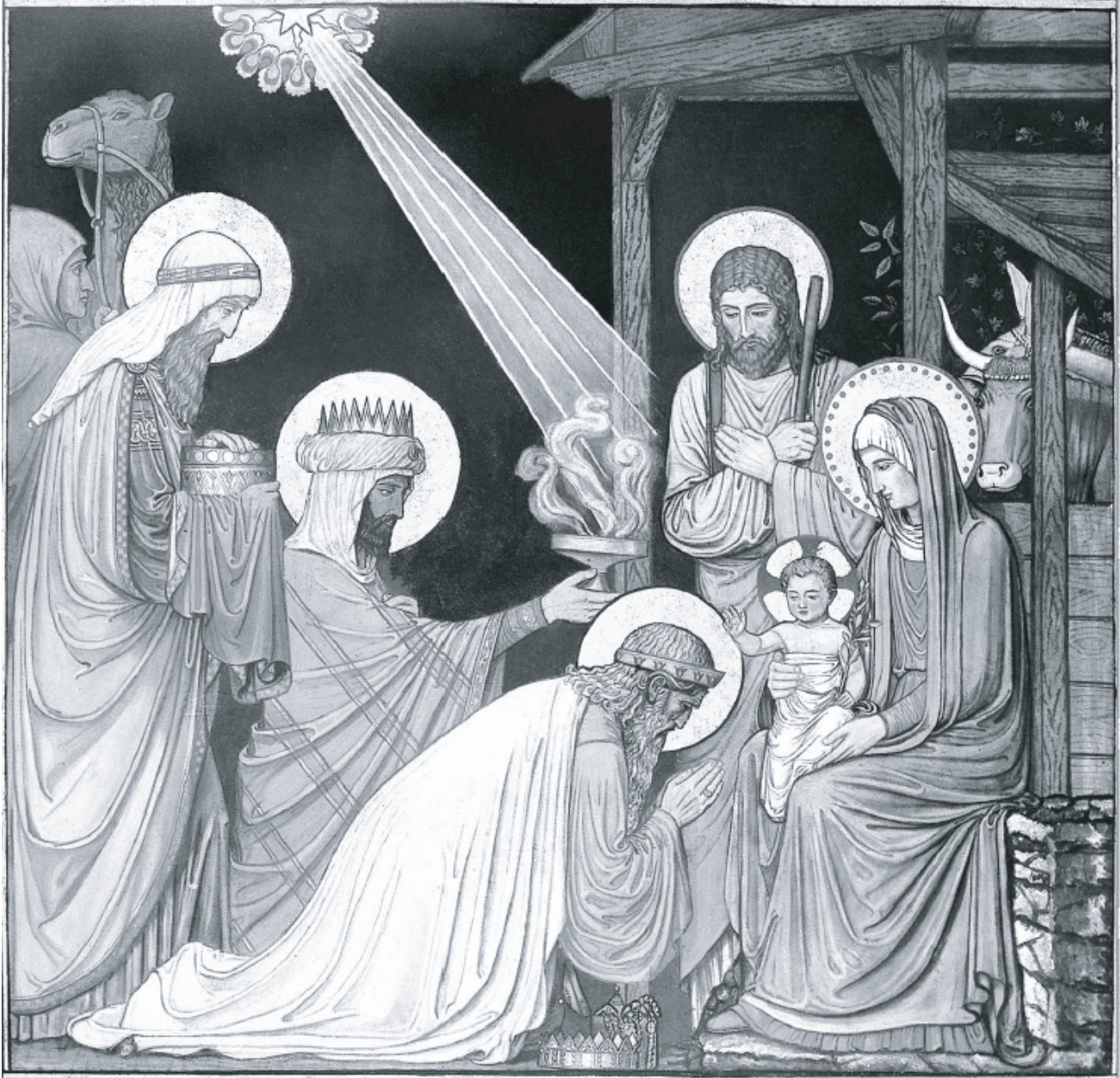


St. Joseph Catholic Parish

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PARISH STAFF

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



Feast of the Holy Family

THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



TUESDAY, December 31st

8:00am Intentions of Gabriel and Helen D'Souza

New Year's Eve

5:00pm Intentions of Peter Tran Family

WEDNESDAY, January 1st – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

9:00am Intentions of Vinh Tran and Family

11:00am Intentions of John Tran

THURSDAY, January 2nd

8:00am Intentions of Phung Tran and Family

FRIDAY, January 3rd

8:00am + Gerrit Kistemaker

7:00pm + Francis D'Souza

7:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

SATURDAY, January 4th

9:00am + Florindo Scapin

5:00pm + Thomas Tam Tran

SUNDAY, January 5th

8:30am Intentions of Leslie Janesse

10:15am + Pietra and Eugenio Rotondi

12noon All Parishioners



May God's peace be with those who have recently died, especially **MARY LARKIN** 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.

Feast of the Holy Family - December 29, 2024

By Baptism we are God's holy family. Pray today for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained, or consecrated person. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

SANCTUARY CANDLES

Week of December 29, 2024

Candle #1 –

Candle #2 –

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 14/15, 21/22, Dec 28/29 and January 5, 2025 will be posted January 12th due to deadlines for submissions of our bulletin over the next few weeks. Thank you for your contribution and God Bless!

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.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from December 25 to January 1st. The office will reopen on Thursday January 2nd with regular office hours 9am to 5pm.



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

A memory lingers: a father holding his little daughter's hand. They waited for the bus to take her to her first day at school. She had chosen to wear a tee-shirt emblazoned with two words: Question Authority. We knew we had a daughter with a strong soul, but could we have fathomed what her calling would be?

In the first reading we hear of a promise Hannah made three thousand years ago. The vocation of her yet-unborn child was set. Samuel would be given to the Lord. John in the second reading tells us that we all have a calling to be "children of God." What path would we each take to fulfill this mission?

Long-term Church crises such as those around abuse or racism may have led many of our youth to follow spiritual directions outside the institutional Church. Are they lost? Can we recognize

that our youth may not at all be astray, but rather about their Father's business in unexpected ways? There should be no barriers to our welcoming acceptance of all God's children, whatever their path or calling.

