

## **Main Offices & Hours**

## Main Offices of Blessed Sacrament and St. Agnes Parish Cluster

52 Croydon Street, Chatham, Ontario N7L 1L3

Phone: 519-352-9370, 519-352-9483, Fax 1-866-601-8699

## Office Hours

Monday 8:00AM - 12:00PM and 1PM - 5PM

Tuesday - Friday 8:00AM - 5:00PM

## Main Offices of St. Joseph and St. Ursula Parish Cluster 205 Tweedsmuir Avenue West, Chatham, Ontario N7M 5N8

Phone: 519-352-8530, Fax: 519-352-9680

## **Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 4:30PM

Closed each day from 12 - 1pm for lunch

## St. Joseph and St. Ursula Parish



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH 180 Wellington St. W. Chatham, ON stjoseph@dol.ca



ST. URSULA CHURCH 205 Tweedsmuir Ave. W. Chatham, ON N7M 5N8 stursula@dol.ca

Our Parish Office is located at 205 Tweedsmuir Avenue West. Telephone: 519-352-8530 Fax: 519-352-9680

Please visit our website at: www.ccfp.dol.ca
Please visit our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/stjosephstursula
Follow us on Twitter @stjosephursula

## **SUNDAY MASSES**

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. - St. Ursula Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11 a.m. - St. Joseph Sunday: 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. - St. Ursula

## **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Tuesday & Friday: 12 noon - St. Joseph Wednesday & Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - St. Ursula

## **BAPTISM**

Please contact the office to make arrangements.

Preparation required.

### RECONCILIATION

Friday: 11:15 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. - St. Joseph Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. - St. Ursula

## **PASTORAL TEAM**

Pastor: Fr. Jim Higgins
Associate Pastor: Fr. Don Pumputis
Permanent Deacons:
Deacon Steve Cartier
Deacon Jerry Lozon
Deacon Chris Masterson
Deacon Morgan Treacy
Pastoral Minister: Colleen Keane
Pastoral Minister: Karen Robert
Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Mike McPherson
Parish Catechist - Ali Chinnick

## **PARISH STAFF**

Secretary: Maureen Foster
Financial Secretary: Mardie Lessard
Building Superintendent: Michael Bechard - St. Joseph
Custodian: Brent Chinnick - St. Ursula

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - noon and 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2017



The Angel Gabriel came to Mary and said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God

will give to him the throne of his father David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Luke 1: 30 - 33

## Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 31, 2017

When Mary and Joseph had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.



Luke 2: 39 - 40

A prayerful Eucharistic community, rooted in Christ, welcoming all, joyfully celebrating our faith.

See the Christmas and New Year's

Mass Schedule in the bulletin for

Mass times and locations.

There will be no daily Masses between Christmas and New Years.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Tuesday, January 2 No daily Mass

Wednesday, January 3 9:30 a.m. - St. Ursula Church

- +Charles Badura
- +Pasquale Mastromarino
- +Intentions of Cecile Wortner & Family
- +Maria Doto

## Thursday, January 4 9:30 a.m. - St. Ursula Church

- +Marguerite & William Mosey
- +Deceased family members of Luciano & Grace Magliaro
- +George Aitken
- +Mary McKinnon

## Friday, January 5 12 noon - St. Joseph Church

- +Bernice Houle
- +Stan Charbonneau
- +Remi Van Overloop
- +Elsie Verbruggen

Weekend Mass Intentions are for the parish community. See the front of the bulletin for weekend Mass times.

## PRAYER LINE

We have people who want to pray for whatever request comes to them. If you need prayers, please contact Maureen at the parish office (519-352-8530).



Let us pray for the sick of our parish ...

Larry De Smit, Lisa-Rae Desnoyers,
Olivia Formosa, Jerome Lozon,
Luigi Magliaro, Genesio Matteis,
Ralph Mays, Paul McLaughlin,
Bernard Myers, Gerald Myers,
Robert Reaume, Carlo Rota,
Martin Van Raay
and Genny Wrotkowska.

