steve Gulyas.....519-822-4290  
**St. John Bosco**  
 19 Northumberland Street  
 Principal: Sandra Cummings.....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](http://www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass

### Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass

### Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – St. Francis Xavier

7:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass

7:00 p.m. – John B Miller Advent Concert

### Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass

### Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass – Stuart Crease

### Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass Sung in Latin

4:00 p.m. - Confessions

5:15 p.m. – Mass – Stephen Arsenault, Manuel Pires, Pdraig O’Cleirigh, Gerald Hasson, Monique Mattar, Margaret Skowron

### Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:30 a.m. – Novena Mass

9:00 a.m. – Mass

11:00 a.m. – Mass

1:00 p.m. – Church Tours

3:30 p.m. – Edison Singers Messiah Concert

### Regina Caeli Shrine Lamps

During the week beginning Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the lamps of the Regina Caeli Shrine burn for the intentions of Eric Van Roon, and for the new private Catholic school – Regina Caeli Academy.

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 \$9,046.50 in support of your parish community and in gratitude for God’s blessing. The St. Vincent De Paul Basilica Conference gives thanks for your donation of \$4,924.00 towards their works of charity on your behalf.

### Vocations

“They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.” 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

#### Novena of Masses for The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Once again, this year we will celebrate a Novena (nine days) of Masses leading to the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, our Parish’s Patronal Feast Day.

Novena Masses will be held at 7:30 each morning from November 29 to December 7, with Novena Prayers each day. Please note that for the duration of the Novena, the 7:30 Novena Mass will be the only Mass on each weekday. Sunday Masses will remain at 5:15, 9:00 and 11:00, with the 7:30am Novena Mass added on Sundays.

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Monday, December 8, His Excellency, Bishop Crosby, will celebrate Mass at 7:00pm.

All parishioners are encouraged to attend our Feast Day Mass, at which we will honour Bishop Crosby for his years of service to our Diocese, and in particular, his kindness and generosity to our parish.

#### 25/26 Missals available for purchase

Starting this weekend the Missals will be available for purchase in the south tower after all the weekend Masses. They will be available for purchase for the price of \$5.00 each.

#### Parish Gift Shop

The gift shop is ready for Christmas! Come and visit our gift shop early for the best selection of nativity sets, rosaries, cards, ornaments and more. In addition, we have many of our regularly stocked items available.

#### John B Miller Advent Concert – Wednesday December 3

Again, this year we are please to welcome John B Miller and friends to the Basilica of Our Lady for an evening of beautiful music. Please join us on Wednesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm for an evening of beautiful music. Admission is free but a free will donation would be much appreciated.

#### 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)

### **Regina Caeli Academy**

A private Catholic school will open in Guelph in September 2026, serving students from JK to Grade 8. If you would like to join the planning committee or learn more about the school, please come to one of our next meetings. Meetings will be held at St. John Church, 45 Victoria Road North, Guelph, on **December 9, and January 9 at 6:30 p.m.** If you would like to **register your child** for the school, please see [Reginacaeliacademy.ca](http://Reginacaeliacademy.ca) for more information.

### **CWL Sacred Art Christmas Workshop: Tues. December 9th, (7pm - 9pm)**

All ladies are invited to join us for a hands-on workshop and experience Sacred Art as a prayerful practice, led by artist Wendy Obbema. Participants will create two beautiful Christmas ornaments with paint and dried flowers. No art experience is necessary. The cost of \$30 per person includes all supplies.

### **Sandwiches for Royal City Mission**

Ladies in our parish have kindly been making sandwiches once a month to help feed the people who rely on Royal City Mission. More sandwich makers are needed currently. Please contact Anna Matteis if you can help, whether regularly or occasionally. [annamatteis7@gmail.com](mailto:annamatteis7@gmail.com)

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Heartache to Healing – Grief Support Group - Coping with Christmas**

Grieving the loss of a loved one at any time is difficult but it can seem all the worse as we approach the Christmas season. This time of year, often reminds us of our loved ones who are no longer with us along with feelings of loss and sadness. We may begin to worry about our sense of belonging and how we are going to cope without our loved ones. Join us as we watch a video and discuss ways to cope while still being able to find joy in each moment trusting that there will be brighter days ahead.  
Date: Wednesday, December 10th 2025  
Time: 7 – 8:30 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)  
Location: St. Michael Parish (Parish Centre – basement) – 80 University Ave. W., Waterloo, ON  
For more information and to register, please phone or email our Parish office (519-884-9311 / [parish@stmichaelw.ca](mailto:parish@stmichaelw.ca)).

### **St. Joseph Parish, Hamilton**

Presents the Victoria Scholar's Men's Choral Ensemble on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. This men's choral Ensemble was founded in 1993 and is an assembly of graduates of the St. Michael's Boys Choir in Toronto.

We are fortunate to have this past winner of the Healey William Grand Prize prepare us in song for Christ's birth. Please join us for this wonderful event. CD's will be available for sale. Tickets: \$40.00 please call the Parish Office at 905-528-0019.

### **Young Adults Night - Georgetown**

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 during the Advent Season. 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, December 6th** at Holy Cross Church (14400 Argyll Rd, Georgetown, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: For more information, please contact: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com).

### **Young Adult Adoration – Holy Rosary, Guelph**

We have recently started a Young Adult adoration night taking place every other Friday at 7:00pm. It is 1 hour of adoration followed by a reception for hanging out, chatting, eating, and playing games. Our next one is on Friday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please call the church for more information or email Chris Schweighofer [cjschweighofer@gmail.com](mailto:cjschweighofer@gmail.com).

### **Calling All Moms, Grandmas and Caregivers!**

Catholic Moms Group, Guelph  
*Bring Your Kids Along, Snack & Child Care Provided*  
**Guest Speaker:** Teresa Hartnett  
Family Ministry Director, Hamilton Diocese  
**Topic:** Nourishing Hope in Advent  
How to slow down the hectic pace of life at Christmas  
Wednesday December 3, 2025.  
4:30pm - 6:00pm (Use Rear Entrance)  
RSVP email: [st.johnbaptistmg@catholicmomsgroup.com](mailto:st.johnbaptistmg@catholicmomsgroup.com)  
**St. John the Baptist** 45 Victoria Rd. N., Guelph

### **St. Mary's Truth & Reconciliation Circle**

A vigil Mass for the Feast of the Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held on Thursday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at St. Mary Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows Church, 56 Duke Street West, Kitchener. The story of *St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe* will be shared before the Eucharistic celebration. Following Mass, hospitality will be provided in the parish hall: 3 Sisters soup & Bannock. All are welcome!

### **Mary's Meals**

This Christmas, Give the Gift of Hope  
Mary's Meals provides a nutritious daily meal to over three million children every day in their place of education. In communities where poverty and conflict can make it difficult for children to attend school, this meal offers a lifeline of hope. Just \$31.70 feeds a child for an entire school year. Learn more or make a gift at [www.marysmeals.ca](http://www.marysmeals.ca).

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