Luke tells us Mary and Joseph looked for their lost twelve-year-old son for three days. They found a young Jesus in the temple, in his "Father's house." They didn't understand that their child was not lost at all: he knew his vocation and had answered its call.

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.

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!

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH

December is an exciting month for children and families with the coming of Christmas. December is also the month we prepare for Christmas during Advent! Advent, by definition, means we are preparing for something important, which is the coming of Jesus Christ. Celebrating with an Advent wreath allows us to light a candle each week, offering a chance to discuss, on four occasions, what Christ's coming to the world means to all of us. The candles (hope, faith, joy and peace) open up the opportunity to remind our children what each candle represents and, of course, the real meaning of the season. Santa comes one night per year, but Jesus is with us always and is a true gift in our lives. This Advent, remember to make Christ the reason for the season. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS – SAVE THE DATE!

Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2025? Then you are cordially invited to join Bishop Crosby and couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. (Space allows room for Anniversary couples only - those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration will be available online in January at hamiltondiocese.com.

Kindergarten Registration at Wellington Catholic DSB

The Wellington Catholic District School Board will be accepting new registrations for kindergarten at our schools beginning January 6, 2025!

To be eligible for registering in kindergarten, children;

- must be four years of age on or before December 31, 2025, to attend Year 1 Kindergarten
- must be five years of age on or before December 31, 2025, to attend Year 2 Kindergarten

To register we ask that you visit

https://www.wellingtoncdsb.ca/registration/kindergarten_registration and complete the online student pre-registration form. Once you have completed this form you will receive a follow-up email to complete the registration process. We ask that you have the following documents available;

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Parent Or Child's Baptismal Certificate
- Proof of Tax Support for Families New to the System (i.e., Most Recent Tax Bill)
- Proof of Address (Government Document, Mortgage or Rental Agreement, Hydro Bill, Credit Card Statement)
- Immigration Documentation (If Applicable)
- Custody Documents (If Applicable)

During the registration process, school administration are available to assist you with any questions you may have.

Please note:

- Students currently attending a Wellington Catholic Year 1 Kindergarten program are NOT REQUIRED to register for Year 2 Kindergarten.
- Should you have any questions about registration procedures or requirements, please contact your local Catholic school.



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