



# Elgin Roman Catholic Family of Parishes Bulletin

St. Anne's | Holy Angels' | Our Lady of Sorrows | St. Mary's | St. Helen's

**January 29th - February 11th 2024**

**Website:** [elginrcparishes.ca](http://elginrcparishes.ca) | **Phone:** 519-631-3640

**Our Mission:** Jesus said, "Go make disciples ... I am with you always."

**Our Vision:** Strengthened by the Eucharist, we are moved to bring healing to a wounded world.

## Mass Times

<b>Monday:</b> 8:00 AM – Holy Angels’ & Livestream	<b>Tuesday:</b> 8:00 AM – St. Anne’s & Live Stream 10:00 AM – OLOS 10:00 AM – Holy Angels’ (Every First Tuesday)	
<b>Wednesday:</b> 8:00 AM – St. Anne’s & Live Stream 12:00 PM – Holy Angels’	<b>Thursday:</b> 8:00 AM – St. Joseph’s HS 9:15 AM – St. Anne’s & Live Stream 10:00 AM – St. Mary’s	
<b>Friday:</b> 8:00 AM – St. Anne’s & Live Stream 12:00 PM – Holy Angels’	<b>First Saturday:</b> 9:30 AM – OLOS 4:30 PM – St. Anne’s	<b>Third Saturday:</b> 9:00 AM – St. Mary’s 4:30 PM – St. Anne’s
<b>2nd, 4th, 5th Saturday:</b> 8:00 AM – Holy Angels’ 4:30 PM – St. Anne’s	<b>Sunday:</b> 8:30 AM St. Helen’s   9:00 AM Holy Angels’ 9:30 AM OLOS   10:00 AM St. Mary’s 11:00 AM St. Anne’s   12:30 PM Latin Mass HA	

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday January 28th

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Breakfast at St. Mary's Hall - 10:30am

### Wednesday January 31st

First Reconciliation and First Communion registration **CLOSES at Noon**. Register online at:  
<https://elginrcparishes.ca/first-communion>

### Friday February 2nd

Pulled Pork Dinner at the Knights Hall in St. Thomas - 5:30pm

### Saturday February 3rd

First Saturday. Learn more about the First Saturdays Devotion at this link:  
<https://elginrcparishes.ca/five-first-saturdays-devotion>

### Monday February 5th

Men's Evening of Reflection at St. Anne's Church - 6:30pm Confession. 7pm.

### Saturday February 10th

Valentine's Day Dance at St. Mary's Hall - 7pm to 12 Midnight.

### Sunday February 11th

Aylmer K of C Brunch at the Columbus Club of Aylmer - 9am

### Tuesday February 13th

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Holy Angels - 4:30-6:30pm

## Clergy

**Fr. Peter Keller**  
Pastor

**Fr. John Johnson**  
Associate Pastor

**Fr. Anthony Eboh**  
Associate Pastor

**Dan O'Connor**  
Permanent Deacon

## Confession Times

Tuesday 6 PM to 7 PM at St. Anne's

Thursday 9 AM to 10 AM at St. Mary's

OLOS, 1st Saturday 8 AM, Mass  
Adoration and Confession

St. Mary's, 3rd Saturday 9 AM, Mass  
Adoration and Confession

## New to our Family of Parishes?

Register online:  
<https://elginrcparishes.ca/parish-registration>

Leave a Legacy of Faith by  
remembering the church in your will.

Go to  
[elginrcparishes.ca/legacy](https://elginrcparishes.ca/legacy)  
to learn more

## Deceased Parishioners

Please keep them in your prayers:

- Peggy Lopez-Delgado
- Antonio Brasil
- Anna Kerkvliet
- Roger Depoorter
- Jane Babiac
- Mary Lou Mc.Cullough
- Anna McLaughlin

Something to add? Do you have an event or announcement you would like to share with our Family of Parishes?

Contact the Main Office by Tuesday February 6th at Noon - <https://elginrcparishes.ca/contact-us>



**Men's Faith Series**

The first session with Dr. John Dool went very well. The topic was 'Hope: Staying Focused in our Troubled World'. **All are welcome to attend our remaining 2 sessions.** For more information, and to register, visit: <https://elginrcparishes.ca/mens-faith-series>

**St. Anne's CWL - News**

Now collecting new and renewal memberships for 2024. Dues may be dropped off at the Church Office or placed in the collection basket marked: St. Anne's C.W.L. Membership. Dues for 2024 are \$35.