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:30



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! What a joyous time to be alive. It has been hectic preparing for the

Feast and yet it all seems to be worthwhile when you experience the love and wonder that the celebration brings. I know that for Father Don and myself we have been busy with Confessions and Masses but all the while it has been a joy to be able to minister to you. Last Sunday at the Advent Communal Celebration of Penance I was overjoyed to see so many of you attend and take advantage of the opportunity of making your Christmas Confession. It is always edifying to take part in this sacred time. As we enter into this new year of 2018 may we continue to grow in our unity as a Family of Parishes and exemplify the vocation we share in being disciples of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday this past week, December 20th, my family and I remembered Aaron, my nephew, who died a year ago. I mentioned in a recent column that I was going to attend a Memorial Service at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto. Aaron was the ambassador for this year's "Doves of Hope" Program. I miss Aaron and as my brother Tom said of his feeling of loss - that a part of you dies when someone you love dies. So true. In this month I also remember my Mom who died on December 11th - thirteen years ago. The consolation that I have is that in heaven with all the angels there are precious souls who are still a part of the fabric of my heart.

I am including this week, minutes from the most recent Transition Team Meeting. You might realize from the minutes that Our Lady of Victory Community has opted out (for the time being) from deliberations in coming together as a Family of Parishes. I am saddened by this decision but I am leaving it in God's hands and will see how this will work itself out.

I want to thank all of you who have worked to make our celebrations so beautiful. Together we have made a joyful noise unto the Lord! Thank you.

May your Christmas be filled with many blessings!



## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

## Christmas Eve (December 24)

4:30 p.m. -

St. Ursula & Blessed Sacrament

5:00 p.m. - Our Lady of Victory

7:00 p.m. - St. Joseph & St. Agnes 9:00 p.m. -

St. Ursula & Blessed Sacrament

Carol Service - 11:40 p.m. followed by Mass at Midnight - St. Joseph (Incense will be used at this Mass)

Midnight - Our Lady of Victory

## Christmas Day (December 25)

8:00 a.m. - St. Joseph

9:30 a.m. - Our Lady of Victory

10:00 a.m. - St. Agnes

11:00 a.m. -

St. Ursula & Our Lady of Victory



## New Year's Eve (December 31)

5:00 p.m. -

St. Ursula & Blessed Sacrament

7:00 p.m. - St. Joseph

11:00 p.m. - Our Lady of Victory

## New Year's Day (January 1)

10:00 a.m. - St. Ursula & St. Agnes

11:00 a.m. - Our Lady of Victory
There will be no 7 p.m. Mass

There will be no 7 p.m. Mass on December 24 or December 31.

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S OFFICE HOURS

December 22 - 8 a.m. - noon
December 25 & 26 - closed
December 27 - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
December 28 - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
December 29 - 8 a.m. - noon
January 1 - closed

January 2 - regular hours



## St. Joseph Harwich

The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, January 8 at 7 p.m. at Eden Villa Retirement and Assisted Living Community Room, 190 Stanley Avenue in Chatham. Members are encouraged to attend a short facility tour followed by "Gifts of the Holy Spirit" workshop!

## City

The next general meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 9 at 1 p.m. in the Spirit and Life Centre.

## 2017 OFFERINGS

Just a reminder that anyone wishing to get an income tax receipt for 2017 donations, your donations MUST be given in 2017. Any donations received after December 31, 2017 will not be included in your 2017 receipt. It does not matter what date you put on your cheque, it depends on when you put it into the collection!

Thank you for your generosity!

## **EASE INTO FITNESS**

Ease into Fitness will be taking a break for the Christmas holidays but will return on Tuesday, January 3. Enjoy vour holidays!

## A GIFT FOR YOU!



The Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes has purchased a gift for you. We are pleased to give you a one year free

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FORMED is an online platform, providing access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks and videobased studies for the whole family.

Go to formed.org to register today. Enter the Parish access code PX3ZJV. You will be asked to enter your email and create a password.

## CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

Come share Christmas with us! December 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Spirit and Life Centre

If you need a ride please call 519-354-0091 after 10:30 a.m. on Christmas day.

Sponsored by Community Volunteers who want to make a difference.

## **GET OUT & SAVE**

Don't forget the Get Out and Save fundraiser. These books are packed with many coupons for use right



here in Chatham Kent. Cost is \$20. Books available in the parish office.

## **SUNDAY FRIENDS**

Sunday friends at St. Joseph Church is going on Christmas vacation. They will resume on Sunday, January 7. Christmas blessings to all!

