

Being a Mission Oriented Church that Forms Disciples of Jesus

Zurich | Goderich | St. Joseph | Exeter | Mt. Carmel | Grand Bend

DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 2025 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent



"Welcome to our Family of Parishes! Whether you're a long-time parishioner, a visitor, or new to our community, may you feel at home here and know the joy of being part of God's family - a place of prayer, hope, and belonging."

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

### SUNDAY MASS

**St. Peter, Goderich**  
Saturday 5pm | Sunday 9am

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mt. Carmel**  
Sunday 11:15am

**Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend**  
Sunday 9am

**St. Boniface, Zurich**  
Saturday 5pm | Sunday 8:30am

**Precious Blood, Exeter**  
Saturday 5pm | Sunday 11am

**St. Peter, St. Joseph**  
Sunday 11:30am



### The Advent Wreath



FIRST READING: ISAIAH 7:10-14

PSALM: 24

SECOND READING: ROMANS 1:1-7

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-24

### Lighting the Fourth Candle

This weekend is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We light the fourth candle, the Candle of Love, which reminds us of God's great love revealed in the coming of Jesus.

**This week we light four candles:**

Week 1 – Hope (purple)

Week 2 – Faith (purple)

Week 3 – Joy (rose)

**Week 4 – Love (purple)**

As the final candle is added, the Advent wreath shines more brightly, reminding us that Christ's love is near—made present in our world and in our hearts as we prepare to celebrate His birth.



1-877-450-6414



LakeHuronCatholic.ca

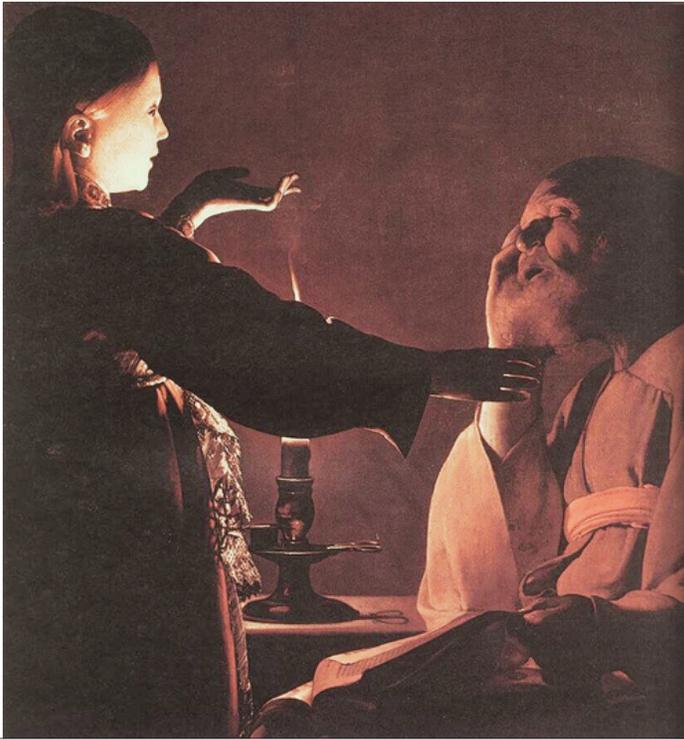


LakeHuronCatholic@dol.ca

## Christmas Schedule 2025

St. Boniface, Zurich
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend
St. Peter, Goderich
Our Lady of Mount Camel, Mount Carmel
Precious Blood, Exeter
St. Peter, St. Joseph

Christmas Eve Mass	Christmas Day Mass	The Holy Family Vigil Mass	The Holy Family Mass	Mary Mother of God Vigil Mass	Mary Mother of God Mass
Wednesday 12/24/2025	Thursday 12/25/2025	Saturday 12/27/2025	Sunday 12/28/2025	Wednesday 12/31/2025	Thursday 1/1/2026
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	8:30 AM	5:00 PM	
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	
5:00 PM	11:30 AM		11:15 AM		10:00 AM
5:00 PM	11:30 AM	5:00 PM	11:00 AM		10:00 AM
	9:00 AM		11:30 AM		10:00 AM



Georges de La Tour, *The Dream of St Joseph*. Public Domain. Image via Wikimedia Commons.

