

October
2025

Good News Monthly
Bonnes Nouvelles Mensuelles

Octobre
2025

Sarnia Bluewater
Roman Catholic
Family of Parishes



Famille des Paroisses
Catholiques Romaines
de Sarnia Bluewater



Be Thankful
Be Grateful
Be Blessed



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OFFICE / BUREAU

1011 OAK AVENUE,

SARNIA, N7S 1J4

519-336-2653

WWW.SARNIACATHOLIC.CA

RENDER UNTO CAESAR
Our Family of Parishes Monthly Financial Update



I am glad to announce that we have completed the migration of this Family of Parishes financial information to the new corporate accounting system. We are one of the first Family of Parishes who has achieved full functionality. The next few months will be spent ensuring data integrity and comparability with previous years.

The rapid adoption of the new accounting system is due to the tireless efforts and dedication of our two Finance Staff, Cathy Cimetta and Lisa De Sena. They provided invaluable input to the implementation project team while dealing with their own personal challenges. Thank you for your commitment to share our Catholic Faith through your accountability and stewardship.

JENN'S MONTHLY HAPPENINGS

The season of Autumn brings lots of new start-ups in the schools and a new school year to re-focus and re-connect with our Family of Parishes. There is lots of scheduling in the works as plans evolve to have our Catholic community work together to celebrate the blessings God has given each and every one of us. We have already participated in the Open Houses and Meet-The-Teacher nights at Gregory A. Hogan, Holy Trinity, Sacred Heart, St. Anne, St. Matthew, St. Michael, St. Thomas d'Aquin, St. Francois Xavier, and St. Patrick's schools where we met and chatted with many families. It was wonderful to feel the excitement of a new school year from students, families, and school staff.

The newly updated building and home of Sacred Heart Catholic School in Sarnia was beautifully celebrated by our Sarnia Deanery with a blessing and Mass by Bishop Fabbro on September, 10th. God's blessings are abundant in the new learning spaces! Confirmation preparations are being finalized and we are looking forward to sharing the opportunity to grow closer to God with our Confirmands this Fall.

Registration and information regarding the First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion preparation program will be shared in October. Please look for this information in our Family of Parishes bulletins, newsletters, website, Facebook page, and Instagram feed. You can find these connections using the QR code below.

May you and your loved ones find peace, HOPE, and love throughout this Fall season.

Yours in Christ, Jenn

Jenn Stewart
Lay Ecclesial Minister
jstewart@dol.ca
519-336-2653 Ext. 229



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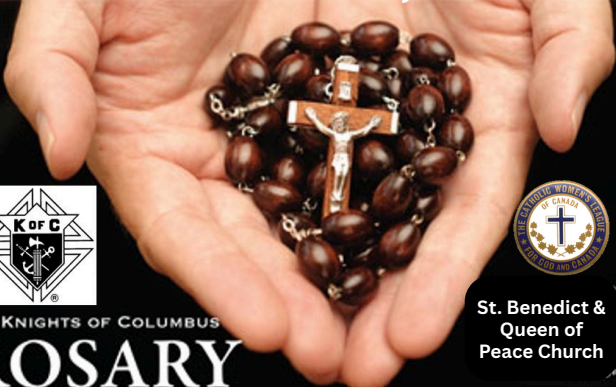
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Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now
and at the hour of our death.
Amen



Praying the Rosary at 8:30am
before 9am Mass each Sunday in October




KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ROSARY


St. Benedict &
Queen of
Peace Church

MASS FOR
The Coronation of Our Lady of Aparecida
PATRONESS OF BRAZIL



Mother, PROTECT US AND
BLESS US ALWAYS!

9:00 AM
OCTOBER 12

 ST BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH
1011 OAK AVE, SARNIA,
ON N7S 1J4

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary and Mass



All are invited to Sacred Heart
Church on Thursday, October 16th at
6:00pm
to pray the Rosary,
which will be led by different
cultures, followed by Mass at 6:30pm
and a candle procession
around the church at 7:00 pm.

HISTORY OF THE HOLY MARY OF THE ROSARY STATUE LOCATED AT OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH



The Holy Rosary Society – more formally known as The Holy Mary of the Rosary Association – originated in the town of Vicalvi in the Italian province of Frosinone. In 1932, a group of Italian Catholic men formed their own Holy Rosary Society in Detroit, Michigan which a number of Sarnia men were able to become members to their group.

