

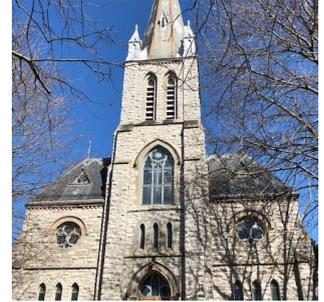
**Our Parish Family**



**St. Joseph's**



**Immaculate Conception**



**Holy Name of Mary**

**Grow as a disciple—Pray, study, engage, serve**

**Grow:** How often do we pray with abandon? Perhaps when turbulence makes us wonder if our plane's going down, when a friend or loved one faces a difficult diagnosis or life-threatening injury, when we face a setback, a major decision, or a heartbreak. On some days, though, have we been guilty of just going through the motions when we pray? Not so for Bartimaeus. "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me," he repeatedly implores, ignoring the shushing of the crowd. When Jesus asks him what he wants, the blind man doesn't beat around the bush. "I want to see." Recognizing his faith, Jesus heals him. Bartimaeus could not see, yet he had recognized Jesus as the Messiah and persisted in prayer. His example reminds us to be persistent in prayer, holding nothing back from Jesus who desires to make us whole.

**Go evangelize—Prayer, invitation, witness, accompaniment**

**Go:** While Bartimaeus faced physical blindness, this did not prevent him from recognizing Jesus as the Son of David, the Messiah. In our modern-day world so filled with distractions, we can become blind to the face of Jesus, or simply take his abundant love for us for granted. As the psalmist reminds us, "The Lord has done great things for us. We are filled with joy." Looking back on our lives, we can probably see a few miracles – the birth of a child, the stunning beauty of a sunrise over the mountains or the arborvitae in our backyards, the friends who walk alongside us through each chapter of life. Today's readings encourage us to open our eyes to the face of Jesus in our lives, and in turn to reflect his steadfast love to those we encounter.

**Actions:** Read today's psalm response: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." Reflect on the people and experiences that have brought you closer to God – friends, family, a priest, for example. Write them a note or say a prayer of thanksgiving.

**We ask you to pray...**

**Please pray for those who have died**, especially Muriel Gleason and Mary Tazier. May they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family to sing Your praises forever.

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

**Please pray for vocations**, especially this coming week for Fr. Jozo Grubisic, Fr. Jason Kunz, Fr. Brian Jane, Fr. Patrick Beneteau, Deacon Raymond Girard, Fr. Vargees Devas, religious communities, Bishop Fabbro, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, and Pope Francis.

## Mass Intentions

Mass schedule for the week of October 25—30

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

1. Elizabeth MacDonald Steve Parr
2. Special intention of a parishioner
3. Jack Weishar Heather MacDonald

### Wednesday - 8:00 am. at Immaculate Conception Church

1. Anita Collie Steve Parr
2. Elisabeth Dobbe Patti & Randy Rothwell
3. Ellen Hopper Her friends

### Thursday - 10:00 am. at Holy Name of Mary Church

1. In thanksgiving for favours granted Anne Weerasinghe
2. John Garvey Catherine Garvey & family
3. Harry Weersink Annie Weersink

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

1. Sr. Helena Moss Joe Moss & family
2. Deceased members of the Flanagan family Their family
3. Frank Krauskopf The Apostles of Divine Mercy, Stratford

## Sacraments

### Confession times:

**Saturdays:** 11:00 am. —noon at St. Joseph's church &  
4:00 pm. —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** - Baptisms are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 pm. with the preparation class held the Tuesday evening before at 7:40 pm. Please call the office and register your child, or email Elizabeth at emanto@dol.ca or Mary at mchisholm@dol.ca

**First Reconciliation** Parent meetings are this week! **Wednesday, October 27th, 6:30 pm. at St. Joseph's church and Thursday, October 28th, 6:30 pm. at Holy Name of Mary church.** Information will come through the Catholic elementary schools very soon. For more information please call Mary at the office or email at mchisholm@dol.ca

**First Holy Communions** - Completed for 2021

**Confirmation** - Completed for 2021

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

## Parish Groups

**St. Joseph's CWL**—This is an election year and the following positions are available for nominations:

President, President Elect, Treasurer and Recording Secretary. If any CWL member is interested in any of the positions, please contact Madeleine Visser at 519-273-6659 or Mary Jacob at 519-271-7894.

The election for the 2022/2023 executive will take place on December 6th at 7:00 pm. at the general meeting. We are having a drive by fundraiser on Saturday, November 6th from 10:00 am. to 12:00 pm. noon in the parking lot at St. Joseph's Church. We are selling Epicure Meal Kits for \$25. These make great stocking stuffers and wonderful hostess or teacher gifts. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be going to the garden fund.

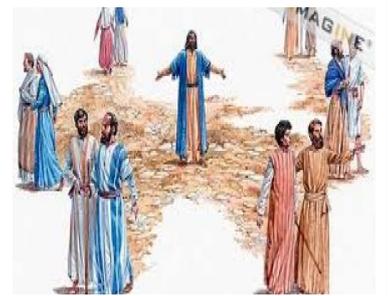
## Diocesan News

**Bishop Fabbro's vision for our Diocese is being a Mission-Oriented Church that Forms Disciples of Jesus. We can live this by growing our relationship with Jesus and sharing that relationship in our parishes, and communities .**

**Here is the reflection for this week:**

**Praying for the Vision: Reflect on this verse...**

"As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him." Matthew 4:18-20



**Diocese of London: Being a Mission-Oriented Church that Forms Disciples of Jesus**

## Parish Office and Premises Updates

**The Parish Office is open by appointment.** Parish staff are working from the office and can be reached during regular office hours. After hours, please 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 are open to Parish Groups for meetings.** Those attending meetings must provide proof of vaccination and photo ID to the Group Registrar before entering. There is no entry without presentation of the appropriate documentation. Groups may call the office for Safety Plans and the other guidelines that must be followed. 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. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during these challenging times.

## 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.

### **“For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission”**

On October 10th, Pope Francis formally launched the process for a global Synod that will take place over the next two years. Unlike a normal Synod of bishops that gathers at the Vatican for discussion, this Synod will have significant parish and diocesan-level consultations that will take place over the coming months. The Synod will involve broad consultation with laity, religious communities, clergy and ecumenical groups on their experience of the Church and its mission. More information on the synodal process in the Diocese of London will be forthcoming. All dioceses across Canada will launch their local synodal process this weekend and today, **Sunday, October 17th at 10:30 a.m., Bishop Fabbro will launch the process in the Diocese of London with Mass at St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica.** You are encouraged to watch the livestream at St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica YouTube channel.

This is an exciting time to examine how we journey together to help us live communion, achieve participation and open ourselves to mission. As the Holy Father said in his homily on October 10th, “Dear brothers and sisters, let us have a good journey together! May we be pilgrims in love with the Gospel and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit. Let us not miss out on the grace-filled opportunities born of encounter, listening and discernment. In the joyful conviction that, even as we seek the Lord, he always comes with his love to meet us first.”

One prayer, attributed to St. Isidore of Seville (560-636) will be widely used throughout the Diocesan phase of the synodal process. Please consider including this prayer personally or with your family and to keep the intention of the Synod with your prayers as those involved move through the process in the coming months.

***We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.***

***With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;***

***Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.***

***We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.***

***Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.***

***Let us find in You our unity***

***so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray  
from the way of truth and what is right.***

***All this we ask of You,***

***who are at work in every place and time,***

***in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.***

***Amen.***

#### **AVON-THAMES CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES**

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

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