## For Reflection

1. How is God inviting me to trust Him in situations I do not fully understand?
2. Do I see Jesus as “Emmanuel” – God with me in my daily life?
3. What “yes” is God asking of me this Advent?

## Matthew 1:18–24 - Joseph’s Dream

Joseph faces a dilemma when he discovers Mary is with child. Yet in a dream the angel tells him: “Do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 1:20). Joseph’s obedience allows God’s plan to unfold.

Isaiah’s prophecy of a virgin bearing a son, “Emmanuel, God with us” (Isaiah 7:14), finds its fulfillment in Jesus. St. Paul reminds the Romans that this Gospel was promised long ago and is now revealed in Christ (Romans 1:2–3). On this last Sunday of Advent, we are invited into Joseph’s trust – to say “yes” to God’s plan, even when it leads into mystery.

## Sunday Seeds



Joseph was worried, but God told him: “Do not be afraid. The baby is from the Holy Spirit.” Joseph trusted God, and Jesus was born into his family.

**Try this...** Say “Yes” to God this week by doing something kind or helpful, even if it feels hard.

## Prayer

Emmanuel, God-with-us, teach us to trust like Joseph and to welcome You into our lives. Give us courage to say “yes” to Your will and to believe that You are always near. Amen.

# A Christmas Message from Bishop Fabbro

2025 is available for download or printing [here](#)

## Upcoming Parish Events

For more visit our website at [LakeHuronCatholic.ca](http://LakeHuronCatholic.ca)

- **Dec. 24 | Office Closed:** for the holidays from noon and reopens January 6.
- **Dec. 24 | Christmas Eve**
- **Dec. 25 | The Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Day**
- **Dec. 26 | Saint Stephen’s Day / Boxing Day**
- **Dec. 28 | The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
- **Dec. 28 | Coffee Social: STB** (after Mass)
- **Dec. 28 | Coffee Social: IHM** (after Mass) \*\*\*
- **Dec. 28 | Bishop Fabbro is celebrating the closing Mass of the Jubilee Year at St. Peter’s Cathedral in London. All are welcome to attend in person or via the [livestream](#).**
- **Dec. 31 | New Year’s Eve**
- **Jan. 1 | Mary, the Holy Mother of God / New Year’s Day**
- **Jan. 6 | Office Reopens:** at 8:30am

\*\*\* An opportunity to wish Fr. Vince well on his retirement!

## Prayers

If you would like to join us for prayers please visit the website for locations, times and dates. We have 3 locations on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. [Click here for more information.](#)

## Parish Key (in color on [website](#))

- STB** St. Boniface Church, in Zurich
- SPG** St. Peter Church, in Goderich
- SPJ** St. Peter Church, in St. Joseph
- PBE** Precious Blood, in Exeter
- IHM** Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Grand Bend
- OLMC** Our Lady of Mount Carmel, in Mt. Carmel

## Continuing Parish Events

- **Youth & Family Mass Sundays:**
  - **PBE | Dec. 21 (every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday)**
- **RCIA:** is relocating to St. Peter’s, Goderich. We are blessed with a growing group of candidates and are seeking sponsors to journey with them in faith. *If you are open to this call, please consider giving Nancy a call at the office at extension 200.*
- **\*\*\*Common Plate:** at **PBE will be closed December 23 and 30.** It will reopen on January 6th from 5:30-7pm.
- **Fishes & Loaves:** **SPG** Tuesdays see this [link](#) for more details.

## In God's Presence

### Weekday Mass Intentions

Please see the Christmas Schedule on the front page for when Christmas season Masses will be celebrated.