## SEWING CIRCLE

The women who gather at h St. Agnes Parish on the first and third Thursday of the month, share a loving concern



for the poor children throughout lack necessary world who clothing. They cut dresses, shirts and pants and then distribute them to those who wish to sew these articles in their homes. Once made, they are sent through Canadian Food for Children Chatham-Kent to the 'little ones' in Africa, South or Central America or wherever the need arises at that time.

Thanks to all for your generosity by either donating material, money, or your time to cut and sew. With out you, this justice ministry would not exist.

Over the last liturgical year we have made 1681 dresses, 75 t-shirts, 608 long sleeve shirts, 472 pairs of shorts, 650 long pants, 157 ladies' skirts, 160 blankets/quilts, and numerous cloth bags.

If you have any questions or wish to help in any way, please contact Heather at 519-354-9799.

## **GIFT CARD SALES** December 11 - 17, 2017

St. Joseph

**Total Sales:** \$ 4,775.00 \$ 179.06 **Estimated Profit:** 

St. Ursula

\$ 4,500.00 **Total Sales:** 168.75 **Estimated Profit:** 

## **OFFERTORY** December 17, 2017

St. Joseph

\$ 5,972.00 Regular Offertory: 895.00 Christmas: 170.00 Thanksgiving: 552.00 Capital Projects: Total: 7,589.00

St. Ursula

Regular Offertory: 5,242.00 390.00 Christmas: 691.00 Capital Projects: Total: 6,323.00

Thank you for your support!

## OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

2018 offertory envelopes out for pick up. St. Joseph has their envelopes available at the main entrance of the Church and St. Ursula has their envelopes available in the Meeting Room, Please stop by and pick up your new envelopes. Please discard any 2017 envelopes that were not used in 2017. You will have new envelope numbers for 2018.

## PILGRIMAGE

If you are interested in a Holy Land Pilgrimage taking place April 14 - 28 (12 days) please contact Joan Bolt for details at 1-800-530-4667 or by email ioanbolt@execulink.com

## CHURCH CHUCKLE

Little Wayne could always be found sitting under the Christmas tree singing his favourite song: "A Wayne in the Manger."

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

What

Fitness - All are welcome! St. Ursula K of C General Meeting When

Tuesday, January 2 Tuesday, January 2 Where

Spirit and Life Centre

Time 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Room (St. Ursula Site) 7 p.m.

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434 St. George St. S. P.O. Box 84 Dresden, ON NOP 1M0 Tel.: 519-683-6213



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St. Ursula Knights of Columbus Meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

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St. Joseph **Knights of Columbus** Talk to one of our members to join or contact Roger LeClair at 519-437-1540.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Organization founded on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.



Fred Deryck Parishioner 519-352-1788

7 McGregor Place

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Jeff Comiskey Parishioner

519-401-9504 icomiskey@all-risks.com



## Blessed Sacrament and St. Agnes Parish

**Blessed Sacrament** 145 Victoria Avenue Chatham ON N7L 3A7 Phone: 519-352-9370 Fax: 1-866-601-8699

St. Agnes 52 Croydon Street Chatham ON N7L 1L3 Phone: 519-352-9483 Fax: 1-866-601-8699

Office is located at 52 Croydon Street

A Eucharistic community, living as Christ-centered disciples, sharing our faith, serving and embracing all.

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 pm ~ St. Agnes Saturday: 7:00 pm ~ Blessed Sacrament Sunday: 9:30 am ~ Blessed Sacrament Sunday: 11:30 am ~ St. Agnes

## **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Tuesday: 8:00 am ~ St. Agnes Wednesday: 8:00 am ~ Blessed Sacrament Thursday: 8:00 am ~ St. Agnes Friday: 8:00 am ~ Blessed Sacrament

### **BAPTISM**

Celebrated during Saturday or Sunday Eucharist Two months notice & preparation course is required

### **CONFIRMATION**

March 3/4, 2018 ~ Blessed Sacrament & St. Agnes March 3/4, 2018 ~ St. Joseph & St. Ursula

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 11:00 am ~ Blessed Sacrament Tuesday & Thursday 7:30-7:55 am ~ St. Agnes

## MARRIAGE

One year notice & preparation course is required

## **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor - Fr. Jim Higgins Associate Pastor ~ Fr. Don Pumputis Pastoral Minister ~ Colleen Keane Pastoral Minister ~ Karen Robert ~ Ext 27 Coordinator of Youth Ministry - Mike McPherson - Ext 25 Ali Chinnick - Parish Catechist Deacon Steve Cartier Deacon Jerry Lozon Deacon Chris Masterson Deacon Morgan Treacy