Its main purpose at that time was to retain their religion, traditions, culture alive while being separated from their loved ones. As well, assisting with its local Italian immigration which had already begun.

In 1978, Sarnia members formed their own registered non-profit organization officially separating from the Michigan group (due to travel distance etc.) The group would hold their membership meetings/activities in the now-closed St. Peter's Catholic Church. At that time, a strong Italian congregation were present at St. Peter's Church which serviced an Italian Sunday mass to its parishioners. Upon the church's closing, the group moved their activities to Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church at the corner of Christina Street and London Road, Sarnia.

While at St. Peter's Church, its members commissioned sculptor Antonio Caruso, whose studio was located in Alliston, Ontario, to create the beautiful statue of the Holy Mary holding baby Jesus. The gowns that adorn Mary/Jesus were hand-sewn by Mrs. Lea Rocco – a talented local seamstress and parishioner. This statue is now located at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Sarnia.

In recent years, its aging membership had difficulties recruiting new members to keep the group alive. A hard challenge it was; ultimately, the decision to fold was voted on and the official group did, indeed, close in 2023. At its closing, significant amount of remaining money was donated to various local charities including Our Lady of Mercy Church.

The Holy Rosary Society members took pride in the fact that the statue of the Holy Mary of the Rosary would be housed at the beautiful Our Lady of Mercy Church in Sarnia.

Her Feast Day is celebrated on October 7th.

submitted by Marilyn Deery

SOCIAL JUSTICE & MISSIONS



Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of “Every Child Matters”.

The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

Orange Shirt Day initiated, and continues to allow for conversations about residential schools on an international scale, and allows for meaningful discussions of the impacts and legacies of residential schools.

The orange shirt, inspired by Phyllis (Jack) Webstad’s experience of having her orange shirt, given to her by her grandmother, taken away upon arrival to the Mission school. The orange color reminded Webstad of her experience and “how my feelings didn’t matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.”

On September 30, we encourage all Canadians to wear orange to honour the thousands of Survivors of residential schools.

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)
800th Anniversary of the Cantic of the Creatures

Prayer of Praise by St. Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord,
Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honour, and all blessing,
To You alone, Most High, do they belong,
and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,



Who is the day and through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour;
and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,
and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather,
through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,
who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night,
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains and governs us,
and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord,
through those who give pardon for Your love,
and bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessed are those who endure in peace
for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whom no one living can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.
Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will,
for the second death shall do them no harm.
Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks
and serve Him with great humility.

“All of creation, bless the Lord.”

Amen.

(cf. Liturgy of the Hours)

Marilyn Deery ofs

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)

“Love the Earth” and Love God’s People
(quote by Neil Young)

In his book *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis gifted us with the importance of the environment/ Mother Earth and on the human person. If the environment is not taken care of, the quality of the earth does not thrive; it will be difficult to grow good crops for our food. And if there is not proper food, the human person will not thrive.

The relationship of Mother Earth and the human person is crucial to our very survival. Without question, the earth and the human person are interdependent on one another.

The Indigenous Peoples know and live this interdependence of Mother Nature and humanity.

“Without nature, there would be no Indigenous culture” (cf David Suzuki’s *Last Nature of Things*. YouTube. Aug 27, 2025).

In the *Canticum* of Creatures written by St Francis of Assisi, he refers to the relationship with God, Mother Earth and the human person as a brother/sisterhood ... a fraternity ... built with God being first and us blanketed with the love of God. We are the sons and daughters of God, who are created to love God. In love for God, we are called to be a presence for the other person, just as God is a Holy presence for us ... and healing begins.

In relationship with God, we are called to love the Earth and to love His People ... together ... as three-in-one. To love all of creation.

We foster love for God the Creator and His creation by “placing values where values belong”
(Dr. Abraham A. Low).

We foster love for the brothers and sisters of humanity ... by making a commitment to be ...
an instrument of Peace.

Aquene / Peace

*Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Deery ofs*

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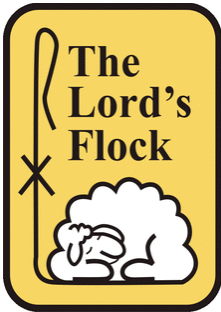
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FAREWELL FR. JAN



WELCOMING COMMUNITIES, ENCOUNTERING CHRIST, SHARING FAITH AND CARING FOR ALL

THE LORD’S FLOCK



Canada’s New TLF Sarnia Chapter

The Sarnia Chapter in Canada celebrated their first anniversary celebration last July 7 at local parish hall of St Benedict Catholic Church. The community, headed by the stewards Vergel and Jean Valentos, welcomed all the forty-five members and guests to join the momentous occasion. It was a great day for the community as they reflected on the success despite the difficulty and challenges, with the Lord’s guidance along the way.