December-21 - December-27		
<b>Nursing Homes</b>		
<u>Queensway, Hensall</u>		
Tue Dec 23	† Edward Jordan Hagan [] Peg Hagan	11:00 am
Tue Dec 23	† Maria Lourenco [] Estate	11:00 am
<b>St. Peter, St. Joseph</b>		
Tue Dec 23	† Phil Laporte [] Topolovec Family	12:15 pm
Tue Dec 23	Int. of Rev. Antoine (Tony) Laforet [] St. Boniface CWL	12:15 pm
<b>St. Peter, Goderich</b>		
Fri Dec 26	† Grace & Douglas Smith [] Janet & Paul Villani	12:15 pm
Fri Dec 26	† Maria Lourenco [] Estate	12:15 pm
Fri Dec 26	Int. of Deacon Brian MacDonald [] St. Peter CWL, Goderich	12:15 pm
<b>Immaculate Heart of Mary, Grand Bend</b>		
Fri Dec 26	† Bruce Fischer [] Regina Fischer	9:15 am
Fri Dec 26	† Phil Laporte [] Janet & Chis Brown	9:15 am
Fri Dec 26	Int. of Fr. Anthony Lobo [] Cathy & Andy Vrolyk	9:15 am
<b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Carmel</b>		
Sat Dec 27	† Marie Marrinan [] Jared, Karen & Spencer Hutchinson	9:15 am
Sat Dec 27	† James, Larry & Patricia Marie Marrinan [] Michelle & Braden Seabrook	9:15 am
Sat Dec 27	† Dennis Dietrich [] Hugh and Diane Ryan	9:15 am
Sat Dec 27	† Elizabeth and Theo Vink [] Doreen and Francis Hartman	9:15 am

### Adoration & Confession - week of Dec. 21st

Tue, Dec 23	11am - 11:45am	St. Joseph	<b>B</b>	Confession
-------------	----------------	------------	----------	------------

## Merry Christmas

FROM THE STAFF & PASTORAL TEAM

May you be blessed with the gift of deep faith, a hope that brings peace to your heart, and the joy that comes from being surrounded by the love of family and friends. Please know you are held in our prayers as we send our warm Christmas wishes for happiness and grace.

— With warm regards from the Office Staff and your Pastoral Team



Den. Jim



Rachael



Lori



Nancy



From left to right:

Pastor Rev. Antoine (Tony) Laforet  
Associate Pastors Rev. Vince Gulikers, Rev.  
Thomas (Tom) Donchue, Rev. Anthony Lobo

### Sacraments

**Baptism:** Please complete the online [Baptism Registration Form](#) and email it to [LakeHuronCatholic@dol.ca](mailto:LakeHuronCatholic@dol.ca). The next Baptism Prep Class will be held Thursday, **January 8, 2026**, at St. Boniface Church, in Zurich, 6:30pm.

**Confirmation:** All parents are invited to register their children online and to join us for our first meeting on either **January 6<sup>th</sup> in Zurich** at 7pm OR on **January 7<sup>th</sup> in Goderich** at 7pm. To register your child please visit [LakeHuronCatholic.ca/Sacraments](http://LakeHuronCatholic.ca/Sacraments).

#### First Communion:

**Parent Night** – Please join us at St. Boniface Church, in Zurich, **Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm.

**Marriage:** Couples are asked to contact Fr. Tony at least one year in advance to begin marriage preparation: [tlaforet@dol.ca](mailto:tlaforet@dol.ca).

**Anointing of the Sick:** Call at the onset of serious illness or when death is imminent: 1-877-450-6414 ext. 9.

**Reconciliation (Confession):** We are encouraged to celebrate this sacrament regularly. It brings peace, healing, and grace to the soul. Check the full schedule online: [LakeHuronCatholic.ca](http://LakeHuronCatholic.ca). Confessions are also available by appointment: 1-877-450-6414.

We pray for all who are sick, asking God to grant them healing and strength. We also remember those who have died, **especially Patrick Sullivan**, and ask the Lord to bring comfort and peace to all who mourn.