## SUPPORT STAFF

Receptionist ~ Michelle Elgie ~ Ext. 22 Financial Secretary ~ Lynda Cadotte ~ Ext 21 Data Recorder ~ Cathy Zimmer ~ Ext 20 St. Agnes Custodian - Andy Willburger Blessed Sacrament Plant Supervisor - Brian Elgie

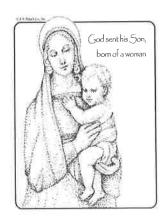
## OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ 8:00 am-12:00 noon 1:00 pm-5:00 pm (closed for lunch) Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am ~ 5:00 pm



Necember 24 The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God Luke 1:35

Necember 31 My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples. Luke 2:30-31



## **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND** HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM **OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES** TO YOUR FAMILY!



**DECEMBER 24, 2017** FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT **DECEMBER 31, 2017** THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



**Blessed Sacrament Parish** 

Email: bsacramentparish@dol.ca

Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes Website: www.ccfp.dol.ca Facebook for CCFP is https://www.facebook.com/bssasusj

St. Agnes Parish

Email: stagnes@dol.ca



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
What a joyous time to be alive. It has been hectic preparing for the Feast and yet it all seems to be worthwhile when

you experience the love and wonder that the celebration brings. I know that for Father Don and myself we have been busy with Confessions and Masses but all the while it has been a joy to be able to minister to you. Last Sunday at the Advent Communal Celebration of Penance I was overjoyed to see so many of you attend and take advantage of the opportunity of making your Christmas Confession. It is always edifying to take part in this sacred time. As we enter into this new year of 2018 may we continue to grow in our unity as a Family of Parishes and exemplify the vocation we share in being disciples of Jesus Christ.

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I want to thank all of you who have worked to make our celebrations so beautiful. Together we have made a joyful noise unto the Lord! Thank you.

Fr. Jim



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Lord Jesus, your coming was announced by the appearance of a star to show us once again that all creation is God's gift to us. May we learn to respect and care for the earth and its resources and may we will all of

nature proclaim the mystery and wonder of your birth among us. Amen.



Christmas Masses (Holy Day of Obligation) Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

4:30 pm

Blessed Sacrament & St. Ursula

5:00 pm Our Lady of Victory

7:00 pm St. Agnes & St. Joseph

9:00 pm St. Ursula & Blessed Sacrament

Midnight St. Joseph & Our Lady of Victory

Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

8:00 am St. Joseph

9:30 am & 11:00 am Our Lady of Victory

> 10:00 am St. Agnes

11:00 am St. Ursula

New Year's Masses (Holy Day of Obligation) Sunday, December 31 (New Year's Eve)

5:00 pm St. Ursula & Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm St. Joseph

11:00 am Our Lady of Victory

Monday, January 1, 2018 (New Year's Day) 10:00 am St. Ursula & St. Agnes

> 11:00 am Our Lady of Victory

## **OUR GIFT TO YOU!**

The Chatham Catholic Family of parishes has purchased a gift for you. We are pleased to give you a one year free subscription to formed.org. FORMED is an online platform, providing access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks and video-based studies for the whole family. Go to formed.org to register today. Enter the Parish access code PX3ZJV. You will be asked to enter your email and create a password.



## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DÉCOR AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

Dawn & Kim in memory of Anne Beuglet, mother and Michael Beuglet, son and brother

Robert Bourgault in memory of John & Anne Bourgault (parents)

Cathy Bachynski in memory of Theresa & Stan Bachynski
Roland Bechard in memory of Philip & Edna Bechard
Roland Bechard in memory of Reginald & Louis Bechard
Mary Fran & Louis Giroux in memory of deceased members
of Peco & Giroux families

Marion & Wes Labadie in memory of Ina Labadie
Patricia Pearson in memory of Jack Pearson
Diane Ceppi & family in memory of Italo Ceppi
Margaret Nicolai

Carole & Graham Watson & family and Audrey Chevalier and family in memory of Kay & Alex Hope

Betty Radlin in memory of Wayne Radlin

Joseph & Marie Korpan in memory of Stephen & Marta Korpan and Firmin & Anna Dejonghe