Humble beginnings

The Valentos family migrated to Canada on September 2022. They started with Brother Vergel who arrived first, and after 9 months was followed by his wife Jean and their children: Kenrick and Chase Lauren. Brother Vergel started joining the local parish program conferences and Charis immediately, but longs to create a local TLF community. After a year and with the approval of the local parish, The Lord’s Flock community started. The community was supported by the UAE steward Dhes Inong where they received spiritual insights to establish a solid foundation for their group.

The community attracts members as they felt the sense of belongingness as felt their value in themselves, while life-long Catholics are exploring their faith in the new light. The TLF community created a space for everyone where they are able to listen and reflect on the Word of God.



THE LORD'S FLOCK

Committed Leaders and supportive community

The remarkable growth and impact of the chapter can be attributed to the passion of the stewards and support of the community. After their professional work, they are focusing on their families and the ministry. They demonstrated their commitment through supporting the parish, thoughtful preparation of their meeting tent, and genuine care for every member.



Throughout all their activity, the entire community's commitment to prayer became the spiritual backbone that supported every milestone and breakthrough. The power of united prayer and fellowship every Saturday meeting aided their spiritual growth and opened their hearts and increased their bond as a community.



The Anniversary Celebration

The first anniversary celebration became a powerful testament to God's faithfulness and the community's commitment. What began as a simple desire transformed into a blessed reality that gave light and salt to all those who seek the Lord and a loving community.

THE LORD'S FLOCK



The celebration brought together not just current members but also parish leaders, and friends who had supported the ministry's journey. All the members were grateful for the passion of the leaders, the parish support, and everyone shared their testimonies of spiritual transformation.

Indeed, The Lord's Flock chapter in Sarnia experienced the loving presence of the Lord through the message of the word, and the continued support from each other. May the good Lord continue to bless and protect the growing community. To God be the Glory!



FALL RETREATS FOR WOMEN AND MEN

Join us for a weekend of personal transformation rooted in the Catholic Faith.

Through prayer, Sacraments and inspiring talks, you will experience a time of spiritual refreshment.

Come away from the daily stresses and distractions to enjoy God's Grace, good food and community with fellow parishioners in a comfortable setting.

Men's retreat: weekend of October 25/26
Women's retreat: weekend of November 15/16

There is no cost for the retreat and participants return home each evening.

To register, please call the parish office 519-336-2653.

Registration forms are also available at your parish welcome desks.

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ST. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

St Joseph CWL Bazaar
Saturday November 1st — 10am-1pm
Corner of Stuart and Devine Street

We have our Draw for
1st - Quilt (oversized Queen)
2nd - Wooden Bench
3rd - \$50 Sunripe Gift Card
And ...

Deli Table - Jams, Pickles, Preserves AND our awesome TURKEY 🦃 pies!!

Gift Table - lots of fantastic new items to win!!

Craft Table - homemade with ❤️ Love!!

Bake Table - lots of baking 🍪 and don't forget our BUTTER TARTS!! 😊

Treasure Table - come find a previously used treasure in great condition

Cake Walk - win a cake 🍰

Canteen - come buy a refreshment and a snack!!
and have a seat and enjoy the Bazaar!!

We hope to see you!!!

We would like to Thank You in advance for your support!!

Have a fantastic day and 🙏 God Bless us All!!!

ST. MICHAEL
KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS



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ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The St. Benedict Catholic Women's League has been very busy preparing for our annual Autumn Harvest Bazaar which will be held on Saturday, October 25th from 10am to 1pm.

Once again, we will be featuring our "famous turkey pies", knitting, candy and sewing tables and an expanded deli featuring jams, pickles, soup mixes, salsa and chili sauce and red pepper jelly.

There will be no Attic Treasures this year but we are introducing a craft table. Our book nook is always a great draw, as is our bake table. Lunch is available: soup, sandwiches and muffins. Both chili and soup are available for takeout. The Catholic Girls' League will have a table.

There will be a free draw for a fruit basket just for coming.

Donations may be dropped off any time between 10 am and 7 pm on Friday the 24th at the parish hall.

Thanks to all who have and will contribute.