## DIOCESAN MINISTERS PRAYER CALENDAR

### Important Office & Bulletin Notations

- The parish office will close for the holidays at noon on Wednesday, December 24, and **reopens on Tuesday, January 6, at 8:30am.**
- 2025 Donations must be received **by Sunday, December 28** to be included on your 2026 tax receipt.
- Have you moved? Please update your address with the office to ensure you receive your 2025 tax receipt.
- **Next Bulletin/Newsletter deadlines are:**
  - Monday \*8am\*, **December 22**, for the January Newsletter which will be **for the week of December 28 and January** content for the month.
  - Monday, **December 29**, **\*closed for additional content\*** for the holidays, please submit content for this week in the above January Newsletter, for the Bulletin week of January 4th.
  - Monday \*8am\*, **January 5**, for the January Bulletin
- Hall Rentals: please note pricing will be changing for 2026. See [website for details](#).
- Driver wanted for occasional transportation needs from Zurich to Clinton. Contact Fr. Tony ext. 222



# Christmas Flower's and Decorations 2025

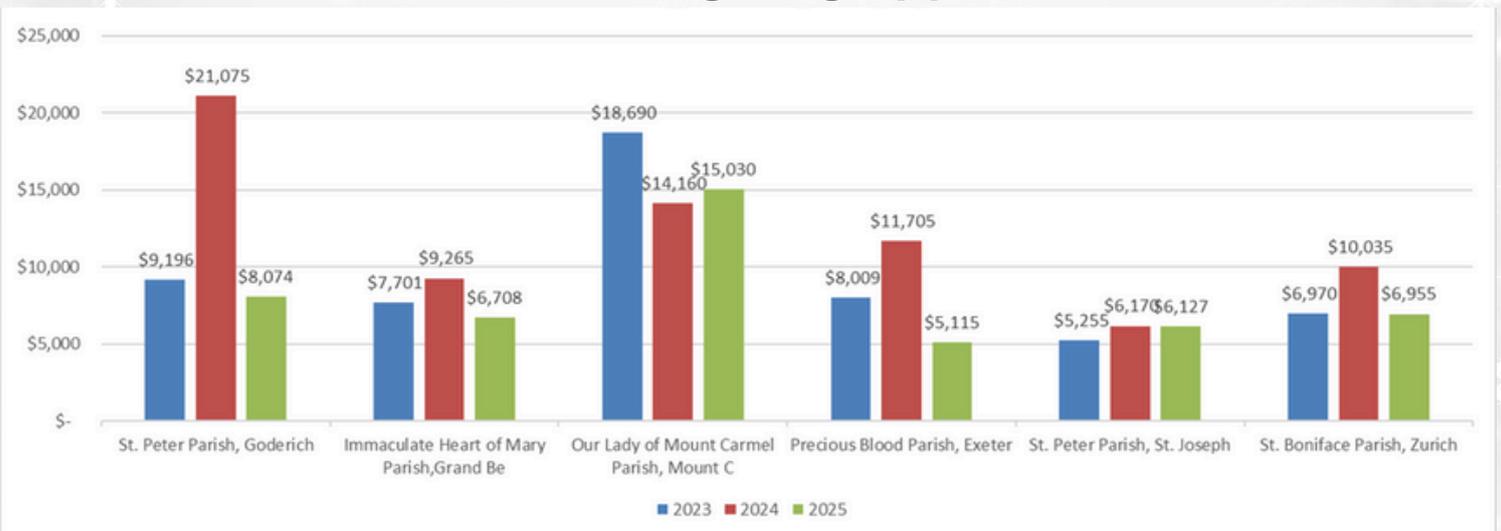
**Dedicated to those who are dear to us. In loving memory of:**