With love Lillian McMath & family in memory of Lorne (Pat) McMath

John Boogaart in memory of Mary Boogaart
Irene Maillet in memory of Alfred Maillet
Marcel Devos in memory of mother Agnes Dewatthyne
Robert & Bonnie Decan in memory of deceased members
of Lumley & Decan families

Inez Lucier in memory of Gerald Lucier

Lee & Theresa Beecroft in memory of Barbara Ann Bechard

Brian & Shirley Harwood in memory of Joseph & Margaret Studnicka

The Reaume family in memory of Gilbert & Evelyn Reaume

Brenda Lesy in memory of Cyriel Lesy
Steve & Dianne Cartier in memory of deceased members
of Cartier & Dubroy

Vera Sadler in memory of Ron Sadler
Patrick & Sylvia King in memory of Michael P. King
Stella Goudreau in memory of Vince Goudreau
Stella Goudreau in memory of Sr. Mary Esther Coveny
Diane Carrol in memory of Shaun Luxton
Andy & Julie Boogaart in memory of Mary Boogaart
Josephine Sullivan in memory of Joseph Sullivan

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DÉCOR AT ST. AGNES

Yvonne Daudlin in memory of Ed Daudlin

Yvonne Daudlin in memory of Louis & Marguerite Cazabon
and William & Marie Anne Daudlin

Rita McGivern in memory of Hugh McGivern

Jane & Alan Gray in memory of deceased members of Treleavens and Gray families

Lenora Cavacas in memory of Palmira Cavacas
Rina Colaizzi in memory of Rosa & Amedeo Colaizzi
Rina Colaizzi in memory of Marcello & Lauren
Velma Malcolm in memory of Cikatricis & Plevza families

Christine Blazuk in memory of Frank Blazuk, Olga Wellman, Anna Babchenko

Lucy & Marvin Jubenville in memory of deceased friends & family
The Ursuline Sisters who died this year
Santina DiSante in memory of Valsesio DiSante
Lucia Lucente in memory of Marcello Lucente, Rosa,
Amedeo & Lauren

Marcella & Mario Vesnaver in memory of Vesnaver & Puzzer families

Elizabeth Vink in memory of Jerry Vink

Steve & Dianne Cartier in memory of deceased members
of Cartier & Dubroy families

Lurdes Branco in memory of her mother Teresa Soares
Helen McKeon in memory of Robert McKeon
Angela Fanelli in memory of Ralph Fanelli
Angela Fanelli in memory of J.B. & Alice O'Neil
Irene Bellefleur & family in memory of Ronald Bellefleur
Ben & Becky Anne Lawton in memory of
Clarence & Lela Lawton and Jack & Marie Odette

Ben & Becky Anne Lawton in memory of Edos & Rose Simard and Stephen & Rosa Jubenville

Ben & Becky Anne Lawton in memory of Vern & Rebecca Jubenville and Terry & Evelyn Jubenville

Margaret Thomas in memory of Shirley Stretton

Margaret Thomas in memory of Ted & Margaret Thomas

M. Kim Oliphant in memory of Erin Booth Elizabeth Faubert in memory of Raymond & Elizabeth Faubert

Eleanor Huysmans and family in memory of Paul A. Huysmans

Marlene Flanagan in memory of Ferg

Anne Bagnell in memory of Tom Bagnell

Anne Bagnell In memory of Paolo & Albina Mondo

Jenny Gaiswinkler in memory of my husband Leo

Gaiswinkler family in memory of Leo Gaiswinkler

Michael & Monica Easton in memory of Marie Easton



## WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS December 27-29

All 8:00 am Masses unless otherwise stated

Wednesday, December 27 ~ Blessed Sacrament
Shay Harwood ~ Lucy Zawrot ~ Robin Shepherd
Thursday, December 28 ~ St. Agnes
Daniel Martins ~ Maria Oliveira ~ Vern Jubenville
Friday, December 29 ~ Blessed Sacrament



Agnes McAlorum ~ Anne Dodok ~ Souls in Purgatory

January 2-5

Tuesday, January 2 ~ St. Agnes

Ernest Leveille ~ Bernard (Bert) Bohunicky ~ Michael Crow

Wednesday, January 3 ~ Blessed Sacrament Eileen Gordon ~ Craig & Mary Shaw ~ Mary Boogaart

Thursday, January 4 ~ St. Agnes

Clarise Myers ~ Glenn Peltier ~ Victor Ferreira

Friday, January 5 ~ Blessed Sacrament

Cyriel Lesy ~ Rosita Briones ~ Vivian Lane

**READINGS:** Dec 31: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14. Colosians 3: 12-21. Luke 2: 22,25-27,34-35,39-40. **Jan 7:** Isaiah 60: 1-6. Ephesians 3: 2-3a,5-6. Matthew 2: 1-12.