**Pulled Pork Dinner**

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus are hosting a pulled pork dinner at the **Knights Hall in St. Thomas on February 2 at 5:30.** Doors open at 4:00. Dinner includes pulled pork on a bun, salads, dessert, tea & coffee. Cash bar available. Cost at the door: \$15.00

**Our Lady of Sorrows Coffee Social Group**

Please join us at Our Lady of Sorrows, **every third Thursday of the month, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm** to enjoy conversation, coffee and company! All welcome!

Hosted by Our Lady of Sorrows Bereavement Team:  
Contact , Liz McConnell - 519-773-5773

**Gospel Encounter Group**

Who is Jesus to you? A picture or a statue? Is He flesh and blood to you? We are a group who gather to meditate on the Gospels, to develop a personal relationship with the Living Word Himself. To share our experience of the Word, to apply it in a concrete way to our daily lives, and to provide spiritual support to one another. In short, to "know" Jesus intimately through prayer according to Catholic Tradition and the Doctors of the Church. Interested? Contact Angie Haasen 519-378-8344 or Cheryl Muma 519-868-9270  
**"Come and see."**

**St. Mary's Ladies Group - News**

St. Mary's Ladies Group will be having a meeting on Monday, February 5, 2024 at 1:30 pm in St. Mary's Church Hall.

**Aylmer K of C Brunch**

**Aylmer Knights of Columbus All-You-Can-Eat Brunch** - every second Sunday of the month. 9:00am to 1:00pm. At the Columbus Club of Aylmer (58 Beech Street, Aylmer).  
**Children 6 to 12 - \$5. Adults - \$10. Under 6 - FREE.**

**Pastoral Council for the Family of Parishes**

**Invitation for discernment:** Fr. Peter Keller is gathering a Pastoral Council to commence immediately and will be responsible for assisting in the development of a Parish Pastoral Plan to move our parishes forward in our Mission.... "Go make Disciples." For more information, please visit: <https://elginrcparishes.ca/parish-pastoral-council>

**Holy Angels' CWL - News**

- This Lent, please join the Holy Angels' CWL using the version **Mary's Way of the Cross, in the Sanctuary, FEB 26th at 1 pm** followed by refreshments and our General Meeting in the Assembly Hall. All are welcome. Please enter using the elevator.
- All are welcome** to join us in the Holy Angels' Assembly Hall to watch the video (58 mins. long) of the **2024 World Day of Prayer Service on Friday MARCH 1 @ 1 pm.** Written this year by Palestinian Christian Women; followed by fellowship & refreshments featuring Palestine Sesame Cookies. Please enter using the elevator.
- Please join in our **Shrove Tuesday pancake supper: February 13, 4:30-6:30.** Pancakes, sausage, ham, fruit salad plus coffee, tea or juice. Adults \$10, children under 12 \$5, children under 5 free. All are welcome!
- Holy Angels CWL is taking orders for Heart Shaped Shortbread Cookies** as a sweet treat for that special person in your life. The price is \$6.00 per dozen. **Pre-orders only.** Deadline to order is Mon, Feb 5th. Sign up sheets in the church hall or you can order by phoning Mary at 519-637-2935.
- Holy Angels' CWL will be selling **Apple Crisp and Assorted Pies after 9 o'clock mass on Sunday.** For more information or additional pick up times call Eleanor at 519-633-2766. Thank you for your support.

**St. Mary's K of C Breakfast**

The St. Mary's K of C is planning a breakfast at St. Mary's Hall on **January 28th from 10:30-12:00.** Everyone is welcome! A free will offering is appreciated.

**Men's Evening of Reflection**

**Monday February 5th,** Confession at 6:30pm. Beginning at 7pm at St. Anne's Church.

**Valentine's Day Dance**

Put on your dancing shoes! Together, St Mary's Knights of Columbus and the St Mary's/St Helen's Youth Group are hosting a **Valentine's Day Dance at the St Mary's parish hall on February 10th from 7-12.** Bring the whole family! Music provided by DJ, cash bar and late snack provided. Tickets are \$5 a person and children 6 and under free. Tickets will be available to purchase after mass and at West Lorne Home Hardware and Marg's Variety. Hope to see you all there!



