



Amherstburg-Harrow Catholic Family of Parishes



St. John the Baptist

225 Brock Street, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2H3

Phone 519 736 5418 - email: ahcfop@dol.ca

Website - www.ahcfop.ca

St Anthony of Padua

120 Munger Street West Harrow, ON N0R 1G0

Pastoral Team

Pastor

Rev. Matthew Kucharski

Deacon Leonard Tetreault

Deacon Matthew Sutton

Seminarian Matthew Sawyer

Pastoral Minister

Kim Bornais

Family and Youth Ministry

Lisa Mullins

Parish Staff

Bookkeeper

Shelly Bondy

Secretary

Karen McGuire

Custodians

Matt Sutton - Amherstburg

Romy Mayea—Harrow

Parish Organizations

Pastoral Council Chair

to be determined

Finance Committee Chair

To be determined

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line

Amherstburg - 519-984-7594

Harrow - 519-971-2095

Sacraments

Baptism

Contact Kim Bornais 519-736-5418

kbornais@dol.ca

Reconciliation

by appointment 519-736-5418

Holy Matrimony

Contact the parish office one year

prior to your wedding

Amherstburg-Harrow Catholic Family of Parishes

February 21, 2021
1st Sunday of Lent



Mass times and Location

Weekday

Tuesday 6:00pm - Harrow

Wednesday 9am - Amherstburg

Thursday 9am - Harrow

Friday 9am - Amherstburg

Weekend

Saturday 5pm - Amherstburg

Sunday 9am - Harrow

Sunday 11am - Amherstburg

Bulletin Notices

All submissions must be in writing or
emailed no later than Tuesday at 4:00 pm

Office Hours

Monday ~ Closed

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Closed for lunch 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:12-15

Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.



Background on the Gospel Reading

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event. Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfillment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks the beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.



Weekday Mass & Mass Intentions

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 6pm Harrow

† Charles Beneteau (47th Ann.) by Rose & Harry Beneteau
† Howard Parker (3rd Ann.) by Elaine Parker
† Ross Shepley by Kathy & Al Gomes

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 9am Amherstburg

† Valentino DeThomasis by Maria Leardi Motagner (France)
Sp. Int. for Rose Shaw
Sp Int. for the Goggin Family by Marilyn Goggin
Sp. Int. for Theresa Bertrand by the Bertrand Family

Thursday, February 25, 2021 9am Harrow

† Ross Shepley by the AHCFOF
† James Hedges by the AHCFOF

Friday, February 26, 2021

Sp. Int. the Vandermuren Family by Drina
Sp. Int. the Murphy Family by Marilyn Goggin

Food for though. . .

Give yourself some quiet time for reflection each day to draw closer to God in prayer.



Sunday Chuckle

When you take a bite and realize you are fasting.





Open Again!

We are very excited to be open once again (although still with limited capacity – 30%). This Saturday, February 20th, we will be returning to our regular Mass schedule. Mass will be Saturday 5:00pm at St. John the Baptist (St B) (live-streamed and recorded), Sunday 9:00am (St. Anthony of Padua (St A), 11:00am (St B). Weekday Masses will be Tuesday 6:00pm (St A), Wednesday and Friday 9:00am (St B – live-streamed and recorded) and Thursday 9:00am (St A). We are in the process of setting up St. Anthony for live-streaming but have encountered a hurdle to go over with the inadequate internet service on site. Live-streaming requires stronger bandwidth and we are trying to make arrangements to get that. We continue to ask for your patience and understanding as we work through this next phase of the COVID 19 virus restrictions and guidelines.

Cold Building, Warm Hearts?

Unfortunately, the internet is not the only issue we are encountering at St. Anthony of Padua. We are also having some difficulty with the heat. We called in the service people some time ago, but there has been a delay in getting the necessary parts (this pandemic has impacted so many different aspects of life!). We do still have some heat, just not the level of heat that we desire. Thus, I just wanted to warn you it will be a little chilly; we will keep you posted. But maybe if I start preaching, that could generate some hot air so...

