

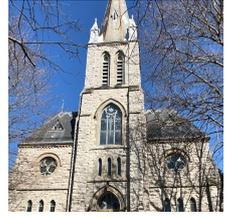
**Our Family of Parishes**



**St. Joseph's**



**Immaculate Conception**



**Holy Name of Mary**

**Grow as a Disciple | pray, study, engage, serve**

**Grow:** The first thing that came to mind when hearing the readings for this feast was the song, *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Moses' words attest to the wonders of God and his continual care and "championing" for us. This all-powerful God chose us to be his own; he created us in love and desires for us to be with him forever. He loves us enough to have become one of us – to live and breathe and suffer as one of us! While on earth as Jesus Christ, he showed us, in healing and forgiving, the depth of his merciful and unconditional love. Through the Son we are made adopted children of God, co-heirs with Christ to the promises of the Kingdom. The Holy Spirit is sent to remain with us – always – demonstrating the steadfastness and faithfulness of God to his people and drawing others to the Father's love. And we, members of the Body of Christ, are commissioned to go "and make disciples of all nations," that all may be given the pathway to the Kingdom. With all this Good News, how *can* we keep from singing?



**Go evangelize | prayer, invitation, witness, accompaniment**

**Go:** "When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted." These words jumped out at me from today's Gospel. After all the Apostles had witnessed, even after their encounters with Jesus following his resurrection, they doubted. That is, until Jesus reassured them that "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Then, look out! Once empowered by the Spirit, the disciples no longer doubt. In readings from the Acts of the Apostles throughout the Easter season, we have heard how the Apostles are transformed into bold and relentless preachers and leaders, healers and miracle workers, by their belief in the power of the Holy Spirit. And they can't suppress the joy they know in believing the Good News. We were made for this joy, and for sharing it as the earliest disciples did. Given all that God has done for us, how can we not?

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**Study:** Read Scripture verses or hymns that rejoice in God's love and bring you joy. (Phil 4:4-9 is a good start). Pray the Act of Faith to reaffirm your belief in the Trinity. Be a joyful Christian!

**The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

**Mass Intentions** for the week of June 1—4

**Tuesday**

The intentions of those who use the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul food bank  
 Roger Trites Kevin Trites  
 Mary-Grace Walsh John & Patricia Walsh

**Wednesday**

Fergus Kelly Ronald and Theresa Murray  
 The intentions of Steven & Lucia Walsh Steve & Christina Deluca  
 The intentions of Ray Legros Knights of Columbus Council 1431, 3rd Degree

**Thursday**

Bob Allen Shirley Ann Beecroft  
 For the intentions of Martha Helmers Annie Chisholm  
 Terry Lubrick Mary & Ed Tamas

**Friday**

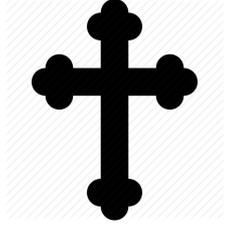
Leslie Psutka Phil Psutka  
 Bruno Zanin (anniversary) Maria Zanin & family  
 Margaret Merkel Rob & Maureen Leyser

We ask you to pray:

**Please pray for those who have died**— especially Jean-Louis Bodevin and Patrick Brown.

May they rejoice in Your kingdom with you for eternity.

**Please pray for those who are sick**— Especially for Hermina Reurink, , Barb Leyser, Claire Nicholson, Connor Bennett.



**Please pray for vocations, especially for:**

Fr. Michael Prieur, Christopher Lepain (coordinator of Youth Ministry),

Deacon David Robertson, Fr. Abraham Sebastian, Deacon Rudy Terpstra,

Fr. Jose Lopez, business managers in our Diocese, religious communities, Bishop Fabbro and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski and Pope Francis.

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**Sacraments - During the current stay at home order, confessions are suspended (with the exception of an emergency). Weddings and funerals may be celebrated with a maximum of 10 people in attendance.**

**Baptisms** - With the current lock down we are able to still celebrate this sacrament but with guest list restrictions. Please call the office and register your child. Please leave a message at extension 0. We will outline our current restrictions for your information.

**First Reconciliation** Registration begins again in the fall, 2021.

**First Holy Communions** - Children are prepared and we will announce a date for First Communion celebrations as soon as we are able.