## REGULAR OFFERTORY December 17

Blessed Sacrament \$7,027.00

St. Agnes \$3,964.00

## SAVE THE DATE

Dec 30/31	St. Agnes K of C Rosary after Masso
Jan 3	SA K of C General Meeting 7 pm
Jan 4	BS CWL Exec. Meeting
Jan 5	Transition Team Meeting First Friday at BS
Jan 8	Scripture Study at SA
Jan 10	SA CWL General Meeting
Jan 11	Scripture Study at BS 1:30 pm
	BS CWL General Meeting
Jan 12	Ultreya at SA
Jan 15	BS CWL Cards
	Scripture Study at SA
	Cursillo Cooks Meeting at BS 7 pm
Jan 16	Gr 8 Confirmation Classes at BS
Jan 17	SA K of C Exec Meeting
Jan 18	SA School Mass at SA Church



Feast of St. Agnes Festival Banquet

Scripture Study at BS

Jan 19

## DIOCESAN MINISTERS PRAYER CALENDAR

Please keep in your prayers the following diocesan ministers: Rev. Albert Williams; Rev. Seejo John; Rev. Lawrence Mousseau; Rev. Martin (Sam) Johnston; Ministers to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Rev. James Roche; Institute of Secular Missionaries; Sisters of Service; Deacon Rudolph (Rudy) Pflanzer; Rev. Canon Mitchell Kaminski; Rev. Frank Leslie; Deacon Gaston Mabaya; Deacon Gary Flewelling.

2018 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The Family of Parishes will all have their 2018 offertory envelopes out for pick up starting today. Blessed Sacrament and St. Agnes will have their envelopes available in the parish halls. Please stop by and pick your new es up. And please discard any 2017 envelopes

envelopes up. And please discard any 2017 envelopes that were not used in 2017 before using your new ones. You will have new envelope numbers for 2018. Thank you.

FLOWERS FOR THE TABERNACLE

The flowers on the tabernacle today (Dec 24) at Blessed Sacrament are placed there to the glory of God by Brian & Michelle Elgie and Ellen Labadie in memory of Doug Labadie, Bob & Lenore Elgie and Bob Vandergaag.

The flowers on the tabernacle today (Dec 24) at \$\tilde{8}\$. Agnes are placed there to the glory of God by the people of the parish.

at

The flowers on the tabernacle today (Dec 31) at Blessed Sacrament are placed there to the glory of God by Brian & Shirley Harwood in memory of Shay Harwood.

The flowers on the tabernacle today (Dec 31) at St. Agnes are placed there to the glory of God by Denis & Monique Boileau in memory of Blanche Gauthier.



## CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS AT BLESSED SACRAMENT AND ST. AGNES OFFICE

December 25 & 26 ~ office closed Wednesday, December 27 ~ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Thursday, December 28 ~ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Friday, December 29 ~ 8:00 am until noon

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Friday, January 5 after 8:00 am Mass Start the New Year of 2018 right, with a visit to Jesus at First Friday Adoration. He will be waiting for you to hear your joys, pains and needs. This is a special time to be with the one who loves you unconditionally. Take

advantage of His caring presence. Drop in anytime.

## 2017 OFFERTORY DONATIONS

Just a reminder that anyone wishing to get an income tax receipt for 2017 your donations MUST be given in 2017. Any donations received after December 31, 2017 will not be included in your 2017 receipt. It does not matter what date you have on your cheque, it depends on when you put it into the collection. Thank you for your generosity!

# FEAST OF ST. AGNES FESTIVAL BANQUET



- Please come and join the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes to celebrate the feast of St. Agnes. Proceeds raised go toward the Outreach Ministries within the Chatham community.
- Social Hour 5:00– 6:00 PM
   with Hors D'oeuvres
- Ham Dinner, including
   wine 6:00 PM
- Cash bar, music and dancing until 11:00 PM

Friday, January 19th, 2018

Hosted by St. Agnes - Parish Hall

Tickets - \$25.00 a person- (children under 12 \$10.00)- available at parish offices

TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT DOOR

# Bishop Fabbro's Christmas Greetings

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I extend to you my warmest greetings and assure you of my prayers. May you experience the great joy of the Christmas season.

