

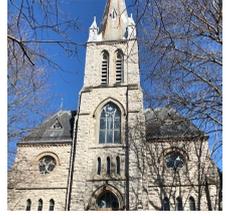
Our Family of Parishes



St. Joseph's



Immaculate Conception



Holy Name of Mary

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

Grow: We have apps that monitor our sleep and calories, and remind us to get our steps in. Short on time? We order takeout or subscribe to a meal service. Yet, despite these modern conveniences, I would guess that most of us don't sleep enough or consistently eat well. And we pay the price, whether in the short or long term. Enter Elijah, who had reached his limit physically and mentally. Yet after an angel provided him food and drink, Elijah found the strength to walk 40 days and 40 nights. Impressive! But that's God for us! And in the provision of his Son, we have food and drink – bread from heaven – that not only sustains us for our journey on earth but offers the possibility of eternal life. This is our belief; this is what Jesus says to us. And that alone can give us strength, and hope, even when we're having an "Elijah" moment. For at each and every holy Mass, Jesus invites us to the table, offering us food that not only sustains but also transforms us. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, indeed!

Go: Just as a good night's sleep and proper nutrition help us function our best, the Word of God and the Eucharist, and our communal life of faith, provide the spiritual nourishment we need as we strive to be *imitators of God* in our daily lives, as Saint Paul says. As we partake of Christ in the Eucharist, perhaps we can say a prayer of thanksgiving and ask Jesus to help us grow in the ways of love that Paul outlined: kindness, compassion, and forgiveness toward the people we encounter. It could mean letting go of a grudge, becoming more conscious of the needs of others, listening respectfully to someone with whom we disagree, or perhaps forgiving ourselves. The Holy Spirit will guide us.

Reflect: Think about the ways the Mass transforms you. It may be something subtle – the spirit of consolation and the feeling that things are right in your world – or you may have been particularly moved by the readings, homily, music, or silent prayer. Tell someone about it!

We ask you to pray:

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

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

Please pray for vocations—

Week of August 9—14

Katherine Marsh (Pastoral Minister & coordinator of youth ministry), Fr. Tom Blondin, Fr. Larry Brunet, Deacon Alex Litt, Catherinanne George (Campus Minister), Stephanie McGuire (coordinator of youth ministry), religious communities, Bishop Fabbro and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski and Pope Francis.

Week of August 16—21

Ministers to the poor and homeless, Fr. William Capitano, Gerard Leroux (Pastoral Minister & coordinator of youth ministry), RCIA teams in our Diocese, Natasha Contestabile (Pastoral Minister), Fr. Paul McGill, Deacon Michael Cookson, religious communities, Bishop Fabbro and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski and Pope Francis.

Mass Intentions

Week of August 9—14

Tuesday—7:00 pm. St. Joseph's Church

Nick Forte

His family

Kent Abbott

His family

Mary Costello

Laurie Ash

Wednesday—8:00 am. Immaculate Conception Church

Deceased members of the Murray and Marshall families

Bob Skinner (anniversary)

Marjorie Skinner & family

Kim Selbie

The Apostles of Divine Mercy, Stratford

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

Walter Herten

Monika Herten

Urban Portz

Monika Herten

Nelly Wouters

Nick Wouters

Friday—8:00 am. St. Joseph's Church

Saramma Eappen

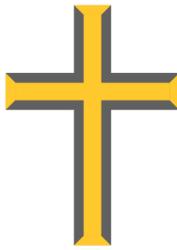
The Powath family

Pat O'Donovan

Marg & Jim Brickman

Ariel Andrew Hall

Olga & Dan Green



Week of August 16—21

Tuesday—7:00 pm. St. Joseph's Church

Bertha & Jim Conroy

Janet Conroy

Mary Humphrey

Ron & Rose Marcy

Antonio Sacco

His family

Wednesday—8:00 am. Immaculate Conception Church

The intentions of Pauline Patterson

Patricia Healy

Sergio & Antonietta Rizzo

Their family

Fr. Jack Hurley

Fr. David Butler

Thursday—10 am. Holy Name of Mary Church

Olga MacDonald

Ken & Mary Chisholm

Toni Voss

Shirley Ann Beecroft

Shirley Uniac

Betty Pehlke

Friday—8:00 am. St. Joseph's Church

Len Petrie

Amy & Kailey Joannette & family

Barb Leyser

Rob & Maureen Leyser

Margaret Merkel

Sandra Didimete



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 - We are now able to expand the number of guests attending baptisms. Baptisms are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month with the preparation class held the Tuesday before at 7:40 pm. Please call the office and register your child by leaving a message at extension 0 or email Elizabeth at emanto@dol.ca or Mary at 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 Office and Premises Updates

The Parish Office is OPEN BY APPOINTMENT. Parish staff are once again working from the office. Staff can be reached during regular office hours. Please keep in mind that some are on vacation so leave your messages at Extension 0 with the time and date of your call and your phone number so we can serve you efficiently.

The Parish Halls and meeting rooms remain CLOSED. Safety Plans are being developed and we are hoping to make access available to Parish Groups in September. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to operate the food bank and provide take-out only community meals from St. Joseph's Parish hall. Strict Covid protocols are in place.

Please continue to use the **secure drop box** just to the right of the office door which will accept envelopes and packages. The lower office door is now unlocked but if you arrive for an appointment please use the red buzzer to the left at the top of the stairs to announce your arrival. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during these uncertain times.

DONATIONS

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
Email: avonthamescatholic@dol.ca

Parish Family Office:
96 Huron Street, Stratford ON N5A 5S6
Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 519-271-6722 Stratford

519-284-2593 St. Marys