

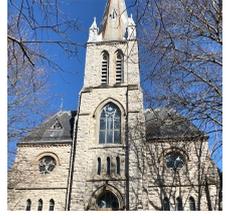
## Our Family of Parishes



St. Joseph's



Immaculate Conception



Holy Name of Mary

### Grow as a Disciple | pray, study, engage, serve:

**Grow:** I don't know about you, but even for the quickest of errands I don't like to leave my house without my smartphone. Nor would I go on a road trip without my trusty mini-Diet Coke and a snack or two. So I'm struck by what Jesus tells the Apostles when he sends them on their mission to share the Good News: "He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick – no food, no sack, no money in their belts." While it may be hard for us to imagine striking out with only the sandals on our feet, to me this reading is more about what the Apostles *did* have than what they went without: they had a companion (Jesus sent them two by two) and the spiritual blessings Saint Paul refers to, including a relationship with Jesus and absolute trust in Him. Today's readings remind us to set aside distractions and spend time deepening our relationship with Jesus through prayer, reading the Scriptures, and participating in the sacramental life of the Church. In doing so, we, too, can join in the mission of the early disciples by giving our lives to Jesus and sharing His message with others.

### Go evangelize | prayer, invitation, witness, accompaniment:

**Go:** I find the phrase "the new evangelization" somewhat ironic. After all, evangelization is not new, it goes back to the earliest days of the Church, which wouldn't exist had it not been for the disciples. The "new" part reminds us that we today also share in this mission. The U.S. Catholic bishops describe it succinctly: "The New Evangelization calls each of us to deepen our faith, believe in the Gospel message and go forth to proclaim the Gospel." This call is both simple, and challenging, but we don't have to be perfect. After all, just as God called Amos, a humble shepherd, and Jesus called the Twelve, a motley group of fishermen, he calls us. Like them, our first "task" isn't a task at all – it is placing God and our relationship with Jesus at the center of our lives. Only then can we effectively share the Gospel with others, inviting our brothers and sisters to a life in Christ – to become part of God's adopted family.

**Witness:** At the end of Sunday Mass, we often hear the words: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." As we are sent forth, let us ask God to show us how we can share the Gospel with others during the week ahead. Then pay attention to where the Spirit leads us in answering our prayer.

### We ask you to pray:

**Please pray for those who have died**— especially Mike Butler. May they rejoice in Your kingdom with You for eternity.

**Please pray for those who are sick**— especially for Hermina Reurink, Claire Nicholson and Pauline Patterson.

### Please pray for vocations—

#### Week of July 11—17

Fr. Michael Brand, Deacon John Lammers, Sr. Teresa Morrison (Pastoral Minister), Veronica Costa (coordinator of youth ministry), Chris Laforet (coordinator of youth ministry), Deacon Donald McCullough, Heather Cushing (pastoral minister), religious communities, Bishop Fabbro and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski and Pope Francis.

#### Week of July 18—24

Deacon Marcel DeClerk, Deacon Jack Grim, Fr. Tony Laforet, Fr. Andrew Sipek, Fr. Peter Amszej, Fr. Graham Keep, religious communities, Bishop Fabbro and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski and Pope Francis.

## Mass Intentions

### Week of July 12—17

#### Tuesday—7:00 pm. St. Joseph's Church

Margaret Merkel	The Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy, Stratford
Raymonde Abboud	Laura Evans
Mary Margaret Cassone	Rob & Maureen Leyser

#### Wednesday—8:00 am. Immaculate Conception Church

For the intentions of those who use the Society of the Saint Vincent de Paul foodbank	
For the Holy Souls in Purgatory	Nellie Vanderhyden
Leonard Reis	The Huron Perth Catholic District School Board

#### Thursday— 10:00 am. At Holy Name of Mary Church

Cecelia Farwell	Shirley Ann Beecroft
The intentions of Fr. Chris Pietraszko	Anne & Read Paxton
Frances Holland	Ed & Mary Tamas

#### Friday—8:00 am. St. Joseph's Church

The intentions of Rob & Maureen Leyser	
Shirley Uniac	Harry & Eileen Thomas
Sharon Klooster	Anne Van Straaten



### Week of July 19—24

#### Tuesday—7:00 pm. St. Joseph's Church

Sergio & Antonietta Rizzo	Their Family
Deceased Members of the Flanagan Family	
The intentions of Dan & Carolyn Mathieson	on the occasion of their 25th Wedding Anniversary

#### Wednesday—8:00 am. Immaculate Conception Church

The intentions of Martha Helmers	Annie Chisholm
Brenda Lubrick	Ed and Mary Tamas
Len Petrie	Paul and Brenda Campbell

#### Thursday—10 am. Holy Name of Mary Church

Barb Leyser	Betty Duwyn
Shirley Uniac	Betty Pehlke
Kim Selbie	Rob & Maureen Leyser

#### Friday—8:00 am. St. Joseph's Church

Deceased members of the Kramers and Schuster families	
Peter Bokkers	Nelda Dwyer
Keith and Fran Culliton	Their family



## Sacraments

### Confession times:

**Saturdays:** 11 am. —noon at St. Joseph's church &  
4—4:30 pm. at Immaculate Conception church.

**Sundays:** 9:00 am.—9:30 am. at Holy Name of Mary church.

(or by appointment by calling the office and speaking with one of the priests.)

**Baptisms** - With the current restrictions we are able to still celebrate this sacrament but with limited guest lists. Please call the office and register your child by leaving a message at extension 0 or email Elizabeth at [emanto@dol.ca](mailto:emanto@dol.ca) or Mary at [mchisholm@dol.ca](mailto:mchisholm@dol.ca)



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

**First Holy Communions** - We look forward to announcing a date as soon as possible.

**Confirmation** - We will announce a date for a fall celebration 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.

## Parish and Parish Supported Ministries

**St. Joseph's CWL**—a warm welcome to Fr. Don; we look forward to getting to know you. To Fr. Bester; welcome back. It will be lovely to see you back in our congregation. To our members—we are still looking for a few membership dues for 2021. Just a reminder that September starts a new calendar year for membership fees. Have a safe and healthy summer!

### ...and a little piece of very interesting reading!

Recently, one of parishioners sent along this wonderful article that she recently read in the St. Marys Independent. Little did we know our Family of Parishes was working together 100 years ago!

### 100 years ago (1921)

**About 100 members of the Holy Name Society of St. Marys Roman Catholic church motored over to Stratford on Sunday to attend the Holy Name Rally, comprising of the parishes of St. Marys, Stratford, Kinkora and Hesson.**

**A resolution was passed requesting the Government of Ontario to enact legislation that will put the Roman Catholic minority in the full enjoyment of its educational rights under the constitution.**

## 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 continue operating the food bank and provide take-out only community meals from St. Joseph's Parish hall. Strict Covid protocols are in place.

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 **door-bell** 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 the Parish Office.

### AVON-THAMES CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES

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

Email: [avonthamescatholic@dol.ca](mailto:avonthamescatholic@dol.ca)

c/o 96 Huron Street  
Stratford ON N5S 5S6

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 519-271-6722 Stratford                      519-284-2593 St. Marys

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.