At this time of year, in a special way, we are filled with anticipation and longing for the coming of Jesus. Advent

is a time for personal preparation, to ask ourselves, "Am I ready to welcome Jesus?" Amid the bustle of Christmas traditions, such as family gatherings, cultural observances and gift-giving, I encourage all of us to take some time to still ourselves and to reflect on this question. May we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus through prayer and repentance, and may we lead lives of generosity, justice and charity. By following our own baptismal call, each

of us illuminates the world with the good news of God's love.

The year 2017 has been an active year for the people of our diocese. Much work has been done leading up to the implementation of two pioneer Families of Parishes in January: the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes and the Catholic Family of Parishes in Norfolk. These two pioneer families will be test-beds for the rest of the diocese. Their experience will provide valuable information and learning for other parishes. In the years ahead, our diocese will comprise some thirty Families of Parishes.

Early in the year, we celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. This organization, founded in 1967 by the Bishops of Canada, was inspired by the appeal of Pope Paul VI, that the Church hear the cry of those in developing countries who are suffering hunger, misery, sickness and despair.

In April, Bishop Joseph and I travelled to Rome where with our brother bishops from Ontario we visited Pope Francis. We spoke with him about issues facing our Church and our society, not the least of which was the recent legislation which allows euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide and which, in Ontario, fails to protect adequately the conscience rights of healthcare workers. You will be hearing more about this issue from me in the new year.

Several parishes reached important milestones this year. I mention here only Assumption Parish, the oldest parish in Ontario, which celebrated 250 years since its foundation in 1767. In August, I dedicated the new Good

Shepherd Church in Lakeshore. In November, the spire of Ste. Anne's Church in Tecumseh was reinstalled after a decade-long hiatus.

Considerable construction has been taking place at St. Peter's Seminary, which is undergoing a full

modernization and restoration. The revitalization will enable the Seminary to realize its potential as a leading house of formation in Canada for those preparing for the priesthood, the diaconate and lay ministry.

On May 13, Catholics across Canada marked 100 years since the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. That same day, I ordained a new priest for our diocese, Father Glen Ball. In June,

Bishop Dabrowski ordained two transitional deacons, who are on the path to priesthood next April. In November, I ordained eight permanent deacons.

This past year, we said farewell to our deceased friends and colleagues, including Fr. Paul Rocheleau, Fr. Edward Brereton, Fr. Eugene Bugala, Fr. Joseph Bagatto, Fr. Paul Mooney, Fr. Patrick Fuerth, Fr. Dennis Wilhelm, Deacon John Vallely, as well as a number of Religious sisters.

On Canada Day, at St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica, I celebrated a special Mass with Bishop Joseph, Bishop Emeritus Sherlock, and many priests, deacons and lay faithful. We joined with other dioceses in the consecration of Canada to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Thank you for your amazing generosity to our diocese this year. I am very grateful for your donations to your parish, to the restoration of St. Peter's Seminary, to boost the Priest Pension Fund, and to support the Thanksgiving Appeal; as well as to the Share Lent campaign and the national effort which raised \$12.5-million for the Myanmar Crisis Relief Fund.

I invite everyone to our parishes to celebrate the birth of our Saviour and to wish one another God's peace for the coming year. May you have a blessed Christmas, filled with wonder and love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Ronald Fabbro, C.S.B.

Bishop of London

## Transition Team Meeting Catholic Family of Parishes December 14, 2017 - 6:30 p.m.

Present: Fr. Jim, Fr. Don, Doug Gutteridge, Sue Bates, Carmen Gagnier, Denise Emery,

Sue McMath, Anne Foster and Lonnie Sannes

Minutes taken by: Cathy Laforet

Regrets: Tim Raaymakers

Opening Prayer: "Prayer of Unity"

Update on Membership

Father Jim read his report to the Task Force. After reading correspondence from the Parish Council, the Finance Committee, and the Transition Team Committee members, it was reported that Our Lady of Victory would not be involved in going forward at this time.

Tim Raaymakers is a new member on the Transition Team.

