

# Good News Monthly Bonnes Nouvelles Mensuelles



## Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic





The Great Journey with Jesus For children entering Grades 1 to 5

Youth Summer Encounter with Jesus

For youth entering Grades 6 to 8

Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 9am-12pm

St. Benedict Church & Holy Trinity Catholic School

Details/registrations: www.sarniacatholic.ca

### **Student & Adult Volunteers Needed**

Enthusiastic and reliable volunteers are needed for our VBS program this summer.

Details and registrations can be found **HERE** 



#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- Jubilee 2025 Our Lady of Mercy Pilgrimage Site/ Martyr's Shrine Bus Trip Midland
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- Fête de la St. Jean
- St. Michael Catholic Women's League
- STA Latin American Community
- Centre Culturel Francophone
- News & Upcoming Events

**OFFICE:** 

1011 Oak Avenue, Sarnia, N7S 1J4 519-336-2653 www.sarniacatholic.ca

### RENDER UNTO CAESAR OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Month of April financial update for the six parishes forming parts of the Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes.

Thank you for your donations.



### RENDER UNTO CAESAR OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

### A message from Sacred Heart Parish Finance Council Member

Hello, I am Fred Oliver, your Finance Council representative and Building Committee representative for Sacred Heart Parish. We are looking for volunteers on a long-term basis to help keep our grounds and building in top notch condition.

We need help with the following

- Garden upkeep.
- Small maintenance items, carpentry repairs, painting, maintaining waterproofing on the north side of building.
- Lawn mower maintenance
- Assist with sidewalk shoveling.

As of now, myself, along with Ana Maria Moniz, Sacred Heart caretaker, perform this work. This is way too much for her to do all this alone . At 78 years old, I plan to continue to help, but we require younger, fit people to assist with this and grow the parish.

I hope to get a positive response to this call for volunteers, as this will be an indicator as to where we are heading. Please contact Ana Maria Moniz (<a href="mailto:ammoniz@dol.ca">ammoniz@dol.ca</a>) with your name, credentials, and how you wish to help.

Fred Oliver

Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes

**Finance Council** 

#### SARNIA ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELP CENTRE

Often when people attend the foodbank, the discussion involves other needs they may have. When appropriate, the volunteer doing the intake will provide the person/family with a voucher to "spend" at one of the thrift stores. It may be for clothing, bedding or household items such as kitchenware.

As an example, our office administrator, Lydia Toledo, has provided the following information. I wanted to share a brief summary of the Food Bank client purchases for the past two months:

### March 2025

Number of vouchers: 25Total amount: \$2,628

### **April 2025**

• Number of vouchers: 13

Total amount: \$1,189

Please consider donating through our website at:

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-vincent-de-paul-society-particular-council-sarnia-deanery/st-vincent-de-paul-society-particular-council-sarnia-deanery | CharityProfile | Donate Online - CanadaHelps

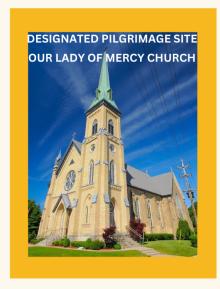
St. Vincent de Paul Help Centre and Food Bank Sarnia is dedicated to helping all people in our community who find themselves in need. Our centre operates a food bank three days a week and we help those who are having financial difficulties with rent and utilities when they find themselves in an emergency situation.

www.canadahelps.org





## SARNIA LAMBTON DEANERY JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



### Friday, July 18, 2025

• 9am - 9:30am: Confession

• 9:30am - 10am: Mass

• 10am - 11am: Adoration

 11am – 11:30am: Rosary (English & Polish)

• 12:10 - 12:40pm: Mass

• 12:45 – 1:45pm: Adoration

• 1:45pm – 2pm: Divine Mercy

• 2pm - 2:30pm: Confessions

• 2:30pm – 3pm: Mass

• 3pm – 4pm: Adoration

### **Thursday, July 17, 2025**

• 9am - 9:30am: Confession

• 9:30am - 10am: Mass

• 10am – 11am: Adoration

 11am – 11:30am: Rosary (English & Spanish)

• 12:10 - 12:40pm: Mass

• 12:45 - 1:45pm: Adoration

• 1:45pm - 2pm: Divine Mercy

• 2pm – 2:30pm: Confessions

• 2:30pm - 3pm: Mass

• 3pm – 4pm: Adoration



On Saturday, July 19, 2025, participate in a pilgrimage walk from parishes across the city, to Our Lady of Mercy Church. Upon arrival, pilgrims will complete their journey with Holy Mass and will receive their "Camino" certificate.

### Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes

Our Lady of Mercy Queen of Peace St. Benedict St. Joseph St. Michael St. Thomas d'Aquin Sacred Heart

## Lambton County Catholic Family of Parishes

Our Lady Help of Christians St. Christopher St. Joseph St. Philip

### **Saturday, July 19, 2025**

• 9am - 9:30am: Confession

• 9:30am - 10am: Mass

• 10am - 11am: Adoration

 11am – 11:30am: Rosary (English & French)

• 12pm – 12:30pm: Mass

12:45 – 3pm: Confession,
 Divine Mercy, Adoration

• 4pm – 5pm: High Mass: with incense

 5:30pm – BBQ and indoor/outdoor festivities in parish hall and grounds



## JUBILEE CAMINO WALK

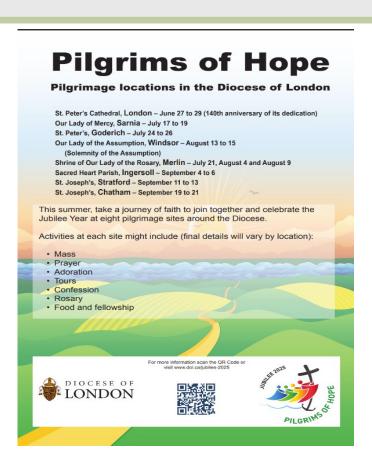
2025.07.19

PARTICIPANTS BEGIN FROM THE PARISH
OF THEIR CHOICE AND END AT
OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH
FOR 12:10PM MASS

REGISTER AT WWW.SARNIACATHOLIC.CA
OR BY CALLING THE PARISH OFFICE: 519-336-2653



519-336-2653 www.sarniacatholic.ca



#### JENN'S MONTHLY HAPPENINGS



As I write this message, we are blessed with beautiful Spring weather. However, with the track record of this Spring's weather pattern, I am finding it hard to be hopeful that the cold and wet weather is finally past us. Through prayer and digging deep to find my positivity surrounding the weather, I hope to see some enjoyable seasonal temperatures! This has been a very eventful month filled with overflowing blessings! Earlier in May, we celebrated Catholic Education Week. Each of our 7 elementary schools and St. Patrick High School, celebrated Education Week with a Mass or Liturgy run by the students of that school. It is a joy to see a whole school come together to celebrate God and to have

our young people so involved in this celebration. The priests and I have visited schools to offer Spring Confessions to all Grade 6, 7, and 8 students. It is beautiful to see our youth receive this sacred Sacrament or have a heartfelt and meaningful conversation with our priests.

The candidates from our First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion preparation program are receiving their Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Our churches are full of families and their guests as they celebrate this special milestone in these young ones' faith journey. Our Confirmation preparation program is coming to a close as the candidates finish their preparation to receive their Sacrament of Confirmation and be sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

A new and exciting adventure has been created within our Family of Parishes! The Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes Faith-Leadership Muskoka Woods Experience trip took place in May. It was an absolutely magical weekend filled with the Holy Spirit at work! God was guiding 80 Grade 7 students, 15 St. Patrick's High School leaders, 10 chaperones, and Father Joseph, as we connected with each other and with Him, made new friendships, experienced a weekend without technology, and had so much fun! The past month was filled with the most beautiful blessings and memories that are forever etched in my heart. Thanks be to God! I pray for God to bless you, your family, and your friends, and guide you through this next month.

Yours in Christ, Jenn Sacramental Catechist





### OFS JUSTICE, PEACE AND THE INTEGRITY OF CREATION (JPIC)

Franciscanism: Jesus Within

For the Indigenous Peoples who have been severely traumatized, their trust in God goes deep. God is their eternal Hope. Their Spirituality goes deep. A Spirituality that gives a moment of Hope when muted by society. When they are made to feel nothing more than a grain of sand on the beach.

St Francis was the living and physical Hope of the invisible God for the Lepers. The Lepers who are made poor because they are marginalized. The Indigenous Peoples who are made poor and marginalized in the social ladder by the world ...

"Love is a decision" (Marriage Encounter, 1982): the poor and marginalized are made rich by God.

St Francis made the decision *to live in humility* ... as taught by Jesus of our Father. The importance of Sacred Scripture then resonates *in our decision to live* "from the Gospel to life, and from life to the Gospel" (St Francis, Rule # 4).