Adam Hern	Gunnar Christensen	Madline & Bill Goodman
Angela Kuntz	Harry Kerr	Marcel Verlinde
Ann & Bill Berry	Helen & Gordon Blake	Mark & Rae Mathers
Anthony & Adeline Denomme	Henry Mach	Mary Inwards
Arlene Timmins	Hickey Family	Mary Smith
Bernie Denomme	Jack Tigert	Maurice & Etta Chapman
Bill & Ferne Moore	Jean Lalonde	Michael Moriarty
Carl Schmidt	Jeremy Lalonde	Peter & Barbara Santandrea
Cheryle Schmidt	Jim & Cory Robertson	Regier & Laycox Family
Daniel Lalonde	Jim Doherty	Richard Dominico
de Kort & Bertens Families	Jim Hogg	Rita Vaessen
Dennis Ducharme	Jo & Justin McCarthy	Ron & Mae Glazier
Devereaux Family	Joanne Zettler	Ronald Sguigna
Don, Annette, Bill Stemp	Joel Regier	Sister Mary Regier
Eamon Cunney	John Hewetson	Smith & Bedard Families
Evelyn Christensen	John Van Diepen	Thuss & Dack Family
Fr. Leahy	John, Mary & Diane Maize	Timothy Inwards
Frene Kuran	Judy Stemp	Tina & Theo Van Diepen
Gerald & Beulah Lassaline	Leo & Gertrude Oberle	Tony Inwards
Glen Overholt	Louis & Marilee Ayotte	Walter & Bernice Ul
Godelieve & Andre Denys	Louis Vaessen	Wayne Masse
Gordon & Bertha Gaudon, & Deceased Family Members	Lucille Dumont	Wilfred Chapman
Gregg DeWinter	Lucy & Thad McCarthy	William Kuran

**"Christmas is love in action. When we give to God's house, we help His love reach every heart in need."**

*The yearly Thanksgiving appeal is a great help to the parish in meeting it financial needs  
Thank you for your support again. (Note: 2025 data is only to the end of October)*

## Thanksgiving Appeal



**Financial Overview**

Ending  
October 31, 2025



	St. Peter, Goderich			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$33,081	\$215,833	\$213,620	\$195,486
Operating Expenses	\$21,821	\$202,043	\$214,430	\$203,506
Surplus (Loss)	\$11,261	\$13,791	(\$810)	(\$8,020)

Surplus (Loss) ↑ Better than budget  
↑ Better than last year

	Immaculate Heart of Mary			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$15,014	\$101,932	\$120,380	\$115,059
Operating Expenses	\$10,929	\$85,382	\$106,320	\$92,029
Surplus (Loss)	\$4,085	\$16,549	\$14,060	\$23,030

Surplus (Loss) ↑ Better than budget  
↓ Under last year

	Precious Blood			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$8,562	\$83,053	\$106,580	\$91,747
Operating Expenses	\$11,564	\$115,938	\$105,540	\$100,018
Surplus (Loss)	(\$3,002)	(\$32,885)	\$1,040	(\$8,271)

Surplus (Loss) ↓ Under budget  
↓ Under last year

	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$13,843	\$88,444	\$106,930	\$88,709
Operating Expenses	\$13,353	\$103,070	\$109,450	\$104,450
Surplus (Loss)	\$490	(\$14,626)	(\$2,520)	(\$15,740)

Surplus (Loss) ↓ Under budget  
↑ Better than last year

	St. Peter, St. Joseph			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$10,200	\$84,624	\$87,140	\$91,658
Operating Expenses	\$11,022	\$77,164	\$85,730	\$84,741
Surplus (Loss)	(\$822)	\$7,459	\$1,410	\$6,917

Surplus (Loss) ↑ Better than budget  
↑ Better than last year

	St. Boniface			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$13,090	\$117,777	\$170,640	\$124,712
Operating Expenses	\$14,767	\$114,555	\$161,600	\$122,409
Surplus (Loss)	(\$1,677)	\$3,222	\$9,040	\$2,302

Surplus (Loss) ↓ Under budget  
↑ Better than last year

	Lake Huron Family of Parishes			
	Oct 2025	2025 YTD	Budget YTD	PrvYTD (2024)
Operating Receipts	\$93,791	\$691,662	\$805,290	\$707,371
Operating Expenses	\$83,456	\$698,152	\$783,070	\$707,153
Surplus (Loss)	\$10,335	(\$6,490)	\$22,220	\$218

Surplus (Loss) ↓ Under budget  
↓ Under last year

<< This section is for information purposes only.  
It is our 6 parishes added together.



