

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, January 2nd

Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
9:00 a.m. Dorothy Harber +

Tuesday, January 3rd

The Most Holy Name of Jesus
9:00 a.m. Albert Giroux +
Vi Harrison, Spec. Int.
Joseph La Manka +
Calisse Madigan, Spec. Int.

Wednesday, January 4th

9:00 a.m. John Avery +

Thursday, January 5th

9:00 a.m. Marion Dawson +
Hank Forani +
Gerry Hubbal +
Michael Stevenson +

Friday, January 6th

9:00 a.m. Marie McAndrew +

Saturday, January 7th

9:00 a.m. John Krivinsky +
5:00 p.m. For Our Parishioners

Sunday, January 8th

The Epiphany of the Lord
9:00 a.m. Janice Boulais +
11:00 a.m. Andrew Blake +

Please pray for the following:

Monty Wallace	Bev Butler
Gallina Goreaci	Dorothy & Ken Weegar
Fernando Lopes	Lynne Thurston
Carlos Telo	Don Hughes



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. The Monday Evening Charismatic Prayer Group also prays for those listed above.



OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, December 25th \$ 9,711.00
Christmas \$ 23,090.00

We wish to thank all our faithful contributors!

ORGAN AND BELL DONATIONS

Thank you very much for your generous donations. To date we have received **\$21,035.00** to help defer the \$35,000 expense.



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM THE PASTORAL TEAM

We wish to thank you for the many cards, gifts, baked goods and remembrances we received throughout the Christmas season. May our gracious God continue to be our source of peace and love in all that we are called to do.

*Friar Maurice, Friar Peter, Friar Reto,
Sister Rosalie, and Cristian*



THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIVING TREE

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! Again you opened your hearts to help those less fortunate. Thank you for making their Christmas a little merrier by showing you care with your beautiful gifts. May God bless you for your generosity. Have a very happy, healthy 2012.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY PROGRAM: This program will **commence again on January 15th, 2012** at the 9 a.m. Mass.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The Parish office will be **closed** on Sunday, January 1st and Monday, January 2nd



The **St. Vincent de Paul monthly collection** will take place after all masses next week-end, **January 7/8**. For those who would like to use an envelope, they are available in the Parish Gathering area.



Boomerang Bridge and Euchre: Boomerang Bridge and Euchre sessions have been suspended for the holiday season. Cards will **resume on Jan 9, 2012**.

WEEKLY BULLETIN IN YOUR INBOX! If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin via e-mail, please send a request to st.raphaelsbulletin@sympatico.ca

Registration for **St. Raphael's Second Annual Women's Retreat**, being held on **Saturday, February 4th**, begins next weekend after all the masses. Gift Certificates are also available.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Women's Retreat Planning Committee
Sunday, January 8th, 12 noon, St. Francis Rm.
Charismatic Prayer Group
Monday, January 9th, 7:15 p.m., St. Francis Rm.
Men's Group
Monday, January 9th, 7:30 p.m., Hearth Rm.
GOD Squad Meeting
Wednesday, January 11th, 6:30 p.m., Parish Centre
SENT Meeting
Thursday, January 12th, 6:30 p.m., St. Francis Rm.

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CHANGES IN GESTURES AT MASS

Value of gestures: Bodily gestures are an important part of prayer because we pray not just with our lips but with our whole bodies, minds and hearts. It is also important that we remember that we act as one body of worshippers when we come to Mass and observe the gestures offered by the General Instructions for the Liturgy. We have already begun to practice many of the gestures mentioned below and we are doing quite well!

Note: If you're physically incapacitated it is permitted and encouraged to maintain an attitude of reverence with your brothers and sisters as you are able.

New gesture: during the Confiteor (first option) at the Penitential Rite (which is near the beginning of Mass) all strike their breast once at the words: *through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.*

Reason: it is a bodily prayer that helps us acknowledge our guilt before God and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

New gesture: during the Apostles' Creed, though not mentioned on the card, all bow their heads during the words: *who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary.* **Reason:** we are showing reverence at the mention of the Incarnation of Christ.

New gesture: all stand when the priest says: *pray, brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable...* **Reason:** We offer our whole selves with the gifts of bread and wine that are offered.

As usual, we kneel after the *Holy Holy* until we stand to pray the *Our Father*.

New gesture: all stand for the *Our Father* and we remain standing through the Lamb of God until returning to our respective pews after we have received the Body and Blood of Christ. **Reason:** we stand together as one body offering our prayer as an acceptable offering to God.

New gesture: approaching the altar for Communion: we make a simple head-bow only once before receiving the precious Body and Blood. **Reason:** The purpose of the bow is to observe a brief moment of personal recollection. To facilitate a smooth flow we recommend that you bow as the person in front of you receives the Eucharist.

ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE FOR 2012: For information please call the Parish Office at 905 637-2346 or e-mail st.raphaelsbulletin@sympatico.ca



HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED ADOPTION? *Would you like to hear more about the process through CCAS?* Upcoming Information Night: **Wednesday January 18th** – 7:00 p.m. Catholic Children's Aid Society of

Hamilton, 735 King St. East For more information and to register call Jocelyn Jacobs at (905) 525-2012 ext. 3125. Visit our website at www.hamiltonccas.on.ca

FOSTER HOMES FOSTER HOPE!

Give the gift of love – become a foster parent!

Upcoming Information Night: **Wednesday January 25th** – 6:30 p.m. Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, 735 King St. East For more information and to register call Carol Larsen at (905) 525-CARE (2273) Visit our website at www.hamiltonccas.on.ca



BIG BAND CONCERT ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2012:

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a "BIG BAND CONCERT" featuring the TORONTO ALLSTAR BIG BAND at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre on Locust Street. Preferred seating can be reserved by going on-line to www.burlingtonpac.ca or by calling the box office at 905-681-6000. They are most willing to assist you in getting your preferred seats. Think of this as the ideal Christmas gift for that person who already has everything. A wonderful night out to listen to some wonderful music from the "SWING ERA".

DAY OF PRAYER: SISTERS OF SOCIAL SERVICE

11 Perthshire Court, Hamilton. **Friday, January 28th**. 9:00 am to 3 pm. Bring a bag lunch...Tea & coffee provided. Suggested Offering: \$20. To Register: please call or e-mail Sr. Elaine Arsenaault, SSS at 289-799-1064 or ssspertshire@sympatico.ca

FIRST FRIDAY MASS and EUCHARISTIC

ADORATION: Friday, **January 6, 2012** from **6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** at St. Gabriel's Parish, 2261 Parkway Drive, Burlington. Mass begins at 6:30 p.m. in English and Polish, followed by Eucharistic Adoration and closing with Benediction. Confessions before, during and after Mass. Everyone welcome. For information, call (905)332-1014.

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



Come away for a few hours of

prayer....Praying With the Sisters of St. Joseph: All interested women are invited to join the Sisters of St. Joseph at the Motherhouse at 574 Northcliffe Avenue,

Hamilton, on **Saturday, January 14th** from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The day will include Mass, a short talk on prayer, time for reflection and prayer and lunch. Suggested contribution is \$20. Please call 905-528-0138 to register by January 8th.