As a Secular Franciscan, we are called to live a life in fidelity to God. In obedience, we are called to follow God's will. In obedience, we listen and follow the teachings of Jesus ...

To place God first.

And, to follow the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church in valuing and respecting the dignity of the human person.

We are called to live in the spirit of obedience to the Popes and his priests whose hands consecrate the bread and wine ... an obedience that glorifies God Himself.

With the example of the life of St Francis and St Clare, listening and following God's will fosters within us a deep awareness and compassion for all of creation and her suffering. God the Creator is the One who loves first. Through the Holy Spirit, the mission for all of humanity is "to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength" (Mark 12:30) ... and to reach out to the other with the same Christ-like openness.

"Mirroring Jesus and the Blessed Mother Mary" is living in humility (St Clare). In humility, the deepest relationship with God and others are formed.

With merciful hearts, we are able to be good companions for the suffering. Selfless giving of being a silent presence for the other creates an atmosphere of healing.

... Always listening to the Word of God in the Gospel, Liturgy of the Hours and through others forms positive endorsements within ... that we come to realize and experience the secure thoughts and the encouragement of Hope, Joy and Peace.

Respectfully submitted

Marilyn Deery ofs

#### **HAPPENINGS & EVENTS**

### **JUNE**

- ♦ Feast of St. Jean Baptiste June 21st-22nd
- ♦ Corpus Christi June 22nd
- ♦ Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus June 27th

#### **JULY**

♦ Jubilee Pilgrimage Site: Our Lady of Mercy Church July 17th, 18th, 19th

### **AUGUST**

- ♦ Vacation Bible School August 4th-8th
- ◊ Outdoor Family Movie—to be announced

#### **OCTOBER**

- ♦ Jubilee Bus Trip Martyr's Shrine October 4th
- ♦ Feast of Our Lady Aparecida October 12th
- ♦ Trunk or Treat October 26th

### ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE

Six months into my presidency of St. Michael CWL, and what an incredible journey it has been so far. Although taking on the President's role has been a bit of a learning curve, to walk this path with a group of such devoted and faithful Catholic women has been a gift. With summer quickly approaching, I find myself reflecting on the blessings of this role, and how much our council has been able to accomplish in just a short period of time.

### Coffee Sundays Continue to Bring the St. Michael Parish Community Together!

One objective of our CWL council is to focus on activities that work to strengthen our St. Michael Parish Community, and one way we do that is through the sponsorship of our monthly Coffee Sundays. The initiative that was started almost two years ago has become a well-loved and well-attended event. From the donation of sweet treats, sandwiches, cheese & crackers and fruit trays, we have been consistently spoiled by the generosity and baking talents of our community as we come together each month for friendship and fellowship.

### **Spiritual Lending Library**

Our Service Pillar Lead – Lizzie Cyr – has spearheaded a special project this past spring setting up a Spiritual Book Lending Library that is now available to all parishioners to explore and enjoy. This carefully curated collection offers a wealth of resources to deepen one's faith. Whether someone is seeking guidance in their spiritual journey or simply wish to enrich their understanding of Catholic Tradition, this library was set up to support and inspire.

### Another Successful Blessing Bags Lenten Project in Collaboration with St. Michael Catholic School

The staff and students of St. Michael Catholic School collected and assembled 77 Blessing Bags to be distributed to those in need within our community. 40 bags were donated to the St. Vincent de Paul and the remaining 37 bags were donated to Nightlife, Divine Mercy Free Store and The Grace Café. This is the 2nd year in a row that St. Michael Catholic School and our St. Michael Catholic Women's League have collaborated on this Lenten Project initiative.





#### ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This is our ministry where our very talented knitters and crocheters create beautiful, comforting prayer shawls that are blessed by a priest upon completion and are then presented to any CWL member or non-member who may need comfort during an illness or recovery, after a loss, during bereavement, or even a joyous celebration like a birthday or anniversary. We have presented a number of prayer shawls over the past few years.

### Service Awards - Recognizing 10-70 Years of Dedicated CWL Service

Last month, St. Michael CWL gathered for our May General Meeting, bringing together 43 members for a beautiful evening filled with prayer, reflection, song, and community. Our time together began in the church with a reflection led by our Faith Pillar Lead, Christine Bresette. We were also blessed by the musical talents of Joanne Minnis, who led us in song on the piano. Following this spiritual reflection, we transitioned to Huron Oaks for our Business Meeting, where we enjoyed lively discussions over a delicious dinner. One aspect of our May General Meeting is to present Service Award pins to recognize League members.

