

# ST RAPHAEL PARISH COMMUNITY

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*Served by the Holy Cross Fathers*

Fr. Wilson Andrade C.S.C. - Pastor

Fr. Emmanuel Ralte C.S.C. - Associate Pastor


Catherine Osborne - Office Administrator

Ms. Maureen Lawlor - Office Assistant



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

**Mass Intentions** 

(† = Deceased Intention; No Marking = Intentions of...;  
Thx = Thanksgiving; Hlg = Healing)

Mon. Dec 30, 9am	† Valentino Europa
Tue. Dec 31, 9am	For Our Parishioners
Tue. Dec 31, 5pm	Rev. Charlie Galea
Wed. Jan 1, 9am	Lisa Zammit
Wed. Jan 1, 11am	† Judith Vienna Reyes
Thu. Jan 2, 9am	† Tony Florio
	† Warren Hackett
Fri Jan 3, 9am	† Concepcion Cardenas
Fri Jan 3, 6:30pm	† Urmas Sui
Sat Jan 4, 5pm	Hlg. Nigel Hutchins
	† Glenn Akeson
Sun. Jan 5, 9am	Ints. Of Resek Family
	† Ernest James Resek
Sun. Jan 5, 11am	For Our Parishioners



**THANK YOU:** We would like to thank all parishioners who brought in flowers to our Parish for Christmas. The plants looked lovely and the church was radiant with the flowers arranged by the Decorating Committee. Thank-you to everyone involved!



**THANK YOU TO OUR MINISTRIES:** On behalf of the pastoral team and the parish, we would like to thank *all the volunteers* who spent a lot of time in making this season of Christmas a joyful celebration. Thanks to all the *Lectors, Altar servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, all the Choir Members, Choir Directors, Musicians, Decorating Committee, Ushers, and Offertory Counters, Christmas Eve pageant team, children's liturgy team, and maintenance staff.* Each of your contributions has helped all of us to experience the joy of Christ's birth and made it a meaningful celebration for our community. We are indeed a vibrant and joyful community. Let us continue to share this joy with one another as we begin this New Year. May the choicest blessings come to all of you and to your families in the Jubilee Year of Hope to come.

**THANKSGIVING FOR OUR MINISTRIES:** On behalf of the parish of St. Raphael we would like to offer thanksgiving for our volunteers in our many ministries for all of their hard work for the parish throughout the entire year of 2024. Their dedication and commitment help to build our loving community of faith.

**RENOVATION FUND COLLECTION:** We would like to encourage everyone to support our Renovation Funds, please use the yellow envelopes to donate towards the HVAC funds

**2025 - A JUBILEE YEAR:** In 2025 the universal Church will celebrate a **Jubilee Year** – a year of renewal in faith. The theme of the year established by Pope Francis is "*Pilgrims of Hope.*" Pope Francis has asked that the preparation for the Jubilee be marked in a particular way by rediscovering the teachings of Vatican II, in particular the four Constitutions, and by prayer. A five-part video series has been developed for use in the Diocese of Hamilton to explore the history and the four main documents of Vatican II. All resources and study guides are available free for digital use here: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vatican-ii/>

**2025 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** Please pick up your box of 2025 donation envelopes in the parish lobby. Please note, to reduce waste many envelope numbers have changed for the coming year. Please do not begin using the 2025 envelopes until the new year begins and **please do not use any envelopes from previous years for your donations in 2025.** For assistance, please contact the office.

**Please pray for:**

Carlo Izzi Joan Soresen  
Please phone the parish office before Tuesday morning to have a name added.

**2024 YEAR-END DONATIONS:** Parishioners and visitors who wish to make a year-end donation to St. Raphael parish are encouraged to do so **before Tuesday, December, 31.** Donations received after Dec. 31 will be receipted for 2025. Your understanding and timely support is appreciated.

**FESTIVAL OF FAMILIES DINNER & DANCE:** On **December 31**, on the eve of the feast of Mary the Mother of God, we invite you for a Family Dinner and Dance to celebrate our faith in our Christian Family. Mass at 5pm followed by a Dinner and Dance in the Parish Centre at 6:30pm. Tickets, \$40 per adult, \$20 per child, are available at the back of the church after the weekend masses.

**NEW MISSALS:** are available to pick up at the entrance. The suggested donation is \$5:00. Thank you for your support.

**SCHEDULE FOR NEW YEAR'S**

**Weekday Morning Mass:** Tue, Dec 31, 2024 – 9:00am

**Feast of Mary, the Mother of God, Mass**

Tue, Dec 31, 2024 – 5:00pm

Wed, Jan 1, 2025 – 9:00 & 11:00am

**TRIP TO PERU; MACHU PICCHU & LAKE TITICACA:** Father Wilson will be leading a cultural discovery trip to Peru from September 14 – 23, 2025. This small group tour is being offered exclusively to parishioners and friends of St. Raphael Parish up until January 2025, when it will be released and advertised to the general public. Please find all the details in the brochure in the parish lobby. For more information, please contact Michelle Matthews, 905-510-8853, [mimatthews@expediacruz.com](mailto:mimatthews@expediacruz.com)

**RESTART: Refresh, Renew, Revive Friday Night Support Group** Struggling after divorce or separation? Join us for learning, support and fun on Friday evenings. Held the 2nd & 3rd Fridays of each month, these get-togethers offer continual support and insights for people as they journey through the divorce/separation process and beyond. Join in-person (700 King St. West, Hamilton), or by ZOOM. Register before each session: <https://sites.google.com/view/hamilton-restart/home>, or contact Sarah at [familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com), or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

**PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING:** Thank you for your generous support of our parish community. Please consider making your regular contributions to support the ongoing expenses for the Church and the many Ministries, through monthly automatic bank withdrawal. We especially ask those who give cash donations to the parish without the use of donation envelopes to consider this method. We would like to be able to credit your family for these donations and issue you a tax receipt at the end of the year. Please find Pre-Authorized Giving Plan Forms in the parish lobby. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the parish office.

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY, December 29:** 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.

**FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD, January 1:** Mary treasured all that God had done for her and pondered these things in her heart. Do you treasure God's gifts and ponder what He wants from you? You may have a vocation to a life in the Church serving Christ. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988.

[vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)  
[hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/](http://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/)

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** If you haven't yet registered in our parish, or need to update your information, please pick up and complete a registration form in the parish lobby.

**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 4**, at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: [hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/](http://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/) email: [vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)

**MARRIAGE TIP OF THE MONTH:** December can be a stressful month with all the preparation and planning that goes on before Christmas. This stress can cause us to lash out in ways we often would not, especially towards our spouses. This year make a conscious decision to break the cycle. Get out your calendars and plan some quiet couple time: a shared coffee, a walk in your neighborhood, watching a shared movie, or a dinner out. At least once a week make the gift of the season time with each other because its impact will last much longer than any other material gift you might give. (From: Teresa Hartnett, Family Ministry Office; 905-528-7988 ext. 2250)

**THE REEL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL:** is excited to release the dates for the 2025 season. The 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. The first film of the season, *She Rises Up*, airs on **January 23** and gives us 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 be the 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/> All are welcome!

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:**

Sunday, December 29: 9am – 1pm

Monday, December 30: 9am – 4pm

December 31 – January 2: CLOSED

Friday, January 3: 9am – 4pm (normal hours resume)



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