Donate with QR code to link below  
[LakeHuronCatholic.ca/donate](https://LakeHuronCatholic.ca/donate)

We thank you all for your prayerful and financial support.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated.  
Father Antoine (Tony) Laforet and your Finance Committee members.

YTD = Year to Date

**Lake Huron Catholic Family of Parishes Finance Committee Members**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| St. Peter, Goderich - Paul Scholten    | Immaculate Heart of Mary - Jim Karry    |
| St. Boniface - Ted Soudant             | Our Lady of Mount Carmel - John Muller  |
| St. Peter, St. Joseph - Open Position. | Precious Blood - Jake Sweeny            |
| Recording Secretary - Brenda Teichert  | Business Manager - Deacon Jim Van Lanen |
| Pastor - Father Antoine (Tony) Laforet |   |

**Shared Expenses (shared staff salaries, office expenses etc.) splits are as follows as of January 1, 2025.**

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| St. Peter, Goderich - 28%   | Immaculate Heart of Mary - 15% |
| St. Boniface - 15%          | Our Lady of Mount Carmel - 15% |
| St. Peter, St. Joseph - 11% | Precious Blood - 16%           |
- Based on Parish the Sunday Offering, Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving donations.

**Commentary**

We must submit a balanced budget to the Diocese, so donations have been adjusted accordingly to cover projected expenses.

>Bad weather has significantly impacted attendance and, in turn, collections early this year. Please consider Pre-Authorized Giving, which ensures steady support even when weather affects in-person attendance. It's simple and convenient—expenses continue regardless of the weather. To set this up, contact Lori Laporte at llaporte@dol.ca or 877-450-6416 x240.

> Goderich had another large \$10,000 donation in addition to last month's (\$10,000 & \$2,500) and is now in a surplus position! Thank you to all our donors who make our mission possible!

>Snow removal and utility costs at most churches were significantly higher than last year—what a winter!

The deficit at Precious Blood is a combination of snowRemoval, Utilities (working with insurance to determine if they can be covered), Dishwasher and Automatic Door repairs, and decreased donations compared to last year, as well as budget constraints.

Funds are needed to eliminate the deficit, for the replacement of the Heating and Cooling system (~\$150,000) (pledges and donations as of Oct 31 + \$58K) (we do have over and the outstanding Loan amount of \$387,724 is also straining Finances (interest payments of ~\$13,500 for the year)

>We are in urgent need of a Finance Committee member from St. Peter Parish in St. Joseph. If you are interested, please contact Deacon Jim Van Lanen, Fr. Tony, or the Parish office.

2025 mid Yeat - End Reports for each parish a [LakeHuronCatholic.ca/financial-reports](https://LakeHuronCatholic.ca/financial-reports)

**Thank you for your generosity !**



*Please support the advertisers that support our community;  
tell them you saw their Ad here*

**Bluewater**  
PLUMBING & HEATING LTD.  
Sales, Services, & Installations  
(519) 872-1746

**Music lessons for all ages**



\* classes for babies/toddlers  
\* Music For Young Children piano classes  
\* private piano and theory lessons  
\* online or in studio lessons  
19 Goshen St. N Zurich, ON  
Aimee Rau - owner/teacher  
musicboxlearning@gmail.com  
Visit our website - [www.musicboxfmc.com](http://www.musicboxfmc.com)

**WESTLAND GREENHOUSES**  
**Garden Centre**  
*Indoor Tropical Paradise*  
Westland Greenhouses GB. Inc  
Paul & Anita VanAndrichem  
PO Box 233  
10133 Lakeshorre Rd.  
Grand Bend, ON N0M 1T0 Phone (519) 238-1321

Goderich Columbus Hall   
*Weddings...Seminars...Socials*  
*Receptions...Meetings*  
Phone: (519) 524-1832  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 

