



St. Joseph Catholic Parish

409 Paisley Road
Guelph, ON N1H 2R4

519-822-4614
stjosephguelph@rogers.com
stjosephguelph.com

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SATURDAY MASS

5:00 pm

SUNDAY MASSES

8:30 am
10:15 am - Children's Liturgy
12 noon

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - No Mass
Tuesday to Friday - 8:00 am
Wednesday and Friday - 7:00 pm
Saturday morning - 9:00 am

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Wednesday 8:30am to 11:00am

CONFESSION TIMES

Saturday 11:00 am to 12 noon or by appointment.

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PARISH MINISTRY

There are many groups and activities in our Parish. We hope you can join one. Visit our website to find out more. Get Involved!
www.stjosephguelph.com/ministries

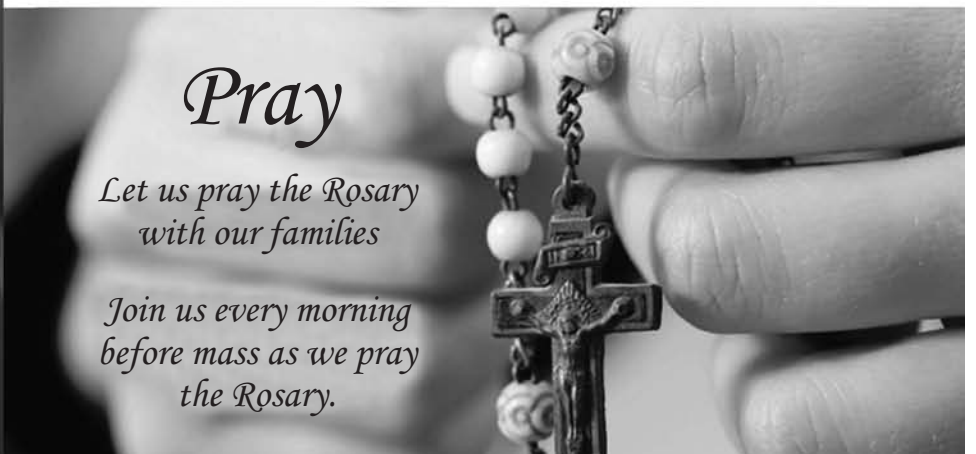
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PARISH STAFF

Reverend Jeff Bergsma, Pastor
Tracy Bolzon, Office Administrator
Zofia Gadzinska, Bookkeeper



Saint Joseph was a just man, a tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always guard, protect and enlighten families.

- ST JP II



Pray

Let us pray the Rosary with our families

Join us every morning before mass as we pray the Rosary.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



MONDAY, December 16th
7:00pm All Parishioners

TUESDAY, December 17th
8:00am In Thanksgiving
Intentions of Ninesha Fernando
Intentions of Nguyen Family
Living and Deceased Parish Priests
+ Helen Kun
+ Necita Estorco
7:00pm + Benito Soligo

WEDNESDAY, December 18th
8:00am + Erminia Lacivita
8:30am - 11:00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm + Marisa Mattucci
+ George, Regina, Frank and Margaret Vettor
+ John Gusman
+ Matthew Fairful
+ Gyorgy Vamos

THURSDAY, December 19th
8:00am Intentions of Gabriel and Helen D'Souza
7:00pm

FRIDAY, December 20th
8:00am Marge and Ernie DiCarlo
7:00pm Intentions of Gliceria Sanz
7:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

SATURDAY, December 21st
9:00am Living and Deceased Haley Family Members
5:00pm + Gino Ravazzolo
6:30pm Eritrean Mass

SUNDAY, December 22nd
8:30am + Guardino and Lucia Caravaggio
10:15am + Andre Giardino
12noon Intentions of Rinu, Andrew, Rinoy and Anitta



May God's peace be with those who have recently died, especially **BENITO SOLIGO** and those being persecuted for their faith & race, and those killed in natural disasters & their families. Please remember our parishioners who are sick and homebound and those in our Prayer Network in your prayers.

Third Sunday of Advent - December 15, 2024

Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister and announce the Good News to His People as John the Baptist did? Contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.



SANCTUARY CANDLES

Week of December 15, 2024

Candle #1 – INTS of HUBER FAMILY

Candle #2 – INTS of HALEY FAMILY

Please use the envelopes provided request intentions for the Sanctuary Lamps, which are lit at the tabernacle. The requested offering is \$10 each. You may place the envelope in the collection or drop it in the Parish Office.

COLLECTIONS FOR THE PAST WEEK

Sunday Offering December 7/8 \$6,105.40

Loose Collection \$1,156.65

Christmas Flowers \$500

Thank you for your contribution and God Bless!

If you would like a receipt for your contribution, we need your name & full address. If you would like envelopes or to sign up for Pre-Authorized Donations, please call the Parish Office at 519-822-4614.



