

St. Joseph Catholic Parish

409 Paisley Road, Guelph, ON N1H 2R4 519-822-4614

stjosephguelph@rogers.com • www.stjosephguelph.com

PARISH STAFF

Reverend Lourdu Subramani, Pastor

Tracy Bolzon, Office Administrator

Zofia Gadzinska, Bookkeeper

prepare the way...



ADVENT

MONDAY, December 22nd

7:00pm + Michael and Lena McGinn

TUESDAY, December 23rd

7:30am + Eddy Pope

+ Denyse Hayward

7:00pm Intentions of Ruth and Don Robertson

WEDNESDAY, December 24th – Christmas Eve

5:00pm + Gerrit Kistemaker

7:00pm + Phung Tran and Intentions of Tran Family

12:00mid Living and Deceased Members of Orlando and Martinello Family

THURSDAY, December 25th – Nativity of Our Lord

8:30am + Isagani Banez

10:15am + Anthony and John Baptist Tran

12:00noon All Parishioners

FRIDAY, December 26th – St Stephen

9:00am + Bernice Gordon

SATURDAY, December 27th

9:00am + Norberto Simpao

5:00pm + Ines Trang Nguyen

7:00pm Eritrean Mass

SUNDAY, December 28th – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30am All Parishioners

10:15am + Andre Giardino

12noon + Lido and Elisa Bot



May God's peace be with those who have recently died, 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 21, 2025

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife... When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him." Are you willing to respond as Joseph did? If God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Mark Morley, Director of Vocations, Diocese of Hamilton at 905-528-7988 or email vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

SANCTUARY CANDLESWeek of December 21, 2025Candle #1 – INTS of VINH and HANG TRAN and FAMILYCandle #2 – INTS of FR JEFF BERGSMA

Please use the envelopes provided to request intentions for the Sanctuary Lamps, which are lit at the tabernacle.



Love

COLLECTIONS FOR THE PAST WEEK

Sunday Offering December 13/14, 20/21, Christmas Day Collection December 24/25, December 27/28, New Year's Day Collection December 31 & January 1, and January 3/4, 2026 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.

Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Day

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

Boxing Day – St Stephen

Friday December 26th: 9:00am

Mary Mother of God (New Year's) Mass ScheduleHoly Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 31st: Adoration 4:00pm

Wednesday, December 31st: 5:00pm

Thursday, January 1st, 2026: 9:00am and 11:00am

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parish family,

The story of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ is a reminder to us all that God came to live among us, "the Word took flesh and dwelt among us" Jn1:1, God to be close to us, and to save us from our sins. Jesus gave us himself as a gift to us. It is a story that still rings true today. "Emmanuel: God with us" Jesus is close to us because he lives in our hearts where he continues to be a gift to us.

Jesus does not keep us at a distance from Him. Because of His presence in each one of us, we are also present and connected to one another.

As we celebrate the Nativity of Jesus, we remain eternally grateful to God for all the blessings, especially for the gifts of life, family, faith community, friends and neighbors. I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely as you have been such a blessing to our parish St Joseph, Guelph by being active and supporting us with your gifts of time, talents and timely financial help. My special gratitude goes to all the volunteers in our different ministries who do such a wonderful job in serving the various needs of our parish with much enthusiasm and commitment. I hope and pray that you will have a wonderful and blessed time during this Christmas Season.

May God bless you abundantly during this Christmas Season as well as during the New Year 2026. Merry Christmas!

May this season be full of light and laughter for you and your family. Wishing you peace, joy, and unconditional love at Christ as and always. May your days ahead be as vibrant as this festive season.

May your shine as bright as the Christmas lights because you deserve it all. Have a great year and a wonderful life ahead. May the true spirit of Christmas shine in your heart and light your path wishing you a season that's merry and bright with the light of God's love. I wish you all Merry Christmas and blessed New Year 2026. Prayerfully, Rev Lourdu



2026 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.

USHERS NEEDED – CHRISTMAS MASSES

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 **Monday, December 15th** during the 7:00pm mass up to **Tuesday, December 23rd**. Other masses designated for this novena are; **Monday, December 15th at 7:00pm, Tuesday December 16th at 7:00pm, Thursday December 18th at 7pm, Saturday, December 20th at 5:00pm, Sunday December 21 at 12noon and Monday, December 22nd at 7:00 pm and Tuesday, December 23rd at 7:00pm**. 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.

Regina Caeli Academy

Regina Caeli Academy thanks you for your support at the recent parish outreach. If you missed the chance to buy the Christmas cards, Advent candles, T-shirts, or homemade jam, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at info@reginacaeliacademy.ca. Limited quantities remain. Our upcoming planning meetings are on Tuesday, Friday, January 9, at St. John Church, as well as Thursday, February 12, and Thursday, March 12, in the Lourdes Room at the Basilica. The meetings start at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

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 3rd at Annunciation of Our Lord (280 Limeridge Road West, Hamilton**. Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton: <https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/> For more information, please contact: vocations@hamiltondiocese.com.

GIVE THE GIFT OF GIVING

We rely entirely on donations from our parishioners to help us fulfill our mission of providing a spiritual home where people can come to worship God, receive the Sacraments, and learn about His teachings. Leaving a gift to the Church is a profound way to return to the Lord a share of the blessings you received during your life. A bequest to the Church helps accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ. As the Church was there for you in your lifetime, you can now provide for your Church's future ministry to others. THANK YOU for considering to make a donation to our Parish.



4 WAYS TO GIVE TO ST JOSEPH PARISH

- 1. ONLINE DONATION:** make a donation by going to <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/12980>
- 2. PRE-AUTHORIZATION:** this allows you to set up weekly or monthly donations to the parish. If you are interested in donating this way, please contact the Parish Office for more details
- 3. BEQUEST:** A bequest in your Will to our Church is an acknowledgment of your returning to God a portion of the gifts He has bestowed on you during your lifetime.
- 4. LIFE INSURANCE:** Giving a gift through life insurance is a unique way to provide the Church with truly meaningful support in a very economical way by naming St Joseph as its beneficiary.



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