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bsacramentparish@dol.ca

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ourladyv@dol.ca

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Chatham, ON N7L 1L3
stagnes@dol.ca

ST. JOSEPH
180 Wellington St W
Chatham, ON
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ST. URSULA
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stursula@dol.ca

JANUARY 9, 2022 ~ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Website: chathamcatholic.ca

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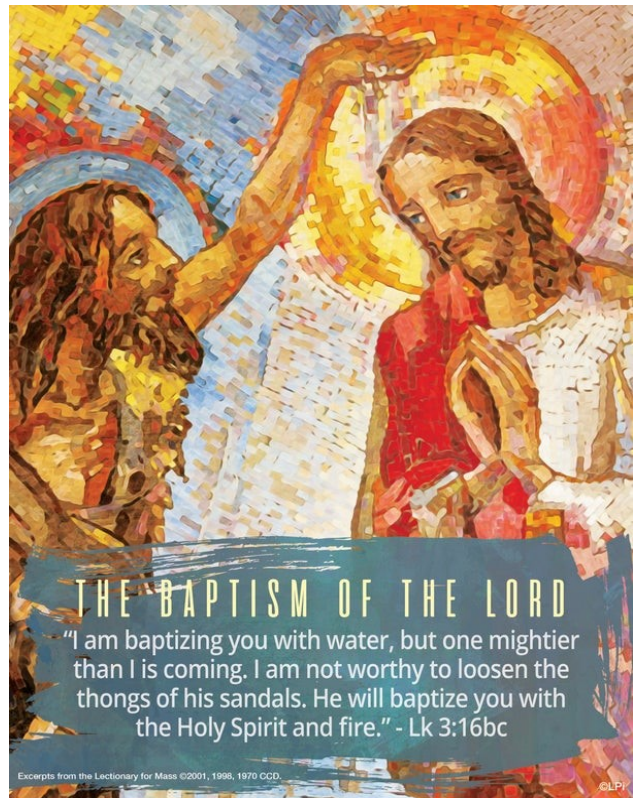
YouTube: chathamcatholic.tv

Our parish office is located at
St. Agnes Church
52 Croydon Street
Chatham ON N7L 1L3
519-352-9483 or 519-352-8530



Office Hours:
Our Parish Office is closed.

Staff are working remotely.
We are still available by
phone or by email.



PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor ~ Fr. John Jasica
Extension 222 - jjasica@dol.ca

Associate Pastors

Fr. Dariusz Lewandowski, CSMA
Extension 223 - dlewandowski@dol.ca

Fr. Robert Weaver
Extension 224 - rweaver@dol.ca

Pastoral Minister ~ Colleen Keane
Extension 225 - ckeane@dol.ca

Pastoral Minister ~ Ali Chinnick
Extension 227 - achinnick@dol.ca

Deacons

Deacon Steve Cartier - scartier@dol.ca
Deacon Jerry Lozon - jlozon@dol.ca
Deacon Chris Masterson - cmasterson@dol.ca
Deacon Morgan Treacy - mtreacy@dol.ca

SUPPORT STAFF

Secretary ~ Maureen Foster
Extension 221
mfoster@dol.ca

Financial Secretary ~ Lynda Cadotte
Extension 241
lcadotte@dol.ca

Bookkeeper ~ Barb Butler
Extension 242
bbutler@dol.ca

Data Recorder ~ Cathy Zimmer
Extension 243
czimmer@dol.ca

CUSTODIAL STAFF

Blessed Sacrament Plant Supervisor
Brian Elgie ~ 519-359-9051
belgie@dol.ca

St. Agnes Custodian
Andy Willburger
awillburger@dol.ca

St. Joseph Custodian
Patrick O'Malley
pomalley@dol.ca

St. Ursula Custodian
Dat Phan
dphan@dol.ca

FAMILY UPDATES FROM FR. JOHN

(1) WORDS OF GRATITUDE!!