Lenten Packages

This past week Kim, Lisa and Matthew were out delivering the Lenten Packages that Kim and Lisa created. I was impressed and excited with all the “elements” they put into the packages and I hope that they will be helpful for you and your families to have a fruitful journey through Lent. If you missed out, I believe they still have a few packages left if you wish to contact Kim (kbornais@dol.ca) or Lisa (lmullins@dol.ca).

Thanks for the Birthday Wishes

A short note of thanks to all those who wished me well, sent a card or a gift for my birthday on Friday (the 19th). I am hoping my 54th year will be a good one! The Lord has blessed me in so many ways through his gift of life and the wonderful family and friends that I have. As well, he has placed me in this Family of Parishes where it is a special joy to be able to live and celebrate my priesthood with so many faith-filled people. Our God is so good; a goodness we can't let this pandemic cloud in any way!

Reminder: Stations of the Cross

A long-standing tradition during Lent is the devotion of praying the Stations of the Cross. This Lent we will continue that practice by streaming on our Facebook page the Stations each Friday at 10:00am. Each week a different member of our pastoral team will lead the Stations and we invite you to follow. This year we will only be streaming them and we will not be praying them in the church as a community.

Reminder: Prayer Series with Father Matt

We are coming to the end of our journey with “The Search”, which many of you participated in. Central to our “search” for God and our place in this world, is the need to be people of prayer. The Search concludes on February 25th. **Beginning March 4th for four weeks**, I will be leading a **series on “prayer”**. It will be a basic introduction looking at “what is prayer”, “what is relational prayer”, “what is Lectio Divina”, and “what is praying with one’s senses and the Art of Prayer Journaling”. Each session, we will look at the “theory” as well as experiencing prayer in different ways. God calls each of us to prayer, to a deep relationship with the Divine. God desires to be in a prayerful, loving relationship with you. What do you desire? How do you find God through prayer? How do you discover how God sees “you” in prayer. **Each Thursday** we will gather via **ZOOM at 7:00pm for about an hour. To register, please contact Kim** (kbornais@dol.ca).

Reminder: Mandatory Masks

We would like to remind you that masks (not face shields) are required by provincial law in all public buildings, which includes churches. The exemption remains in place for those who have a medical condition and for children under the age of two. Those who refuse to wear masks without a proper exemption will be turned away for the sake of the health and safety of all who gather in our churches. If you are exempted for medical reasons, **we require written documentation from a medical professional**. Also, when registering for Mass, you must advise the secretary of your exemption, so that you can be seated in a designated area and advised on the protocols.

Reminder: Revised Guidelines for Registration for Weekend Masses

Learning from our past experiences, we are making a few changes to the process to register for Weekend Masses:

- An email will be sent out to all those who receive our bulletin electronically on Tuesday at 9:00am each week which will have the upcoming Weekend's Mass registration link. The link will also be posted on our webpage and Facebook. On-line registration will not be open until 9:00am each Tuesday.
- Phone registration does not open until Tuesday at 9:00am. Calling the office before Tuesday and leaving a voicemail message will not result in you being registered for Mass.
- All registration (on-line and phone) closes at 4:00pm on Thursday.
- If you do not register to attend a Weekend Mass, you will not be permitted to enter into the church to wait. We will open the church to anyone who has not registered, providing there are seats available, no earlier than 10 minutes before the scheduled start of Mass.
- If you register for Weekend Mass, you must be at the church no later than 10 minutes before the scheduled start of Mass. If you come later than that, your "registered" seat may be given up for somebody who is waiting for a seat.
- It is imperative that you sit in the seats that you are assigned and that you follow the directions of our Ministers of Hospitality.



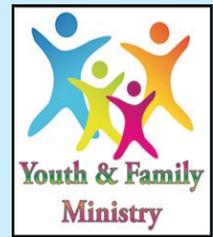
Matthew's musings

We are now reopened to the public! I am very excited to see you all once again as we are brought out of lockdown and can now worship together safely. This is a truly great gift the Lord has given us. We are very blessed to live in a time where technology is advanced enough that we are able to participate in Mass as a parish community, but nothing beats that face to face encounter with the Lord as we celebrate together in person at the foot of the altar. Now is the perfect time to come back to Mass with fresh eyes, to open ourselves up to the words of sacred scripture at the ambo and to allow the Lord into our lives at the altar. We sometimes treat Mass as just another event on a long list of things to do. Let's take this time to thank the Lord for the gift of himself through the Eucharist and to ask him to journey with us through this season of Lent, so we may all journey with Him to the cross and be made new at his resurrection.