Extra Confession Times with All Day Adoration

Thursday December 19th: 10:00am to 7:00pm

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th: 5:00pm, 7:00pm, and 12:00am (Midnight Mass)

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25: 8:30am, 10:15am, 12:00(noon)

Boxing Day – St Stephen

Thursday December 26th: 9:00am

Mary Mother of God (New Year's) Mass Schedule

Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 31st: 5:00pm

Wednesday, January 1st, 2025: 9:00am and 11:00am



SUNDAY REFLECTION

It's Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, and most of today's readings shimmer and pulsate with joy. It's the Gospel that, at first blush, seems anti-climactic, as an ascetic John the Baptist preaches sacrifice to those wishing to receive his baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And yet there are three causes of rejoicing here that can also transform our lives.

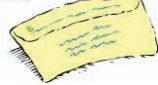
The first is the stirring of desire for a holy life from such unlikely characters as tax collectors, soldiers and well, ordinary people. The second is their humble, courageous and fearsome question: "What should we do?" They so longed for the forgiveness of their sins that wealth, power and position faded away before the promise of a clean heart. And John's response – his good news – was within their reach: act fairly and honestly. But the greatest cause for rejoicing is the glimpse John gave of the Saviour coming to baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire: a baptism of holiness beyond their comprehension and beyond his own grace.

As we approach the Advent of our Lord into the very marrow of our humanity, washing away our sins and promising a baptism into his divinity, let us muster the hope and the audacity to ask, "What must I do, to open my heart to this grace today?" *Excerpt from Living with Christ.*

2025 SUNDAY ENVELOPES

Sunday Offertory Envelopes are **NOW READY** for you to pick up in the Parish Hall. If you do not presently use envelopes and would like to have a set, please contact Tracy at the parish office at 519-822-4614 or fill out the registration form located at the back of the church or on our website www.stjosephguelph.com. You can drop off the registration forms at the office or via email at stjosephguelph@rogers.com.

Offering Envelopes



FLORAL TRIBUTES – IN MEMORIUM

Would you like your loved one(s) remembered at Christmas? Just make a donation towards the Christmas flowers, and we will post their names on our website and remember them in the prayers at Christmas. **Please use the envelope in your box or one marked "Flowers" in the Sunday collection or drop off at the Parish Office. Be sure to print your loved one's name clearly on the envelope. Please submit these donations by Thursday, December 19th.** Thank you for your consideration.

URGENT - USHERS NEEDED

As Jesus reminds us that he is the vine and we are the branches, and it is the branches through which nourishment enlivens the vine, so it is with the parish ministries. One does not become a parishioner simply by attending Sunday Mass. Your involvement in one of these ministries will not only enrich your life, but it will also vitalize the communion of faith we enjoy at St Joseph Parish. We are **in urgent need for ushers at all masses**. If you are able to help, please call the Parish Office – 519-822-4614.

"SIMBANG GABI" AT ST. JOSEPH...

This Christmas tradition is coming to St. Joseph Parish once again, and will be celebrated starting **Sunday, December 15th** during the 12:00pm mass up to **Monday, December 23rd**. Other masses designated for this novena are; **Monday, December 16th** at 7:00pm, **Tuesday December 17th** at 7:00pm, **Thursday December 19th** at 7pm, **Saturday, December 21st** at 5:00pm, **Sunday December 12noon** and **Monday, December 23rd** at 7:00 pm. The traditional Christmas custom of "Simbang Gabi" in the Philippines, is a devotional 9-day novena (series of masses), practiced by Roman Catholics in anticipation and preparation for

the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to honour our Blessed Mother. "**Simbang Gabi**" is not just an old custom that is celebrated because we want to, but rather it is a way of asking "favor or blessings" from the Lord, as it is believed that if one completes the whole series of nine masses, prayers and/or intentions will be granted. There will be breaking of bread and fellowship at the church hall following each **Simbang Gabi** masses. Everyone is welcome to join this 9-day mass novena/celebration at St. Joseph's to experience an old but popular Filipino tradition. Hope you can join us.

JUBILEE OF HOPE, 2025

The Diocese of Hamilton joins the celebration of the Global Church in this Ordinary Jubilee Year, 2025, as "Pilgrims of Hope!" We are all invited to journey through this year drawing closer to God through prayer, service and experiences of renewal. Six churches have been designated as pilgrimage sites across the Diocese, welcoming you as a visitor over the course of the Jubilee to come and pray. Resources, information and locations of the pilgrimage sites are all made available on the Diocesan Website: www.hamiltondiocese.com

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 4th** at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

THE REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL

Is excited to release our dates for the 2025 season. Our films this year focus on hope and the personal stories that give voice to those that often go unheard. Themes include women's empowerment, refugees, youth, Indigenous justice, and environmental care. We start the season on **January 23, 2025**, with **She Rises Up**, a revealing look at the power of women's economic participation. The film follows radically different women from Sri Lanka, Peru, and Senegal who are fighting to build businesses, create job opportunities for women, and contribute to the reduction of poverty in their communities. Film Director, Maureen Castle Tusty and Executive Producer James Tusty will join us as guest speakers. In 2008, they founded Sky Films Inc. to produce documentary films that inform, uplift, and inspire. The Reel Justice Film Festival is a partnership between the Bishop Farrell Library & Archives and Development and Peace. Film screenings are shown online, once a month from January to May. You can view our full film lineup at: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/reel-justice-film-festival/> We hope you can join us!

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near."
Philippians 4:4-5



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