I want to once again thank the family of parishes staff, Mass Hosts, decorators, musicians/cantors and liturgical ministers for all their hard work during the Christmas season!! All of our celebrations were wonderful despite the challenges of the pandemic. Fr. Dariusz, Fr. Robert and I were kept very busy and enjoyed every minute of it rejoicing in the birth of our Lord and Saviour with all of you. It was a true blessing to celebrate our first Christmas in Chatham with all of you—both in person and those who joined us online.



(2) COVID-19 UPDATES FROM THE DIOCESE



This past week we received a new update from Bishop Dabrowski and the Diocese of London in response to the very contagious Omicron variant and the new provincial rules. You can read the full letter from Bishop Dabrowski at the diocesan website (www.dol.ca) Here are a few key points for the letter:

(a) Capacity limits remain the same but we are reminded to maintain physical distancing and properly wear masks to keep everyone safe.

(b) For the 21 day period of the latest provincial restrictions—congregational singing is suspended. We will once again listen to the hymns sung and speak the Mass parts together.

(c) Staff will be working remotely unless they need to be in the office to complete their work. This means that the office will be closed. We will monitor phone calls and emails doing our best to respond as quickly as possible.

(d) Parish halls and meeting rooms continue to be closed with the exceptions for social services like Alcoholics Anonymous, our outreach services to those in need and money counters. Our outreach volunteers and money counters are limited to a maximum of five people per gathering.

I know that the pandemic has caused great difficulties for so many people. This has been a very long and challenging journey. We are all tired and frustrated. We need to hang on to the light and joy of Christmas continuing to do everything we can to support one another during this time. We need extra patience, and understanding being attentive to those who are isolated, afraid or feel forgotten.

(3) SYNOD - A TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO LISTEN

A synod is a gathering of bishops from across the world that takes place every two to three years at the Vatican to discuss various topics important for the Church and the world. During the pontificate of Pope Francis, synod topics have included youth and the family.



The latest synod which officially started in October 2021 is very different. Pope Francis wants global consultation from the laity and clergy seeking reflection and input from all of us in parishes and dioceses. He is asking us to look at how we as a Church together share and live the Good News. This synod is not concerned with a particular topic but how we as a Church shine the light of Christ together. It is no longer a one month meeting in Rome but a two year process of consultation that will begin in February for us in Chatham and the other parishes in the Diocese of London.

More details will follow. I want to thank Fr. Robert, who will be facilitating the consultation process in our family of parishes.

Bishop Fabbro said in a letter on December 10, 2021:

“The Church cares about what you think! I encourage you to enter into this process as it is announced and promoted in your parish or institution. Let us all join together in prayer that our experience in this consultation will not only provide local contributions but strengthen us in our desire to be missionary disciples of Jesus.”

Below is a quote from a Salt+Light article written by Julian Paparella, a young person formerly from St. George Parish in London and a special advisor for the Synod of Bishops in Rome:

“Through this synod, the Church is saying: the voice of EVERYONE matters because God can talk through ANYONE -- not only bishops, priests, deacons, brothers, or sisters but ALL OF US! Pope Francis has stated that this collaborative, inclusive approach of synodality is precisely the “the path that God expects of the Church in the third millennium.” This is truly a revolution of the Holy Spirit towards the Church that God is calling us to be for tomorrow, starting today!”

Mass Intentions - January 11 - 15, 2022

Tuesday, January 11

8:00 am - St. Agnes

- ~ Gerald Ouellette
- ~ Manuel De Castro
- ~ Intentions of the Baillargeon family

6:30 pm - St. Ursula

- ~ Mario DeVito
- ~ Giovanni & Carmela DeMattia
- ~ Intentions of health care workers at CKHA

Wednesday, January 12 - St Marguerite Bourgeys

8:00 am - Blessed Sacrament

- ~ Lillian Buis
- ~ Intentions of Colleen Koehler
- ~ Intentions of Rose Hennessy

12:00 noon - St. Joseph

- ~ Angie Sedge
- ~ Betty Carruthers
- ~ Salvatore & Maria Moccia

7:00 pm - Our Lady of Victory (Polish)