First Reconciliation & First Eucharist: Registration for the spring celebrations of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist closes March 1st 2021. If you wish to have your child make the sacraments please contact Lisa in the parish office.

Confirmation registration for Spring celebrations closes March 15th 2021. Please contact Lisa in the parish office to register your child.



Lent Family Packages: Over the past week over 35 packages were delivered to our families. They are filled with prayers and activities for young people and their families to do together. We have a few packages left that can be picked up in the parish office. Please contact Lisa to make arrangements.

Wishing all our Families and Youth a blessed and grace-filled Lent!

SPRING VIGIL 2021!



IN PERSON AT THE VIGIL SITE
in front of Metropolitan Hospital within the safety guidelines.
Please bring a mask, keep socially distant from people outside of your household, ensure your sign is disinfected before going to the vigil site.

from

Wednesday, February 17th - Sunday, March 28th, 2021

7 AM - 7 PM

visit <https://www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/windsor/>
to sign up!

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PICK OF THE WEEK

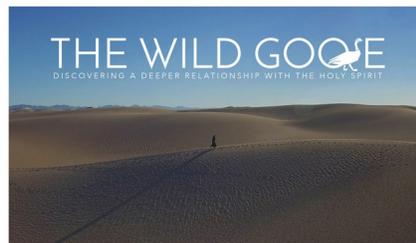
February 21, 2021

It's easy and free to start enjoying FORMED!

WATCH

THE WILD GOOSE: EPISODE 10 THE SPIRIT AND THE DESERT

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.



Go to signup.formed.org
Type in and click on: Amherstburg-Harrow Catholic Family of Parishes
Register with your name and email address
Check that email account for a link to begin using Formed

ENJOY!

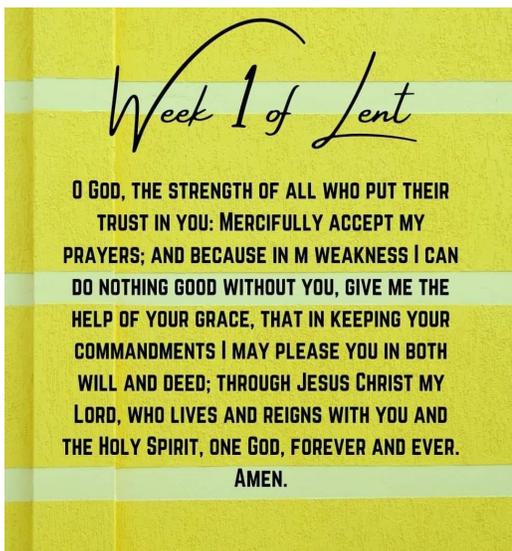
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



Pastoral Minister

Dear Parishioners,

I pray that your first week of Lent is off to a good start. It is a blessing and joy to be able to celebrate Mass in-person again this weekend. I look forward to seeing many of you.



This week, we are having our final session of The Search. It has been a great experience for all. We are holding our retreat tomorrow (Feb 20). Please keep the participants in your prayers.



Prayer Series with Father Matt:

As Father Matt has mentioned, he will be beginning a new 4-part Prayer Series that will begin on Thursday March 4 through Zoom. If you would like to join us for this new event, please email me at kbornais@dol.ca so that the zoom link can be sent to you.

LAST CALL FOR LENT PACKAGES!

I have created Lent Please email me if you would like one of these packages delivered to you or picked up here at the office: kbornais@dol.ca.



Blessings,
Kim

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

62 King St. E., Harrow



Sunday February 21st

4PM—6PM

Roast beef dinner, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, dinner roll & homemade dessert

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