## Mission and Vision

In going forward with our mission and vision, Fr. Jim asked the team to think about the following questions:

- (1) Why does your Parish exist?
- (2) If your Parish were able to do everything possible, with no limitation on time, energy or resources, what would it look like?
- (3) What makes your Parish different than the next Parish over?

## Study of Mass Attendance

The team reviewed the last three years of Mass attendance at nine Masses held each week at Blessed Sacrament, St. Agnes, St. Ursula and St. Joseph. Questions to keep in mind - How can we best look at Mass times? How do we celebrate the Mass? Fr. Jim asked the team to open the discussion of Mass times with their families and friends.

## Town Hall Meeting Dates

- (1) Information Town Hall meeting February 22, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
- (2) Decision Town Hall meeting March 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Venue for these Town Hall meetings is to be determined.

## Other Business

Question was raised regarding completion of the Pastoral Plan Goals & Objectives for the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes. The team will continue to work on them in the new year.

Closing Prayer: "Creating the Church of Tomorrow".

Next Meeting: January 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in Upper Room at St. Agnes.

### **SEWING CIRCLE**



The women who gather at St. Agnes Parish on the first and third Thursday of the month, share a loving concern for the poor children throughout our world who lack necessary clothing. They cut dresses, shirts and pants and then distribute them to those who wish to sew these articles in their homes. Once made, they are sent through Canadian Food for Children Chatham-Kent to the 'little

ones' in Africa, South or Central America or wherever the need arises at that time. Thanks to all for your generosity by either donating material, money, or your time to cut and sew. Without you, this justice ministry would not exist. Over the last liturgical year we have made 1681 dresses, 75 t-shirts, 608 long sleeve shirts, 472 pairs of shorts, 650 long pants, 157 ladies' skirts, 160 blankets/quilts, and numerous cloth bags. If you have any questions or wish to help in any way, please contact Heather at 519-354-9799.



# To Everything there is a Season..... "a time to be healed"..... Please pray for the sick of our parish cluster

Christine Pinsonneault, Rose O'Mara, Andrew Gaiswinkler

## "a time to die...."

Please remember in your prayers all of our deceased relatives and parishioners, especially Jose DeAscencao father of Marie Martins and Anna (Jose) Machado; Francine Ryken; Marlene Reaume; Sr. Patrick Sloan, CSJ; Thomas Granville, husband of Irene; Georgina Kestelyn mother of Julie (Guy) Gagnier, Janet (Warren) Raspburg and Brenda (Wayne) Rasburg; Leo Jubenville brother of Marvin (Lucy) Jubenville. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.

### ANNULMENTS

Looking for healing? Closure? If you are divorced, separated, or civilly remarried, consider applying for a declaration of nullity (an "annulment"). The Roman Catholic Diocese of London would like to help you. If you are interested in a Declaration of Nullity or if you simply have questions, please give us a call at 519-439-1553. There is no obligation in calling, and the process if free of charge.

## HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

12 Days ~ April 14-28, 2018

Call Joan Bolt for details 1-800-530-4667 or joanbolt@execulink.com





St. Joseph K of C Council #10436 are holding a breakfast on Sunday, January 14 from 9:00 am until 12:30 pm at the Spirit and Life Centre, 184 Wellington St. W. We are serving an all you can eat buffet with 2 meats, hash browns, scrambled eggs, French toast or pancakes, toast, and fruit cocktail. \$7.00 per plate for adults, \$4.00 for children 6-12 years, children under 6 free.

## **PUBLIC ROSARY RALLIES FOR PEACE**

Public Rosary Rallies for Peace are being planned for the second Sunday of each month to answer to Our Lady's call in Fatima (and in other apparitions) to pray the rosary. On **January 14, 2018** a Rosary Rally will be held at *Our Lady of Victory Church*, 490 St. Clair St., Chatham from 3 pm to 4pm - inside if inclement weather. Locations change each month. Bring your family and friends. Questions? Call Liz 519-360-9594.

## **6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE**

All men and young men are invited to the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Men of Faith Conference on Saturday, January 20, 2018 at St. Michael's Church, London. Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, know around the world as the "Dynamic Deacon" is one of the most sought after speakers in the Church today. Join us for fellowship and opportunity to grow in your faith. Sign up on line: www.famfi.ca or see posters on bulletin board for other contact info. Registration starts at 8:00 am. \$30 adults/\$25 students/\$45 at the door. Hot lunch, refreshments and registration kit are included.