- ~ Frank Kwik
- ~ Dziekczynna Za Otrzynmane Laski

Thursday, January 13 - St. Hilary

8:00 am - St. Ursula

- ~ Ed Waddick
- ~ Mary Lou Kuni
- ~ Jerome Lozon

6:30 am - St. Agnes

- ~ Karl Lachine
- ~ Frank Bonvarlez
- ~ Ermelinda Antunes

Friday, January 14

8:00 am - Blessed Sacrament

- ~ Jerome Roy
- ~ Denis & Patricia Cazabon
- ~ Intentions of Marilyn Gutteridge

12:00 noon - St. Joseph

- ~ Michael Harwood
- ~ Intentions of Lucianna Letourneau & family
- ~ Intentions of the Zimmer & Ouellette families

Saturday, January 15

9:00 am - Our Lady of Victory (English)

- ~ Joao & Maria Vilaranda
- ~ Maria & John Vilaranda
- ~ Deceased members of the Fernandes & Das Neves families

*To Everything there is a season...
"a time to be healed..."*

Please pray for those who are currently sick in our parish family especially Clarita Litschko and Paula DeVito.

"a time to die...."

Please remember in your prayers all our deceased relatives and parishioners especially Frank Sysel, Oliver Faubert, Luisa D'Alisi, Art Leclair, Teresa Brzuskniewicz and Bertie Jane Bechard.

Eternal rest grant unto thee.

DIOCESAN MINISTERS PRAYER CALENDAR

Please remember to pray for: Sister Maria Ivic, S.F.B.Z., Pastoral Minister, Rev. Jozef Denys, Rev. Francis Thekkumkattil, C.S.T., Mr. Cathryn Hall, Pastoral Minister, Rev. Michael Parent, Sister Mary Boere, C.S.J., Pastoral Minister and Rev. Jude Ogbenna, C.S.Sp.

DISPENSATION EXTENDED

The dispensation from the Sunday obligation is now extended up to and including February 27, 2022. The month of March may see lessening of restrictions at which time this decision will be reviewed.



Congratulations to

Callaghan Bissonnette, Matteo Bloome,
Mila Valadares, Emary Broadbent
and Alexander Mortimer

who joined our parish family through the
Sacrament of Baptism
during the month of December.

May they always live out their call to discipleship.



Congratulations to

Jaclyn Kaloczi & Maxim Pravosoudon
Sarah Flanagan & David O'Neil

who recently celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage
during the month of December.

*May God continue to bless them
in their married life.*

ST. AGNES SEWING CIRCLE

Despite the darkness of the pandemic which has challenged us over the past couple of years, women chose to use their gifts to bring light and joy to the disadvantaged children in our world. Within our parish setting 1,468 dresses, 369 shirts, 400 long pants, 248 shorts, 52 pairs of pajamas and 66 skirts were sewn and then sent to Central and South America and Africa by Canadian Food for Children.

As you tidy your homes after Christmas, if you discover unwanted fabric please consider donating it to our sewing circle. We promise it will be used to bring hope and a smile to a child's face. Donations may be dropped off at the parish office (please call first) or call Heather at 519-354-9799.

10TH ANNUAL MEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE

Men and young men are invited to join us for the Men of Faith Conference on Saturday, January 22 from 8am until noon. This virtual event will feature Peter Herbeck of Renewal Ministries and Deacon Dr. Bob McDonald. The theme of this year's conference is Men SUPPORTING Men: Living Holiness & Sharing the Faith. For more information and to register go to famfi.ca or email paul@famfi.ca.

HOW TO DONATE TO THE CHATHAM CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES

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. To donate, there are some options such as e-transfer, mailing or dropping off a donation, pre-authorized debit and an easy, online option. For more details, go to our parish website at www.chathamcatholic.ca and select the "Giving" tab and then "How to donate."

If you wish to drop off donations, please drop them into the white locked mail box at St. Agnes parish office. The mail box is checked daily.

We are so thankful for your continued support throughout these changing times.

CHURCH CHUCKLE

On Sunday our priest announced he was passing out miniature crosses made of palm leaves. "Put this cross in the room where your family argues most," he advised. "When you look at it, the cross will remind you that God is watching."

As I was leaving church, the woman in front of me walked up to the priest, shook his hand, and said, "I'll take five."

