

BLESSED SACRAMENT

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180 Wellington St W Chatham, ON stjoseph@dol.ca Phone: 519-352-8530

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ST. URSULA

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

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Contact us at our Parish Offices:

St. Agnes Church 52 Croydon Street Office is closed. Please call and leave a message and we will return your call.

St. Ursula Church 205 Tweedsmuir Avenue West Office is closed. Please call and leave a message

and we will return your call.

OR: Visit our website at www.ccfp.dol.ca and our Facebook page at https://facebook.com/bssasusj

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY ~ Paul Turner

The Second Sunday of Easter is also called "Divine Mercy Sunday." When Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina in the jubilee year of 2000, he added the title to this day. In visions, Faustina heard Jesus request that the image of divine mercy be venerated on the Sunday after Easter, a day John Paul lovingly chose for Faustina's canonization.

Many communities display the image of Divine Mercy on this day. Jesus' penetrating, compassionate gaze reaches out to the viewer. Red and white rays emanate from his heart, symbols of blood and water—Eucharist and baptism. Many Catholics confess their sins or pray before the Blessed Sacrament in conjunction with this feast.

A priest may use the prayers from the votive Mass for Divine Mercy on any day when a stronger feast does not conflict. The Second Sunday of Easter has its own prayers and readings, so the votive Mass for Divine Mercy is never permitted on that day. Instead we observe the much older tradition of the octave day of Easter. The Gospel story of the doubting Thomas is heard every year on this day because Jesus appeared to him a week after the resurrection. The other texts for this Mass refer to the season and to baptism. This day used to be called Dominica in albis, the Sunday of white garments, because those baptized at the Easter Vigil wore their new vesture to conclude a week of catechesis about the sacraments.

Today the only change to this liturgy is its title: the Second Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday. The mercy of God may be proclaimed in the homily or the prayer of the faithful, but especially in the actions of believers, who extend God's mercy to all they meet.

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Readings for April 26

Acts 2: 14, 22b-28. 1 Peter 1: 17-21. Luke 24: 13-35

APRIL 19, 2020 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Happy Eastertide! As the image says - a lot can happen in three days. For all of us the celebration of Easter has been trans transformative. Like Mary who came to the tomb that first Easter morning

we all have a chance to lay aside our despair and taken a wonder in our faith the we possess an eternal promise.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday and we are encouraged to pray this intercessory prayer of Divine Mercy and dedicate ourselves to the mercy of the Lord. St. Pope John Paul advocated the devotion and declared that the Second Sunday of Easter be Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Church. With our restriction on physical distancing the prayer is effective for us as we pray in our homes.

The Gospel today ends with these words: "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name." We should take heart in that the faith that we have been baptized into is a life altering event and that we are blessed in Him.

For the next few weeks we celebrate the wonder of Easter. With the coming of the Ascension and Pentecost we raise our consciousness to be witnesses of this message - Jesus Christ our Lord is risen. Alleluia!



SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH

During these difficult times if you would consider making your church donations it would be greatly appreciated. Without our regular Sunday Masses we are without an income and our bills continue to come in. If you would consider this special appeal and would give your Sunday Offerings by either mailing them to the Office or dropping them off to our mailboxes during office hours, that would be appreciated. See further in the bulletin for other ways to donate ie. e-transfer or pre-authorized withdrawal.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER OR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Encouraging others

Reading I Acts 2: 42-47

(communal life)

Reading II 1 Peter 1: 3-9

(thanksgiving)

Gospel John 20: 19-31

(appearance to the disciples; Thomas)

Key Passage: Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe. (John 20: 27)

Adult: We show our faith when we demonstrate courage in the face of difficulty. What could you do this week to help strengthen someone?

Child: What could you do this week to encourage someone who is sad or discouraged?



MASS INTENTIONS

During the next few weeks your Mass Intentions that have been booked will be celebrated by our three priests. This is through the directive given by Bishop Fabbro. We are not accepting new Intentions at this time.



MARCH 20 FISH FRY TICKET REFUND

If you purchased a ticket for March 20 fish fry at Blessed Sacrament and have not yet received your refund, please hold on to your ticket(s) and when we are not longer staying home, everyone will be reimbursed. The money is set aside for each ticket purchased. If anyone has any questions, please contact Carl at 519-352-8365.

BULLETINS

During this difficult time you may wonder, is the Church producing bulletins? Yes we are!! There are a few ways to get one.

- 1. Contact Maureen at the parish office by calling 519-352-8530 or by email stursula@dol.ca, or Michelle at the parish office at 519-352-9483 or by email at melgie@dol.ca to receive a weekly e-bulletin.
- 1. You can view the bulletin on the Family of Parishes website at www.ccfp.dol.ca.
- 2. You can stop by St. Ursula Church side door and a table is set up outside the door with a box of weekly bulletins.

HOW TO DONATE

As we are all forced to slow down in our current world, unfortunately some things continue along, such as our household bills and expenses. The same goes for our parishes as well, that operate mainly on donations received at Mass. If you normally donate with your offertory envelope when you attend Mass, there are some other options.