# First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion



Registration **closes January 31st at Noon**. Register online at:  
<https://elginrcparishes.ca/first-communion>

## Outreach Opportunities

As we have entered into 2024 the needs of many in our community continue to be great. The Outreach programme has numerous opportunities for people to serve in this Ministry. All are welcome to help - single people, married couples, drivers, cooks, those who like to help prepare food bags, shoppers, those needing volunteer hours, retirees. From 20 minutes a week to several hours a month, if you have some time to help, we would be happy to have you join the hard-working volunteers of our family of parishes. If this message touches you give me a call or email and we can discuss how you can help feed the hungry. Jennifer 226-268-7524, [jpod2153@gmail.com](mailto:jpod2153@gmail.com)

## Anointing of the Sick

On **Wednesday February 21st**, in commemoration of the World Day of the Sick, **Anointing of the Sick will be available at Holy Angels' during the 12pm Mass.**

In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin - and sometimes even from physical ailment. His cures were signs of the arrival of the Kingdom of God. The core message of his healing tells us of his plan to conquer sin and death by his dying and rising.

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient. When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age.

## February 14th

# Ash Wednesday

**The beginning of Lent**

8:00am **St. Anne's Church**

12:00pm **Holy Angels Church**

5:30pm **Our Lady of Sorrows Church**

**St. Mary's Church**

7:00pm **St. Anne's Church**







## Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Giving: Spring Training for Catholics

Every year baseball players attend spring training camp to renew their basic practices and skills. Both the first-year rookie and senior veteran of the team practice their basic skills together. It is a humbling experience for all as the home run champion from last year practices bunting with the newbie.

Each year Catholics return to the basics along with those entering the Church at Easter. Lent is the forty-day period of preparation from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday that highlights three basic practices of faith, namely: prayer, fasting and giving alms. Young and old... from the senior veterans in the choir to the neophytes in the RCIA... are called to discern what practices they will renew at Lent. Like Spring Training for baseball players, it is a humbling experience, yet it is a time of essential renewal and a return to basic practices. What we hope to practice naturally year-round we practice intentionally during lent.

Each of the three practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; while personal acts, are relational. In Tobit 12:8 they are outlined as the three pillars of Jewish faith practice. And Jesus, while talking of each of these three individually and as a group, also draws them together as righteousness. These practices of prayer, fasting and giving make things right again regarding our three most basic relationships.

Prayer fortifies and renews our central relationship with God. Lent gives us a time of heightened prayer life. I encourage you not only to do more but go deeper into prayer. If you don't have a basic rhythm of daily prayer in your life start small. Make a morning offering: "Lord be with me this day", and then a daily reflection of where God was each evening. Next, reflecting on Scripture is central. If you don't reflect on Scriptures, start with a simple podcast like "Pray-as-you-go". Daily Mass combines both a daily offering and reflection on scripture while providing a chance to slow down and enter the celebration of the eucharist in a much more intimate and personal way. With reflection I am sure there is some deepening of prayer God is calling you to. It does not matter what you do... only that God will be waiting there for you.

Fasting resets our relationships with things. In a culture where our value is determined by the things we can consume, it is good to take a break from consumption. It could be anything we consume, like screen time to social media, or it could be even food itself. Fasting is meant to awaken our true hungers and appetites. Often, we fill ourselves up with stuff that does not nourish us.

Giving renews and restores our relationships with others. Almsgiving is probably the most practiced, yet most misunderstood, of all our lent practices. In its Jewish roots it was meant to build relationship and restore balance in society. Unfortunately giving alms can be guilt based and meant to make us feel better instead of helping another. Today I can just click a button and give; yet, as a faith practice it is meant to be a gift of self-giving to restore the dignity of another. I encourage you to give close to home, sharing your time, treasure, and talent.

I encourage everyone to reflect and discern what you will personally do for Lent. It will be different for everyone, yet it is something we do together as a Church.

# Lent and Easter 2024

## Ash Wednesday – February 14

St. Anne's – 8:00 AM  
Holy Angels' – 12:00 PM  
Our Lady of Sorrows' – 5:30 PM

St. Mary's – 5:30 PM  
St. Anne's – 7:00 PM

## Stations of the Cross

St. Anne's – Fridays after 8 AM  
Mass

St. Mary's – Fridays, 7:00 PM

Holy Angels' – Fridays, 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Sorrows' – Thursdays  
after 6:30 PM Mass

## Easter Tridium

### Holy Thursday – March 28

St. Anne's – 7:00 PM

### Good Friday – March 29

St. Mary's – 3:00 PM  
Our Lady of Sorrows' – 3:00 PM

Holy Angels' – 3:00 PM  
St. Anne's – 3:00 PM

### Holy Saturday – March 30

Holy Angels' Easter Vigil – 8:30 PM

### Easter Sunday – March 31

St. Helen's – 8:30 AM  
Holy Angels' – 9:00 AM  
Our Lady of Sorrows' – 9:30 AM

St. Mary's – 10:00 AM  
St. Anne's – 11:00 AM