Visit our website!  
Mass times, bulletins,  
children's resources, and  
more:  
 [LakeHuronCatholic.ca](http://LakeHuronCatholic.ca)

**HASKETT**  
FUNERAL HOMES LTD  
[www.haskettfh.com](http://www.haskettfh.com)

**Lord, help me to see You in  
everyone I meet and serve  
You in all I do. Amen.**  
Take a moment this week to  
rest in God's presence

**Smith-Peat Roofing and Sheet Metal Ltd.**  
152 Thames Road West  
Exeter ON N0M 1S3  
TEL: 519-235-2802  
FAX: 519-235-1532  
EMAIL: [speat@hay.net](mailto:speat@hay.net)



**Green Bucks**  
Country Christmas Store



**GLAVIN FARMS LIMITED**  
*"Quality Rutabagas"*  
DAVE OR DENNIS  
TEL.: 519-228-6334  
FAX: 519-228-6433  
CELL: 226-926-0935  
35814 NEIL ROAD, R.R. #2 LUCAN, ONT., CANADA N0M 2J0  
EMAIL: [glavinfarmsltd@hotmail.com](mailto:glavinfarmsltd@hotmail.com)



**Big Bill's STORAGE**  
  
519-235-2802

**STRATFORD SUPERIOR MEMORIALS**  
Creating Memories in Stone Since 1924  
*Michael S. Falconer*  
Memorial Counsellor  
79217 Orchard Line, Goderich, ON  
PO Box 47, Clinton, ON N0M 1L0  
Phone: 519.524.8457  
Cell: 519.525.2281  
By Appointment  
[mfalconer@stratfordmemorials.com](mailto:mfalconer@stratfordmemorials.com)  
[www.stratfordmemorials.com](http://www.stratfordmemorials.com)



**BLUEWATER PSYCHOTHERAPY**  
INSIGHTFUL • CONFIDENTIAL • COMPASSIONATE  
Licensed by CRPO. Psychotherapy with a Catholic perspective.  
Offered online. In-person also available.  
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/profile/840318>  
Listed with Lumino & Greenshield

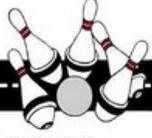
Gerry Glavin 519.878.7243  
Craig Glavin 519.878.5690  
**GLAVIN EAVESTROUGHING LTD.**  
Seamless Eavestrough • Siding • Soffit • Fascia • Steel Roofing  
40' Boom Truck • Aluminum Leaf Guard  
Professional & Reliable Service • Free Estimates  
Office 519.228.6295 69373 Victoria Drive  
Fax 519.228.6534 Centralia, ON N0M 1K0  
Email [glavineaves@hotmail.com](mailto:glavineaves@hotmail.com) [www.glavineavestroughing.com](http://www.glavineavestroughing.com)

*This space could be yours.*  
Email  
[Lakehuroncatholic@dol.ca](mailto:Lakehuroncatholic@dol.ca)

Ask for a **FREE Planning Kit!**  
Beautiful. Personal. Affordable.  
At your time of need or when planning ahead, call 519-524-7345  
  
McCallum & Palla Funeral Home  
by Arbor Memorial  
11 Cambria Road North, Goderich, ON  
[mccallumpalla.ca](http://mccallumpalla.ca)



**Town & Country BOWLING LANES**  
38120 Zurich-Hensall Rd Zurich ON (519)236-4923  
Parties • Leagues • Open Bowling • Licensed  
Call or E-mail for Hours and Reservations  
[tcbowlinglanes@hay.net](mailto:tcbowlinglanes@hay.net)  
[www.tcbowlinglanes.ca](http://www.tcbowlinglanes.ca)  
Jacqui Regier, Owner Cheryl Regier, Manager



**RYAN JAMES SMITH MASONRY**  
  
STONE • BRICK • BLOCK  
519.281.3601  
[r.j.s.masonry90@gmail.com](mailto:r.j.s.masonry90@gmail.com)