E-TRANSFER

Using your online banking website or app, add the parish you wish to donate to using the parish email address:

Blessed Sacrament - bsacramentparish@dol.ca Our Lady of Victory - ourladyv@dol.ca

St. Agnes - stagnes@dol.ca

St. Joseph - stjoseph@dol.ca

St. Ursula - stursula@dol.ca

Create the e-transfer and in the comment/note area, please indicate your envelope number or your address and which fund you are donating to, such as Sunday Offertory, Easter, Building, Share Lent etc.

No password is needed as the parishes are set up for autodeposit.

CHEQUE

If you do not use online banking, you can mail a cheque to the office. Please make your cheque payable to the particular parish and on the memo line, indicate which fund you are donating to. Please mail it to:

St. Agnes Parish 52 Croydon St. Chatham ON N7L 1L3

Attention: "Name of parish you are donating to"

PAD (Pre-Authorized Debit)

If you wish to set up PAD, you won't have to worry about remembering to bring your envelope to Mass or be concerned that you can't donate because you can't attend Mass, such as our current situation.

There is a form available on the website (www.ccfp.dol.ca/how-to-donate or click Giving/How to Donate on the top menu). You can print off the form and fill it out and either scan the form and a void cheque and email it (using the email addresses above), or mail the form and void cheque to the office (using the address indicated above). Please note for this method, the form must be received before the 15th of the month in order to take effect the next month.



CHURCH CHUCKLE



To Everything there is a Season... "a time to be healed..."

Please pray for the sick of our parish family Dan Attewell, Gordon (Jim) Baillargeon, Cathy Bachynski, Eva Beausejour, Gary Benninger, Giselda Bocchino, Donald Bulley, Deb Carr, Betty Carruthers, Esther Chari, Eileen Countryman, Judy Cudney, Larry De Smit, Lisa-Rae Desnoyers, Mario DeVito, Suzie Devolder, Dario Dodich, Agatha Duff, Tony Follo, Olivia Formosa, Fran Gazarek, Kathy Harkner, Marilyn Jarczak, Lucianna Letourneau, Clarita Litschko, Robert Wemigwans Kelly, Audrey Kraemer, Shirley Mailloux, Evelyn Marentette, Genesio Matteis, Emma Matteis, Jocelyn McGlynn, Mark McLaughlin, Nicholas Medeiros, Ruth Nagle, Gail Nicolai, Katherine Prout, Bill Reaume, Jen Rumble, Sandra Sonneveld, Verna Southgate, John Taylor, Cora Van Brunschot and Genny Wrotkowska.

God, grant them your peace.

"a time to die..."

Please remember in your prayers all deceased relatives and parishioners especially Laura Reilly, Joanna Gielen, Francisco Reyes snf Manuel Cavacas.

Eternal rest grant unto the

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 20 Acts 4: 23-31. John 3: 1-8

Apr 21 Acts 4: 32-3. John 3: 7b-15

Apr 22 Acts 5: 17-26. John 3: 16-21

Apr 23 Acts 5: 27-33. John 3: 31-36

Apr 24 Acts 5: 34-42. John 6: 1-15

Apr 25 1 Peer 5: 5b-14. Mark 16: 15-20

DIOCESAN MINISTERS PRAYER CALENDAR

Please remember to pray for these Diocesan ministers: Rev. Leo Walsh; Rev. Leonard Desjardins; Deacon Leonard Hughes; Rev. David Furlonger, C.Ss. R.; Rev. David Butler; Mr. Juan Carlos Giraldo, Sacramental Coordinator.

FINANCIAL RESULTS for 2019 - YEAR END REPORTS FOR CHATHAM CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES

Well folks, here we are social distancing and probably feeling somewhat apprehensive on the future. We have entered into an unknown situation from our usual daily life. Fortunately as we move forward, we do have our Catholic faith to assist us in the journey.

The financial results are posted within for the 2019 year. Also included are some statistics which include the sacramental stats for Baptism, Confirmation, First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation, Marriages and the Funerals. The First Reconciliation sacrament were held at Blessed Sacrament Parish, therefore it is higher than the other sites.

The results are obvious. 2019 donations are below 2018. Blessed Sacrament receipts are up substantially due to a one time insurance policy designated to the parish.

The parish sites have all had some one time maintenance costs; such as major sewer problems, HVAC problems, roof repairs and costs to keep up the condition of the parishes. With the routine maintenance costs there are costs for government regulations inspections, elevator inspections, kitchen stove fire suppression systems, HVAC inspections and security alarm inspections. The parishes have electric, gas, water, telephone & internet bills. Not forgetting snow removal, insurance coverage, office supplies, staff expenses & Diocese assessment. I know that unlike your own personal expenses that maybe do not increase, at the parish sites they seem to rise from one year to the next. We have been very diligent with controlling our regular occurring expenses, but the unexpected does occur.

This year will be one of challenge! The Coronavirus has dealt a blow to all the economies of the world, which were not expected. We will continue to be diligent with the expense side of the equation at all sites. Your financial gifts this coming year is crucial for all parishes. Your comfortable donations this year is very much appreciated. Thank you for your past support and your continued support.