**Confirmation** - We will celebrate this sacrament in the fall and will announce a date as soon as we are able.

**Weddings**—should be booked six months to a year in advance by calling either church office to speak with one of the priests.

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**Avon-Thames Catholic Family of Parishes  
Update from Pastoral Council  
May 2021**

Our current Pastoral Council consists of 10 parishioners from all three parishes, as well as our priests and deacon. Five of these members, Shirley Ann Beecroft, Marianne Bracca, Tom Donati, Wally Ebner, and Jim Gaylor will be leaving Pastoral Council in June. Their combined years of service to Pastoral Council totals more than 50 years! We owe a great deal of gratitude to these parishioners for their many years of wise and caring dedication to Pastoral Council.

In the early meetings of this transitional Pastoral Council, we recognized the desire to enable more voices on Pastoral Council through set terms of three years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms. This strategy contains a risk of losing the experience of long-serving members. But more importantly, a regular rotation on Council also enables more parishioners to serve in this capacity, and acknowledges our church's call to all of us to use our gifts in service of our church and our faith.

Besides the ten currently serving on council, other parishioners have the gifts and talents to serve in this capacity. If you believe you are well-suited for this committee, please let Fr. David know. You may also suggest another parishioner if you get their permission first. Please submit names by **June 7**.

After a list of potential candidates is compiled, a discernment process will follow. When this process is complete, the names of the 2021-24 Pastoral Council will be announced and this group will begin its work in September.

## Flocknote—Why is it such a useful tool for our Parish?



Our relatively new communication tool called 'Flocknote' has many ways to help reach out to our parishioners. Most are familiar with receiving a weekly email to register for Masses, but there is **so much more to this tool!** Fr. David sends out a weekly message that is meant to update and inform his flock, along with sending out the weekly bulletin. We use Flocknote for sacramental preparation as we are able to communicate directly with families who have children making First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion or being confirmed. (we can even send out instructional videos!) Parish Council, CWL's, music ministry, altar servers are examples of groups that will be communicating and updating in this way. If you aren't registered you may be missing out! All that is required is an email address and/or a cell phone number.

If you know of a senior, whether a family member or friend, who isn't coming to Mass yet and isn't receiving a message from our Pastor, please help them to register for Flocknote. Simply go to [avonthames.flocknote.com](http://avonthames.flocknote.com) and follow the very simple prompts. Most people have an email address and would really benefit from 'keeping in the loop'. We appreciate your assistance to help us reach as many people as possible; especially during this time.

### Parish Office and Premises Updates

#### The Parish Office is CLOSED.

Parish staff are working from home. Staff can be reached during regular office hours by leaving a voice message or email.

#### The Parish Halls are CLOSED.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be able to continue operating the food bank and provide take-out only community meals from the St. Joseph's Parish hall. Strict Covid protocols are in place.

**All Masses are suspended. Dispensation is in place. As the province of Ontario begins to re-open we await direction from the Province, the Health Unit and the Diocese of London. Please watch Flocknote updates and this bulletin for details as they become available.**

There are a few things to help us to serve you better. You will find a **secure drop box** just to the right of the office door which will accept envelopes and packages. You will also find a **doorbell** just above the drop box if you have a pre-arranged appointment with a priest for emergency reasons. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during these uncertain times.

For general inquires please call 519-271-6722 for the main office or St. Marys office at 519-284-2593. Email: [avonthamescatholic@dol.ca](mailto:avonthamescatholic@dol.ca)

For questions regarding donations of any kind and for e-transfers please contact Maureen at: 519-271-6722 ext. 23 or [mmarcelissen-hnm@dol.ca](mailto:mmarcelissen-hnm@dol.ca). You can donate online by clicking the links the bottom of this page.

For questions regarding the premises, buildings and COVID protocol please contact Nancy at 519-271-6722 ext. 21 or [nbomasuit@dol.ca](mailto:nbomasuit@dol.ca)

## DONATE

During these difficult times your financial support is especially appreciated:

**Holy Name of Mary:** <https://dol-hnom.plenty.com/>

**Immaculate Conception:** <https://dol-ic.plenty.com/>

**St. Joseph's:** <https://dol-sjcc.plenty.com/>

To e-transfer, please email Maureen or leave a message for her at extension 23.

### AVON-THAMES CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES

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

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