We look forward to welcoming you on the 25th.



**St. Benedict Catholic Girl's League &
St. Benedict Catholic Women's League**

**Extend an Invitation to the
Parents/Guardians of Girls
between the ages of 10 – 16
to an Information Session**

WHEN: OCTOBER 16, 2025

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

WHERE: ST. BENEDICT'S PARISH HALL |

(OFF THE MAIN PARKING LOT ENTRANCE OFF LANSDOWN

Please bring your girls along with you.

The girls will be joining our existing members in their monthly meeting.

The evening will start off with a short prayer and a quick meeting. Then the girls and adults will separate with the girls joining some of the leaders to participate in a planned activity, while the adults will be at the other end of the room for an information, question, and answer session.

We will wrap up both groups at about 8:15 p.m. with clean-up and a short prayer.

Looking Forward to Seeing You There!!



St. Benedict Knights of Columbus

October 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](#)

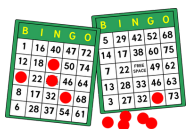
Council Meetings

Our regular Council meetings have resumed and are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7PM at St. Benedict Church hall. We hope to see many of our members at the meeting.

Join Us Today

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

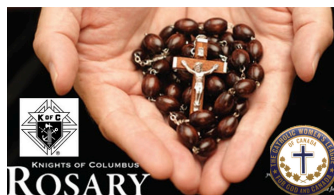
KofC Meat Bingos



Join us for meat bingo every 1st and 3rd Thursday at OLM Hall (Christina St. & London Rd.), starting at 7 PM. Win bigger meat prizes from **Ken's Independent Grocer in Sarnia**. All proceeds support St. Benedict and St. Thomas d'Aquin Knights of Columbus charities. Bring a friend and have some fun!

Come pray the Rosary

The St. Benedict KofC Council and The Catholic Women's League invite all community members to participate in praying the rosary every Sunday morning throughout October at both St. Benedict and Queen of Peace Churches. Prayers will begin at 8:30 AM, which is half an hour before Mass. Make that special sacrifice of honouring our Blessed Mother by praying the rosary with us.



Pull Tabs for Altar Servers

St. Benedict KofC is collecting can pull tabs to support the altar server program at St. Benedict and Queen of Peace Churches. Please drop off your tabs at the St. Benedict Church office or the reception desk at the parking lot narthex. Thank you for your donation.



Knights of Columbus Programs and Activities

The Knights of Columbus will serve our community during this fraternal year through Faith in Action. Look out for upcoming programs focused on

Faith

Family

Community

Life

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Ontario State Council
Knights of Columbus

\$100 for 300 Tickets | \$50 for 125 Tickets | \$20 for 40 Tickets | \$10 for 10 Tickets

50/50 RAFFLE

License #: RAF1441633

Grand Prize Draw
December 30, 2025

Early Bird Draw
October 14, 2025 at 9:00 am
\$500 Cash Prize

KofC 50-50 ON-LINE Raffle

Another KofC 50-50 raffle is ready to go in support of local Sarnia and Ontario Charities.

To purchase your tickets from the St. Benedict KofC, click on the following link

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/kof-c-ont/190>

Do not delay being eligible for the early bird draw of \$500, on October 14th. After the early bird draw, your ticket is still valid for the Grand Prize drawn on December 30th, 2025.

Please share with your family, friends and neighbours.

Pro-Life March



All are invited to stand in unison at the Life Chain on Sunday October 5th at 2:30 PM on London Road between Murphy and Lambton Mall Road. Come and join thousands across Canada standing in support of pro-life in a peaceful and prayerful demonstration.

Happy Thanksgiving

Members of the St. Benedict Knights of Columbus would like to wish all parishioners a



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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEAT BINGO



District Deputy, Leo Mayer, dressed in his Thanksgiving best, invites everyone for a night of Bingo, prizes and fun.

Come wearing Fall colours or favourite Turkey get-up for a special treat.

Leo promises lots of fun and surprises.

All proceeds support

St. Benedict and St. Thomas d'Aquin Knights of Columbus charities.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
THANKSGIVING**

MEAT BINGO!

**THURSDAY
OCT. 2ND**

7PM

OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH HALL

**TURKEYS
MEAT
PRIZES**

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

William E. Prentice
Council 1429
393 Christina St. N
Sarnia, ON N7T 5V9

[OUR LADY OF MERCY](#) [SACRED HEART](#) [ST. JOSEPH](#) [ST. GEORGE \(Ukrainian\)](#)

COUNCIL 1429 NEWS

Family Friendly Oktoberfest (Dinner Dance at OLM)

**Mark your calendars: Saturday, October 18 at
OLM hall.**



["Join the Knights"](#)

Click the link above and for
'preferred council number'
enter '1429'.