In the bulletins there are some new additional methods to use for your donations. We are also in the process of adding more methods and will keep everyone informed. In closing, thank you for reading the reports and if you have any questions please feel free to approach myself or the office staff by phone or email.

Once again, thank you! God Bless and Stay Safe! Rodger Luxton Business Manager, Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes

Baptisms

Marriages

Funerals

Confirmations

First Communion

First Reconciliation

ST. URSULA PARISH - CHATHAM 2019 Finance Report

		20171111011	ce nepore
	2019 Actuals	2018 Actuals	2020 Budget
Total Receipts Total Expenditures Surplus/Deficit	400,295.46 366,463.94 33,831.52	432,556.19 <u>394,246.52</u> 38,309.67	400,295.00 366,289.00 34,006.00
Loan Fund on Deposit	339,316.44		
Average # Envelopes	145		
Average # PAD's	48		
Registered Parishione	ers 956		
Sacramental Stats			

16

21

15

0

1

20

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH - CHATHAM 2019 Finance Report

	2019	2018	2020
	Actuals	Actuals	Budget
Total Receipts Total Expenditures Surplus/Deficit	511,958.73	458,837.88	425,193.00
	397,043.66	412,634.46	403,599.00
	114,915.07	46,203.42	21,594.00

Loan Fund on Deposit 100,514.48

Average # Envelopes 149

Average # PAD's 88

Registered Parishioners 1,134

Sacramental Stats

Baptisms	15
Confirmations	30
First Communion	54
First Reconciliation	95
Marriages	3
Funerals	23



OUR LADY OF VICTORY PARISH - CHATHAM 2019 Finance Report

	2019	2018	2020
	Actuals	Actuals	Budget
Total Receipts Total Expenditures Surplus/Deficit	114,203.78	118,492.52	109,000.00
	106,040.11	<u>130,535.48</u>	106,000.00
	8,163.67	- 12,042.96	- 3,000.00
Loan Fund on Deposi	it 56,331.06		

Average # Envelopes 81

Average # PAD's 0

Registered Parishioners 192

Sacramental Stats

Baptisms	2
Confirmations	2
First Communion	0
First Reconciliation	0
Marriages	0
Funerals	0

ST. AGNES PARISH - CHATHAM 2019 Finance Report

2020

	Actuals	Actuals	Budget
Total Receipts Total Expenditures	273,600.06 324,809.51	339,798.96 387,662.36	275,453.00 323,976.00
Surplus/Deficit	- 51,209.45	- 47,863.40	- 48,523.00

2018

Loan Fund on Deposit 101,289.07

2010

Average # Envelopes 113

Average # PAD's 55

Registered Parishioners 849

Sacramental Stats

Baptisms 17
Confirmations 20
First Communion 20
First Reconciliation 0
Marriages 1
Funerals 25



ST. JOSEPH PARISH - CHATHAM 2019 Finance Report

	2019	2018	2020
	Actuals	Actuals	Budget
Total Receipts Total Expenditures Surplus/Deficit	529,452.12	545,875.29	529,454.00
	524,637.39	<u>537,625.35</u>	525,954.00
	4,814.73	8,249.94	3,500.00

Loan Fund on Deposit 537,561.52

Average # Envelopes 169

Average # PAD's 60

Registered Parishioners 1,093

Sacramental Stats

Baptisms	23
Confirmations	16
First Communion	27
First Reconciliation	1
Marriages	10
Funerals	33



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE ©LPi Second Sunday of Easter

A person was going through a very dark time, questioning the meaning of life, not feeling very purposeful or worthwhile, and feeling disconnected and unappreciated. Suddenly, they gazed up at the night sky, found themselves in awe of all the stars and constellations, and exclaimed, "I am here on purpose and I am loved!" Having been brought by God to this moment of intense connection and awareness, his life changed from that moment on.

If we are always preoccupied with the challenges, obligations, and stuff of daily life, we can easily miss the wonderful opportunities when the resurrected Christ is knocking at our door. If we open ourselves to the fullness of experience, we will find ourselves listening and embracing all that is around us, being caught up in the magnificence of creation's grandeur and knowing in our heart and soul that God is and I am.

While that sounds like a simple, tell-me-something-I don't-know kind of revelation, it is life changing when it takes root in the depth of a person's soul. Stumbling upon this awesome truth and internalizing it doesn't require an assent of the mind. It beckons for a claim on our soul. We find ourselves knowing something profound that cannot be explained or reasoned, but purely is. When we are caught up in an experience and encounter the truth, it doesn't matter how all of the pieces got put together. Truth is simply truth. The "my Lord and my God" responses we utter are not evoked because all of the pieces of faith and life make reasonable sense. The "my Lord and my God" affirmations come when we are lifted up out of our preoccupations and silliness and are in the presence of mystery and mercy.

God is mystery, one who is beyond our grasp but at the same time within our reach, knowable yet unknowable. And when in the presence of mystery, there comes an intense experience of mercy. We know deep within the essence of ourselves — and in the very life of creation — this beating, unconditionally accepting, life-sustaining, profound, mysterious yet familiar presence of love. We have found our peace. "Peace be with you." Breathe in and breathe out. Peace.

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