Congratulations to those who received Service Awards pins this year.

### Join Us!

If any St. Michael Catholic woman - 16 years of age or older - is interested in learning more about our St. Michael vibrant and spiritually uplifting council, please don't hesitate to reach out:

Stefanie Hammond — St. Michael CWL President — Cell: 519-381-3129.







The Catholic Women's League of Canada London Diocesan Council Celebrates A Day at Our Lady of the Rosary Shrine

St. Patrick's Church, Merlin, ON 5773 Tenth Line Merlin, ON N0P 1W0

July 23, 2025 All Are Welcome!



9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet 10:00 a.m. Prayerful Reflection 11:00 a.m. Mass 12:00 p.m. Lunch 1:15 p.m. Rosary

Coffee, Tea and Water will be available. Bring your lunch and a lawn chair. Dress for the weather, as we meet rain or shine! Free-will offerings to the Shrine and to the Rosarian priests, greatly appreciated.







### St. Benedict Knights of Columbus Council # 11164

### **June 2025 NEWSLETTER**

All information about the Knights of Columbus activities can be found on the **Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes** web page under Parish Ministry at St. Benedict KofC

### **Council Meetings**

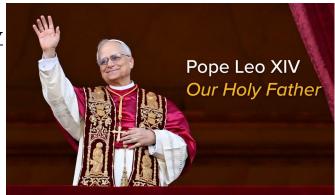
The St. Benedict Knights of Columbus will be taking a break over the summer months. Special meetings will be held to plan our Faith in Action activities for the next fraternal year.

Our **regular Council meetings** will resume in September and will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7PM at St. Benedict Church Hall.

### Join Us Today

Become an online Knights of Columbus member for free. Visit <u>KofC.org/joinus</u> Enter code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** for a FREE one-year membership.

Welcome Pope Leo XIV



### Statement from our Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly on the appointment of Pope, Leo XIV;

"The Knights of Columbus joins Catholics everywhere in celebrating the election of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, the Successor of St. Peter and Spiritual Leader of the Catholic Church. On behalf of our 2.1 million members around the world, we pledge our loyalty to Pope Leo XIV as well as our prayers today and every day of his Pontificate. The Knights of Columbus will always stand in solidarity with Pope Leo XIV as we support the Church's mission of evangelization through our works of charity and faith formation."

### **KofC Meat Bingos**



KofC meat bingos are held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month at OLM hall (corner of Christina St. & London Rd.) *until July 3<sup>rd</sup>*. *We will then be taking a summer break and resume on Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>*. Bingos start at 7 PM, but come early to buy your cards, reserve a seat, and get set up.

Food and refreshments are available. Please bring canned goods in support of our local food banks. We hope to see many of our dedicated bingo patrons.

All proceeds help support the St. Benedict and St. Thomas d'Aquin Knights of Columbus Charities.

### **Roses for Life**



The Knights of Columbus Councils in Sarnia and Bright's Grove would like to thank all the parishioners that supported the "Roses for Life" campaign on Mother's Day weekend. A total of \$1622 was collected which will be donated to Lambton Right to Life.



### St. Benedict Knights of Columbus Council # 11164



Another KofC 50-50 raffle has been launched and is ready to go. The time is fast approaching for the early bird draw of \$500 drawn on June 16th. Do not delay purchasing your ticket by "copy & paste" this link into your browser,

https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/k-of-c-ont/190

After the early bird draw, your ticket is still valid for the Grand Prize drawn on September 1st, 2025.

We thank all of you who have supported the 50-50 raffle so far.

All proceeds help support local charities. Please share with your family and friends. GOOD LUCK!



### **BBQ SOCIAL**

St. Benedict's Knights of Columbus Council is having a BBQ Social in the parking lot (weather permitting) or church hall after the Saturday June 21st, 5pm Mass.

Tickets are \$ 12 each. Children under 12 are free but there is a limit of 80 tickets.

Tickets will go on sale on the weekend of June 7 & 8 after each mass at Queen of Peace church. Tickets can also be obtained by contacting Grand Knight Mark Roehler.

Polish Sausage Proceeds will be donated to KofC Charities.

