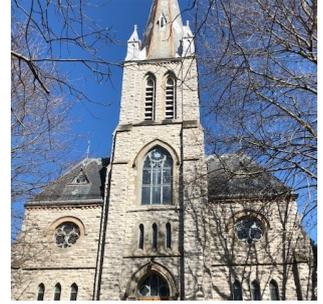




St. Joseph's



Immaculate Conception



Holy Name of Mary

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

**Grow:** “Oh no,” was my first thought when I began reading today’s Gospel – “another scribe trying to trick Jesus.” But this scribe *agrees* with Jesus: Loving God and loving your neighbor as yourself *are* the greatest commandments. When the scribe explains that loving God and your neighbor are worth more than all offerings or sacrifices, Jesus recognizes that the scribe took these commandments “to heart,” as Moses had taught. He doesn’t just *know* the law, he *understands* it. Because he understands it, Jesus assures him that he is not far from the kingdom of God. So, how can *we* grow in our understanding of what it means to love God and love our neighbor? We grow in our love of God through the gift of faith and by the graces received in spending time with him. We do this by spending time in Scripture and “taking to heart” his words; by prayerfully reflecting on Jesus’ life and giving thanks for his sacrifice for us; by drawing closer to him through the sacraments; and by asking him to help us grow in our love for God, and for one another. An authentic love for God will show itself in love of neighbor, and the more we truly love one another, the greater our love for God will grow.

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

**Go:** Loving our neighbors is essential if we seek to draw them to God’s love. For many of us, that’s much easier said than done. It’s not easy to love someone with whom we disagree or are in competition with. And these days, with so much division in society, it is all too simple to assume the worst rather than the best about others with whom we interact, or see on television. Can we commit to truly seeing others as God sees them – his beloved children, made in his own image? After all, it is through Jesus and in keeping his word that we become more like him, in thought and deed: “Whoever loves me will keep my word ... and my father will love him and we will come to him.” Let us pray to see our neighbors as the Lord does; and pray that we ourselves might be the kind of neighbor in whom others may see God’s image! We have the opportunity to be an example of, and a witness to, a love that forgives and is not overcome by fear or division.

**Pray:** As we prepare for the feast of All Souls, make an effort to see others as God sees them; reflecting on the lives of those who have loved you and what their lives have taught you about God’s love. Attend Mass and give thanks for those you hold in your heart. Then pray honestly and sincerely for those with whom you know you have a difference of conviction or opinion, asking God to graciously answer all their needs and to care for them as you yourself would like to be cared for .

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

**Please pray for those who have died**, especially Betty Brown (mother of Mary Cobb), Julieta Bayani and Shawn Bohnert. 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. Antonio Del Ciancio, Fr. John Betkowski, Fr. Robert Rocheleau, Deacon Gary Coyle, Deacon Anthony Hogervorst, Most Rev. John Corriveau, religious communities, Bishop Fabbro, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, and Pope Francis.

### Mass Schedule and Intentions for the week of November 1—6

#### Monday—12:00 pm. noon at Holy Name of Mary Church Solemnity of All Saints, November 1st

For the intentions of all those who use the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

#### Tuesday - 7:00 pm. at St. Joseph's Church All Souls' Day, November 2nd and our annual Memorial Mass for deceased members of our Parish

We will pray for all our dearly beloved at the this celebration.

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

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Frank Krauskopf | Harry & Eileen Thomas |
| 2. Luciana Dassie  | Maria Zanin & family  |
| 3. Don McGraw      | His family            |

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

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Barb Leyser | The Huron Perth Catholic District School Board |
| 2. Marj Vere   | The Apostles of Divine Mercy, Stratford        |
| 3. Stan Mazur  | Alexandra Mazur & family                       |

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

- |                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Kent Abbott  | His family                     |
| 2. Clare Murray | Andrew & Trish Nickel & family |
| 3. Marilyn Koot | Willy Koot                     |

### 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](mailto:emanto@dol.ca) or Mary at [mchisholm@dol.ca](mailto:mchisholm@dol.ca)

**First Reconciliation** Preparation has now been postponed until the new year.

**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.

**The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**— Our monthly Poor Box Collection will take place this weekend— October 30 and October 31. We thank you for your generous support

## 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:

### **Living the Vision: Mission-Oriented Action**

**In your Parish:** Join or start an outreach or Social Justice committee. (our Family of Parishes just began a committee. Please refer to Flocknote or call the office for more information)

**In your Home:** Start a family outreach project, considering the needs of others.

**In your Heart:** Reflect on the lives of the saints .

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

## School Community News **Calling All Three Year Olds!**

Are you wondering about Catholic Education for your child? Huron Perth Catholic District School board provides schools that are faith-based, inclusive and places of high expectations. The staff are compassionate and caring – they are eager and ready to support your child's learning and faith development. November is the month to register your child for Kindergarten 2022/2023. If your child was born in 2017 or 2018 please contact your home school for more information.

## 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.

### Solemnity of All Saints

As we celebrate the **Solemnity of All Saints**, the lives of the holy men and women who have gone before us come to mind. We contemplate both their struggle for holiness and their example of holiness while they were living on earth. Holiness is within reach of all of us. We are all called to be saints. We join our prayers today to those of all the saints in heaven. May we continue courageously on this journey to grow in faith in the power of God to fulfill what He has promised.



Quotes from some of the saints' writings can literally catch your breath. Here is an example:

"The eternal Father takes pleasure in looking upon the heart of the most holy Virgin Mary as the masterpiece of His hands. The Son takes pleasure in it as the **heart** of His mother, the source from which he drew the blood that ransoms us." (St. John Vianney)

### All Souls Day—The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

We gather on this day to honour the memory of all our deceased friends and loved ones, but more than that, we pray for them, that Christ, over whom death has no more power, may hold them safely in His arms. We also encourage ourselves in faith and hope that we will one day be reunited with them in the newness of resurrected life and the joy of the heavenly banquet, of which the Eucharist that we celebrate is a foretaste. It is the message of the Church that death, this greatest mystery of human existence and source of fear and sorrow, has been transformed into a passageway to God.



ALL SOULS DAY

(Sourcebook 2021)

### 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)

**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