

# CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES IN NORFOLK



**St. Mary, Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs,  
St. Bernard of Clairvaux, and St. Cecilia**

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**“We are a Eucharistic community forming faith-filled  
disciples of Jesus in loving service of God and neighbour  
for salvation”**

**Website: [www.catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca](http://www.catholicfamilyparishesnorfolk.dol.ca)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stbstcstmolqm](https://www.facebook.com/stbstcstmolqm)**

## **Pastoral Team**

To reach a staff member, call your Parish Office and use the extension provided

Rev. Augustine Ogundele, Pastor [aogundele@dol.ca](mailto:aogundele@dol.ca) ext: 222

Rev. Charles Akinloye, Associate Pastor [ctakinloye@dol.ca](mailto:ctakinloye@dol.ca) ext: 223

Kathryn Heemskerk, Pastoral Minister [kheemskerk@dol.ca](mailto:kheemskerk@dol.ca) ext: 224

Deacon Andy Alway [aalway@dol.ca](mailto:aalway@dol.ca)

Deacon Dave Callaghan [dcallaghan@dol.ca](mailto:dcallaghan@dol.ca) ext: 237

Deacon John Doomernik [jdoomernik@dol.ca](mailto:jdoomernik@dol.ca)

Deacon Gerard Van Schyndel [gvanschyndel@dol.ca](mailto:gvanschyndel@dol.ca) ext: 236

## **Parish Team**

Debbie Drinkwater, Administration Manager [ddrinkwater@dol.ca](mailto:ddrinkwater@dol.ca) ext: 240

Rick Hobbins, Coordinator of Property and Maintenance and Custodian-St. Mary

[rhobbins@dol.ca](mailto:rhobbins@dol.ca) ext: 249

Mary Zylstra, Finance Secretary [mzylstra@dol.ca](mailto:mzylstra@dol.ca) ext: 241

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Laurie Smith, Bulletin Editor and Scheduling Coordinator [lsmith@dol.ca](mailto:lsmith@dol.ca) ext: 225

Judy Wilkie, St. Bernard, Custodian

Bill Hasilo, Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, Custodian

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

St. Joseph, Simcoe 519 426-0820

École Sainte-Marie, Simcoe 519 426-4775

Holy Trinity Catholic High School, Simcoe 519 429-3600

St. Frances Cabrini, Delhi 519 582-2470

St. Cecilia, Port Dover 519 583-0224

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Waterford 519 443-8607

## Parish Offices

### **Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs & St. Bernard**

110 Adams Avenue,  
Delhi, ON N4B 1P7

Tuesday & Thursday

8:30 am-12:00 noon

1:00 pm-4:30 pm

PHONE (519) 582-1312

EMAIL [olmstbern@dol.ca](mailto:olmstbern@dol.ca)

### **St. Mary & St. Cecilia**

211 Union Street

Simcoe, ON N3Y 2B3

Wednesday & Thursday

8:30 am-12 noon

1:00pm-4:30 pm

PHONE (519) 426-0887

EMAIL [stmarycecilia@dol.ca](mailto:stmarycecilia@dol.ca)

## SUNDAY EUCHARIST

### **Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs**

110 Adams Ave., Delhi

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 pm

Sunday at 11:00 am

### **St. Mary**

211 Union St., Simcoe

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 pm

Sunday at 11:00 am

### **St. Bernard of Clairvaux**

165 Thompson Rd, Waterford

Sunday at 9:00 am

### **St. Cecilia**

17 Lynn Park Ave.

Port Dover

Sunday at 9:00 am

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

### **St. Mary & Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs**

Every Saturday 4:00 pm-4:30 pm

### **St. Cecilia & St. Bernard of Clairvaux**

Every Sunday 8:15 am or by  
appointment

## ***4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—December 19, 2021***

Dear Friends,

Today we enter into the fourth and last week of Advent Season, waiting for the coming of Christ as we joyfully celebrate his birth at Christmas. We may want to examine ourselves about the Advent preparations: Have we been able to open ourselves to the Spirit of God to guide us on the path of spiritual renewal, or are we still locked up in worldly desire that obstructs our relationship with God? Have we spent enough time in the quiet of our hearts to make a home for Christ whose coming is near?