### Fête de la Saint-Jean Lête de la Saint-Jean



Vous êtes cordialement invités par les organismes francophones de la région à fêter la St-Jean-Baptiste le **dimanche 22 juin** 2025 sur les terrains de l'église St-Thomas d'Aquin. Comme la tradition le veut, cette célébration commence avec une messe en français à 11 heures Ensuite, il y aura un BBQ des jeux gonflables pour enfants et des jeux pour toute la famille. Les festivités seront accompagnées évidemment de musique en français.

St-Jean-Baptiste a guidé le peuple vers la lumière et il a été revendicateur d'une meilleure justice sociale. « Si quelqu'un a deux chemises, qu'il en donne une à celui qui n'en a pas. Si quelqu'un a de quoi manger, qu'il partage avec celui qui n'a rien. » (Luc3,11). Il a aussi été nommé le patron des Canadiens français depuis 1908. Cette fête représente aujourd'hui non seulement la justice sociale mais aussi l'identité et la culture francophone au Canada français, au Québec et à travers le monde. En 1977, sous le gouvernement de René Lévesque, le 24 juin, la St-Jean est devenue un jour férié dans la province de Québec nommé « Fête Nationale du Québec ».

Venez donc en grand nombre fêter la culture et l'identité francophone!

Soyez les bienvenues et venez priez, manger, fêter et jouer avec nous.

Au plaisir de voir parmi nous!

Rachelle Héroux-Bourgeois

### **DONATION: \$5,000.00**



The Latin American Community of Saint Thomas Aquinas is very pleased to donate the amount of \$5,000 to Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish as a result of a very successful Clash event that we had on April 12, 2025.



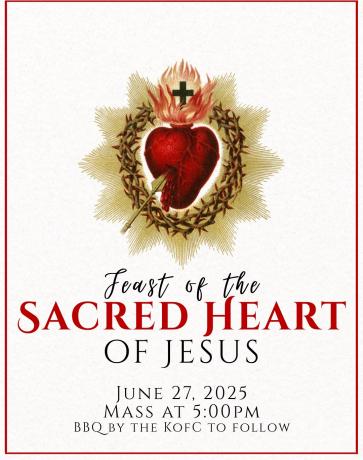


At the beginning of February, we began planning the clash, and we managed to form a group of talented chefs, leaders, and friends from Saint Thomas Aquinas.

We would like to thank our leaders:
Rafela Stecca (Brazil), Carolina Medina,
Françoise Valencia, and Daniel Arcila
(Colombia), Patricia Rodriguez (Chile),
Ricardo Carrillo (Ecuador), Rocio and
Douglas Coto (El Salvador), Luis del Bosque
(Mexico), Aldo Ramirez (Peru), Katherine
Espinosa (Dominican Republic), and
Raymundo Mendez (Venezuela), who
prepared delicious dishes and desserts.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers who helped during the event. We sold out everything we prepared, including 360 traditional foods, 355 traditional desserts, and 135 drinks.





### Pensioners Club of Sarnia



### Pasta Dinner Fund Raiser Tuesday June 10, 2025 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Hall

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Pathways Health Centre for Children and Our Lady of Mercy Church

### Tickets

Members \$20 Non-members \$20 Children under 5 Free Children 5 to 10 \$10 Children over 10 \$20

Takeout available after 6:30 p.m.

### Menu

All you can eat pasta, 2 meat balls, salad, focaccia and dessert

Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage or water and pop will be available for purchase.

For tickets contact:

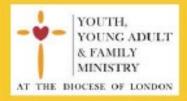
Mike Benacquista (519)336-2573 Salvatore Spadafora(519)344-9221 Joe Mancusi (519)542-6797 Joe Lopetrone (519)542-9265 Tony Zangoli (519)344-9855

### CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE FRANCOPHONE SARNIA/LAMBTON











## SUMMER OF HOPE JUBILLE TEEN RALLY

9AM-8:30PM

ONE DAY, ONE CHURCH. ONE MISSION.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH ST. MICHEAL'S LEAMINGTON, ON

Admission

\$30

### What to expect:

- Live Worship with the Encounter Band
- Inspiring talks by international Catholic speaker Chris Padgett
- A powerful pilgrimage walk
- Adoration with Praise & Worship
- All meals covered... and more!!

More Information ccoyle@dol.ca

**Registration Link** 





Early bird rate

The Kent Lambton Family of Parishes will be bringing a van full of kids down (12 seats!). If you have any teens that are interested in attending as well they are welcome to carpool with us! Just have parents text or email me at 519-466-0593 / jrowe@dol.ca

A great opportunity for the teens of our Family of Parishes