For 'member referral number'
enter your sponsor's
membership number
or leave it blank

MEETINGS: 1ST Tuesday
(July & Aug excepted)

6:15 pm - Officers meeting
(members welcome)

7 pm - Membership

8 pm - Social hour

GK1429@ontariokofc.ca

Norman Monteiro
519-542-7528

[Web-page at Parish](#)



[Facebook](#)

[DONATE](#)



Coats for Kids ([click for details](#))



Gold Donors
5 boxes or more

To donate use the QR code to the right
and receive a tax receipt right away.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1429

Coats for Kids Raffle Baskets

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2nd & 16th

(meat Bingo dates at OLM)

Tickets: \$2 each or 3 for \$5

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**St. Benedict CWL
AUTUMN MARKET**

Saturday, October 25, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
St. Benedict Church Parish Centre
Corner of Oak and Lansdowne

 Crafts	 Turkey Pies	 Sewing
 Deli	 Knitting	 Baking
 Books & Puzzles		
 Take Out Chili & Soup		

Luncheon Available



**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
BAZAAR**

NOVEMBER 1, 2025
9AM-12PM

DRAWS FOR
1ST - QUILT (OVERSIZED QUEEN)
2ND - WOODEN BENCH
3RD - SUNRIPE GIFT CARD

DELI TABLE - JAMS, PICKLES, PRESERVES, TURKEY PIES
GIFT TABLE - LOTS OF FANTASTIC NEW ITEMS TO WIN
BAKE TABLE - LOTS OF BAKING (INCL. BUTTER TARTS!)
TREASURE TABLE - PREVIOUSLY USED TREASURE IN GREAT CONDITION
CAKE WALK - WIN A CAKE
CANTEN - BUY A REFRESHMENT AND A SNACK



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15TH
1920 WILDWOOD DR. BRIGHT'S GROVE
ST. MICHAEL CHURCH
9am - 1pm

**Christmas
Market and
Quilt Sale**

Items for Sale:
Tourtières, Hostess and Gift Baskets, Baking,
Preserves, Frozen Cookie Dough, Crafts,
Sewing, Knitting, Preloved Books
Quilts, Christmas Wallhangings, Quilt Raffle,
Ticket Raffle, Silent Auction
Refreshments available
Hosted by St. Michael Catholic Women's League

**Crafternoon Soup
Luncheon**
Nov. 22nd 11-2:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall
(London & Christina) SARNIA

Craft tables
Woodworking, knitting, baking,
jewellery, Christmas crafts
Lunch \$10.00
Tasty soups, Chris's famous focaccia bread,
rolls, veggies and fruit trays, beverages,
desserts
Door Prizes, 50/50 Draw
Free Admission
Something UNIQUE for Everyone
Sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy CWL
For more information, please call 519-383-7541

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Bazar artisanal

Le dimanche, 2 novembre 2025

895 Chemin Champlain, Sarnia, Ontario

Évènement organisé par Les Dames de Ste-Anne
10H am à 14h pm

Venez nous visiter il y aura une table de pâtisseries, des tourtières, des pâtés à la dinde, des cannages, des artisans et créateurs de produits locaux exposant et vendant leur marchandise fait à la main.

Tirage 50/50

Venez manger une soupe maison, sandwichs, café ou thé.



Craft Baazar

Sunday, November 2, 2025

895 Champlain Road, Sarnia, Ontario

Event organized by Les Dames de Ste-Anne
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Come visit us! There will be a baked goods table, meat pies, turkey pies, preserves, and local artisans and creators displaying and selling their handmade products.

50/50 Draw

Enjoy homemade soup, sandwiches, coffee or tea



Bazar artesanal

Domingo, 2 de noviembre de 2025

895 Camino Champlain, Sarnia, Ontario

Evento organizado por Les Dames de Ste-Anne

De 10:00 a.m. a 2:00 p.m.

¡Venga a visitarnos! Habrá una mesa de pasteles, tourtières, empanadas de pavo, conservas, y artesanos y creadores locales que exhiben y venden sus productos hechos a mano.

Sorteo 50/50

Disfrute de una sopa casera, sándwiches, café o té.