In the readings last week, John the Baptist showed us the way to prepare for the coming of Christ. He told the crowds to share clothing and food with those who had none; Tax collectors were told not to ask more than the required amount from people, and the soldiers were admonished not to extort money forcefully but to be satisfied with their wages. Christmas is about giving and sharing with those in need. Just as God gave us his only begotten son as a gift for our redemption, He wants us to share with others in need. Christmas is also about humility and contentment. We must be conscious of our desire for shopping. It is not a time to go into debt just because we want to buy gifts or because someone wants a particular gift from us. We should humbly accept any gift with gratitude and not to begin to compare gifts because comparison deprives us of our joy. Let us be content with what we have and what we receive.

In this bulletin, we have the letter of the bishop encouraging us to be part of the Synodal process in the diocese. According to him, “the synod invites us to come together in our parishes, to reach out to Catholics not coming to church regularly, to reach out to our young people, to listen prayerfully to God’s word and to listen to God speaking through one another”. We shall receive more information as time goes on. May the Lord grant his church the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord Always! God is greater than our challenges!!

Fr. Augustine Ogundele

### ***From the desk of Kathryn Heemskerk:***

Hey there. How are you all doing as we move through this Advent season? Are you running helter skelter trying to find a long list of things you feel are an important part of your family’s celebration? Have you found a few moments yet to contemplate where Jesus fits into all of this? Or are you even struggling to find the spark needed to get your heart to align with the world around you?

Do you remember that Jesus entered this world in simplicity and difficulty but was the fulfillment of Heavenly joy? Christmas gave birth to Hope. Not just hope found in a star that led the way to a manger. It is the kind of hope that surrounds us in the possibility that we will meet God face to face or heart to heart. Hope that comes in moments like trying to conceive a child, making plans for a future when the future is unknown or unguaranteed, hope that comes in the planting of seed in the springtime and hope that the darkness will break, and the sun will rise.

Hebrews 11:1 reminds us that faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. While we wait for the Promised One, let each of us be the voice of hope to all we meet.

***To everything there is a season . . . “a time to be healed . . .”***

We pray for all the sick of our Parishes: Daphne Jarman, Ruth Lampman, Annette Murphy and Mark Pastir

***“a time to die. . .”***

We pray for all the faithful departed: Harry Heemskerk

***Eternal rest grant unto thee***

Please contact our **Prayer Line** for anyone in need of comfort and solace. We have parishioners who share their gifts and gather in a prayerful ministry to pray for whatever request comes to them.

**Prayer Line: 519 582-2431 or 519 426-0788 ~ [jeanninekowalsky@gmail.com](mailto:jeanninekowalsky@gmail.com)**



***We will be closing the office from December 24 to January 4, 2022. If you need a Priest for an emergency only, call either the the Simcoe or Delhi office and press “9”.***

***Just a gentle reminder that all donations to the parish need to be in by December 31, 2021, to be included in your 2021 Income Tax Receipt.***

***You must preregister for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses!***  
***If you do not preregister you may not be able to attend due to restrictions on seating capacity.***  
***To register please phone the parish office at: 519-582-1312; 519-426-0887 on***

***Tuesday, December 21 9:00 am to 4:00 pm***  
***Thursday, December 23 9:00 am to 12:00 pm***

***Christmas Eve Mass***

**Friday, December 24, 2021,**

St. Mary - 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs - 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux - 7:00 p.m.

St. Cecilia - 7:00 p.m.

***Christmas Day Mass***

**Saturday December 25, 2021**

St. Bernard of Clairvaux – 9:00 am

St. Cecilia – 9:00 am

St. Mary – 11:00 am

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs – 11:00 am

***Mass Schedule for Feast Days (No preregistration required)***

***Feast of the Holy Family***

**Sunday, December 26, 2021,**

St. Bernard of Clairvaux - 9:00 am

St. Cecilia - 9:00 am

St. Mary - 11:00 am

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs - 11:00 am

***New Year's Eve, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God***

**Friday December 31, 2021**

St. Mary – 11:00 pm Midnight Adoration

***Due to the Bishop's Directive***

***There will be no Masses celebrated on***  
***New Year's Day***

**Sunday January 2, 2022**

St. Bernard of Clairvaux – 9:00 am

St. Cecilia – 9:00 am

St. Mary - 11:00 am

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs—11:00 am



**The Spirit of Truth and Love Catholic Prayer Group**

Prayer meetings are every Tuesday evening at **7:45 pm** electronically on Zoom. To join the virtual meeting, please contact John or Barra at [johnbarra@sympatica.ca](mailto:johnbarra@sympatica.ca) or 519 583-0277 for information.