DEACON'S PEN

I would just like to wish you all a Happy New Year!!

It was so wonderful to see so many people I haven't seen for such a long time over the Christmas Holidays.

It was just a little over two weeks ago that we were celebrating the birth of Jesus, and now we are at his baptism. For us it is not uncommon to baptize young babies. I was eleven days old when I was baptized. In the life of Jesus, around 30 years have passed. So why are we looking at this Gospel today?

The event of Jesus' Baptism is told in all 4 Gospels, as well as in the Acts of the Apostles. So why is this event so important?

The Jewish tradition of the time was that no one should function as a teacher until he completed his thirtieth year. Jesus' baptism was the first step of his ministry, or, more precisely, as being the immediate preparation for his public life. The baptism is significant; it means the manifestation, (epiphany), of Jesus as the Messiah of Israel and the Son of God, and his acceptance of, and the first step taken in, his mission as "suffering Servant."

For us, Christ's baptism is also a sign of the world's reconciliation with God.

Jesus' baptism, the adoration of the Magi, and the first miracle worked by our Lord, (at the wedding feast of Cana), are the first three formal manifestations of the divinity of Jesus Christ.

If things ever get back to normal, and we have water to bless ourselves with when we enter church, that action is a reminder of our own baptism.

Peace and May God Bless you all;
Deacon Morgan



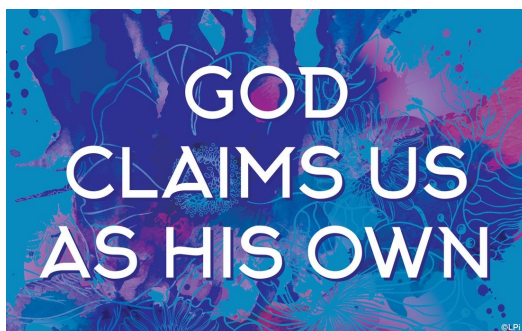
GOSPEL REFLECTION

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

©LPi



WEEKDAY & WEEKEND MASS TIMES

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 pm at Blessed Sacrament

Sunday 8:00 am at St. Joseph (live-streamed)
9:00 am at Blessed Sacrament (live-streamed)
9:30 am at Our Lady of Victory (English)
10:00 am at St. Ursula
11:00 am at St. Agnes
11:00 am at Our Lady of Victory (Polish)
Noon at St. Joseph

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Tuesday 8:00 am at St. Agnes
6:30 pm at St. Ursula

Wednesday 8:00 am at Blessed Sacrament (live-streamed)
12 noon at St. Joseph
7:00 pm at Our Lady of Victory (Polish)

Thursday 8:00 am at St. Ursula
6:30 pm at St. Agnes

Friday 8:00 am at Blessed Sacrament (live-streamed)
12 noon at St. Joseph

Saturday 9:00 am at Our Lady of Victory (English)

REGISTRATION FOR MASSES

Registration for Weekend Mass is required and is held on Wednesday and Thursday of each week between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. You can register easily online through our website, www.chathamcatholic.ca, or by calling the parish office. Please register, we cannot take walk ins.

There is no registration for weekday Mass. It is on a first come, first serve basis.

CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays - Our Lady of Victory - 6:30 - 6:50 pm

Fridays - St. Joseph Church - 11:15 - 11:45 am

Saturdays - Blessed Sacrament - 9 - 10 am

Our priests are also available to hear Confession by appointment.

LIVE-STREAMED MASS

Masses are live streamed on our YouTube channel (www.chathamcatholic.tv). Visit the parish website (www.chathamcatholic.ca) and click the live-stream link at the top of the page. See Mass schedule above for live-streamed Masses.

MASS VIA PHONE-STREAM

You can listen to Mass from St. George Parish in London by calling 1-226-781-7977 and following the prompts.

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Our Lady of Beauraing Council #1412, Blessed Sacrament / St. Agnes
Meet the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm
For information call or email Steve Brent at 519-360-7814 or kofc1412@gmail.com

St. Ursula Council #9551
Meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm
For information email Gerard Masse at 519-401-8260 or gerardmasse46@gmail.com

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