**The Holy Rosary Prayer Group**

The HOLY ROSARY Prayer Meet Up on ZOOM schedule for December 2021 in observance of the Advent and Christmas season as follows, the ZOOM details invite will be sent out via email. December 23-Vigil of the Nativity; December 24-Chaste Nuptials of Our Lady and St. Joseph; December 25-Nativity of the Lord. *MAY GOD's Blessings and graces of Love, Hope, Peace and Joy bring us comfort and good tidings in our families, in our homes and in our communities. For further details email: Christian O'Malley [ecmc8\\_1119@yahoo.com](mailto:ecmc8_1119@yahoo.com)*



**People and Planet First Campaign 2021 – Development and Peace**

On behalf of Development and Peace, People and Planet Campaign 2021, we wish to thank you for signing our recent petitions to the House of Commons asking law makers to pass a law requiring Canadian companies to be accountable for human rights violations and environmental damage throughout their global operations and supply chains, especially in the Global South.

From our 4 parishes, we received 236 signatures and have made contact with Lesly Lewis, Haldimand –Norfolk member of the House of Commons of Canada to present our petitions to her in the new year 2022 and she in turn will be obligated to present them to Parliament. In this action, we join all the other Catholic Churches across Canada who stand in solidarity with the people of the Global South, as they try to protect their livelihoods and prevent damage to our planet that we all share.

Thanking You

Development and Peace Committee



Rides needed for people wanting to come to church at Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs for the 5 pm Mass on Saturday and the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday. Please call the office if you are interested.



# DIOCESE OF LONDON

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

1070 WATERLOO STREET  
LONDON, ONTARIO N6A 3Y2  
CANADA  
519-433-0658  
FAX: 519-266-4353

10 December 2021

**To: The Faithful of the Diocese of London**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, 10 October 2021, at the Vatican Basilica of St. Peter, Pope Francis proclaimed the "Opening of the Synodal Path". Originally scheduled for 2022, the Holy Father chose to postpone the Synod of Bishops for one year to allow time for a worldwide consultation. His intention is to invite Catholics around the world to participate on the local level in the preparations for the Synod which will now take place in 2023.

In the gospel reading that day, a rich man approached Jesus as he was setting out on a journey, to ask an important question about discipleship. The Holy Father pointed out in his homily that Jesus is frequently portrayed in the gospels as being on a journey. "He walks alongside people and listens to the questions and concerns lurking in their hearts. He shows that God is not found in neat and orderly places, distant from reality, but walks ever at our side."

The following Sunday, at a Mass in our own Basilica of St. Peter in London, I solemnly opened the synodal process for the Diocese. I pointed out in my homily that we are invited to engage in dialogue, pray with, and listen to one another as we consider the Synod's theme, Being a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission. What Pope Francis is saying in this process is that the Church cares about what you think. Pope Francis' hope is that the Synod will bring about a whole new way of being Church. The Church, he says, does not stand aloof from life, but immerses herself in the real lives of people and the issues of the day, bandaging the wounded and healing those with broken hearts.

In that homily, I also reiterated my vision for the Diocese, to be a missionary Church making disciples of Jesus. Entering the synodal process will help us here in our own Diocese to understand this vision in new ways. The Synod invites us to come together in our parishes, to reach out to Catholics not coming to church regularly, to reach out to our young people, to listen prayerfully to God's word and to listen to God speaking through one another. We are called to open our minds and hearts to the Holy Spirit who enables our Church to break out of our routine, to discern the times in which we live, in solidarity with the struggles and aspirations of all our sisters and brothers.

To carry out this work of synodal consultation, I am very pleased to announce the names of the team of people who will reach out to our parishes and institutions, to the Religious women and men in the Diocese, to those who infrequently come to church, and in a special way to our young people. This committee will be co-chaired by Ms Linda Staudt (Windsor, former Director of Education for the London District Catholic School Board) and Father Paul Baillargeon (Chancellor of the Diocese). The committee includes Dr. Carolyn Chau (King's University College), Dr. John Dool (St. Peter's Seminary), Mrs. Betty Hompoth (Pastoral Minister, Windsor-Lake St. Clair Catholic Family of Parishes), Deacon Len Hughes (St. Peter Cathedral Basilica), Mr. Mark Adkinson (parishioner, St. Michael Parish, London), and Mr. Julian Paparella (formerly of London and a special advisor to the Synod of Bishops in Rome). Support will be given by the diocesan staff through Mrs. Chrisandra Skipper (Pastoral Services Coordinator) and Mr. Matthew Clarke (Director of Communications).

*Diocese of London: Being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus*

We have named our local synodal consultation "Together on the Road: Conversations for a Listening Church in the Diocese of London". The name suggests the root meaning of the word "synod" [from the Greek *syn* (together) + *hodos* (road)] and makes clear that we will engage in conversations about the questions and concerns lurking in our hearts, as Jesus would.

Over the next few months, the Committee will engage in three phases:

1. To educate us on the nature of synods and our role in this consultation;
2. To provide ways and means for the conversations to take place on the local level; and
3. To gather and synthesize all of our contributions to the consultation.

Our contributions will be gathered with those from across the country and then forwarded to the office of the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican.

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.

May our heavenly patrons, the Blessed Mother who is Mother of the Church, and Saint Patrick, the great missionary, intercede for us as we walk together on the road of communion, participation and mission.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ Ronald Fabbro, CSB". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, CSB  
Bishop of London



## Diocese of London

### What is a Synod and What makes this Synod Different?

Since Vatican II, bishops have gathered every two to three years to reflect on important issues confronting the Church, seeking to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit. In recent times Pope Francis has sought to invite broader consultation.

The Synod of Bishops in 2023 will be the culmination of a two-year synodal process for the entire Church that will shape the bishop's meeting in Rome in 2023. This Synod begins with a diocesan listening phase involving all the faithful at local churches in dioceses throughout the world. This listening phase will run through to April 2022.



The goal of this synodal process is to involve as many people as possible in a worldwide process of intentional listening: listening to each other, and listening to the Holy Spirit. The theme of the upcoming Synod is “*For a Synodal Church Communion, Participation and Mission*” defines how the synodality of the Church will be achieved.

Whenever we enter into dialogue, we allow ourselves to be challenged, to advance on a journey. And in the end, we are no longer the same, we are changed.

### What a Synod Is and What a Synod is Not

What a Synod Is	What a Synod is Not
It is a process	It is not a one-time event
It is prayerful discernment and listening	It is not a survey of popular opinion
It is an experience shared with one another	It is not just filling out a questionnaire
It is about seeing the opportunities	It is not about seeing only problems
It is a process grounded in prayer, grounded in liturgy and the Word of God	It is not a study group
It is a spiritual process led by the Holy Spirit	It is not a strategic planning exercise

### The Synodal Process is about . . .

- Listening to each and every one
- Reaching out and being inclusive and culturally aware
- Having an open mind to explore possibilities
- Bringing people together to dream big about the Church
- Spending time with the future
- Hearing what the Holy Spirit has to say to all of us

### The Synodal process calls us to . . .

- Listen to the lived experiences of others in a context of prayer
- Listen with openness, with faith and with courage
- Listen with the ears of the heart
- Listen to what the Holy Spirit wants to say to the Church
- Be open to each encounter with courage and a willingness and to allow ourselves to be challenged by the presence and the stories of others
- Provide an opportunity for everyone to speak freely, to tell their story, to recount their experiences and their spiritual journey
- Have the confidence to speak and the humility to listen

## The Main Questions the Synod will Consider

A Synodal church, in announcing the Gospel, 'journeys together'. Our Diocese and the Church worldwide are being asked to . . .

- Embark on a process of profound renewal inspired by the Holy Spirit
- Respond to the main questions of the Synodal process as it applies to our Church today and the Church we envision for the future
  - How is our 'walking together' in synodality realized today in the Church?
  - What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow as we 'walk together'?
- Actively reach out and listen to the voices and experiences of people where they are at, especially those who are often excluded or who are not involved in the life of the Church.

## Moving Forward – Quotes to Inspire and Guide

*"In our parishes we're working hard to become genuine disciples of Jesus and inviting others to experience the joy of encountering Jesus in their lives. This synod invites us to come together in our parishes and to reach out to Catholics not coming to church regularly. To reach out to our young people to listen prayerfully to God's word. To listen to God speaking through one another."* -Bishop Fabbro

*"We recall that the purpose of the Synod, and therefore of this consultation is not to produce documents, but "to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands."* -Synod 2021-2023 Preparatory Document

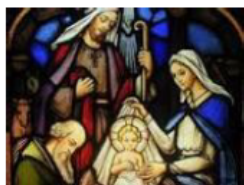
*"Dear brothers and sisters, let us have a good journey together! May we be pilgrims in love with the Gospel and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit. Let us not miss out on the grace-filled opportunities born of encounter, listening and discernment. In the joyful conviction that, even as we seek the Lord, he always comes with his love to meet us first."* -Pope Francis, Homily, 10 September 2021

*"In a choir or orchestra, all must listen, all must be attuned to the other voices and to the other instruments."*  
-Catherine Clifford, Professor Saint Paul University

*"It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium."*  
-Pope Francis, Synodality in the Life and Mission of the Church

*"The aim of the Synod is not just to talk about synodality, but to put synodality into practice from now onwards in every diocese, parish, and country across the whole world. This calls all of us, at every level of the Church, to renew our way of being and working together moving forward."*  
-Julian Paparella, *What is the Synod on Synodality?*

*"This is a unique opportunity for reforming and renewing IF we take it."*  
-Sr. Nuala Kenny, *A Post-Pandemic Church: Prophetic Possibilities*



# ST VINCENT DE PAUL UPDATE SIMCOE/WATERFORD/ DELHI

During the past month, we supplied groceries and food store gift cards in the amount of \$1805.00 in the Simcoe/Waterford/Delhi area to 117 families, having a total of 306 adults and children. As well, the Soup Kitchen, which operates 3 days per week, has served an average of 98 meals per day of operation.

We participated in the Christmas Exchange and 50 families were given a total of approximately \$13,000.00 in food store and department store gift cards. Gift cards were given this year, in place of groceries, due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Collection for the month of December was \$1563.00 from St Bernard's, \$1129.00 from Our Lady Queen of Martyr's and \$6767.00 from St Mary's. We also received donations of food &/or funds from the Company, Union and Employees of Essex Furukawa in Simcoe, Ontario Power Generation Inc, The Who Did It Club, Immanuel Christian Reformed Church, Langton CWL, The Rotary Club of Simcoe Sunrise, St Joseph School in Simcoe and Ecole Ste Marie.

The generosity of your response shown in all the parishes over the Christmas season is appreciated and in keeping with the tradition of many years, there will be no collection for St Vincent activities in January 2022.

We thank you for your prayers and continued financial support during the past year.

We Wish Everyone A Merry Christmas  
And A Happy New Year.

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

### The Story of the Birth of Christ

*Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:18-21*

*God is inviting us to not be afraid. Jesus is a special baby, with his Father as God and his mother the virgin Mary. Jesus is special because he is the God-child who was born to save us from our sins.*



## Mass Intentions & Weekday Mass Schedule

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the week of December 12, 2021, at:

**Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs for deceased members of the Smith Family**

**St. Mary: 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passing of Florian Engelhardt**

**St. Cecilia: In Thanksgiving**

**St. Bernard: Harry Heemskerck**



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Monday December 20 9:00 am <b>St. Mary</b>	Gordon Albert Jarman Manuel Bernardo & Maria da Piedade Maximino & Alda Enriques
Tuesday December 21 7:00 pm <b>St. Mary</b>  7:00 pm <b>Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs</b>	Florian Engelhardt Fr. Matthew George  Reinalda Gomes & Raul Ferreira Paul Polfliet & Lucien Verbuyst
Wednesday December 22 9:00 am <b>St. Cecilia</b>  11:00 am <b>Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs</b>  7:00 pm <b>St. Bernard</b>	For Family Conversion Tony Masella  Anthony Vidmontas Virginio & Maria Isabel Pereira  Theo Vanderlee Pauline Korczak
Thursday December 23 7:00 pm <b>St. Cecilia's</b>	Bill Duffus Teresa Grace

## Adoration 30 minutes prior to Weekday Mass

### Port Dover/Walsh St. Vincent de Paul

The Port Dover/ Walsh St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank all of those who contributed in any way to our Christmas basket drive.

Thank you to all who brought in gift cards, made mittens and hats, bought a gift, or contributed a monetary donation.

With your generous donations, you helped to make Christmas a little bit merrier for families in our area who have fallen on hard times.

Thank you, God Bless and all the best to you and your family in 2022.