



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 Avenue West Harrow, ON N0R 1G0

 Amherstburg-Harrow Catholic Family of Parishes

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

Marc Prall

Finance Committee Chair

Sharon Pillon

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

Saturday - Amherstburg 11am - 12noon

or by appointment 519-736-5418

Holy Matrimony

Contact the parish office one year

prior to your wedding

March 7, 2021
3rd Sunday of Lent



Third
SUNDAY
IN
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

John 2:13-25

Jesus drives out the moneychangers from the Temple and says that he will destroy the temple and raise it up again.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.

Weekday Mass & Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 6pm Harrow

† *Maria Vieira by Marla & Tony Carreira*
† *Jose & Maria Pedro by Delphina & Jose Pereira*
† *Theresia Schwager by AHCFOF*

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9am Amherstburg

† *Margaret Buhlman by AHCFOF*
† *Delores Specht by Olga & Leonard Beaudoin*
† *Pietro DiPasquale by Debbie & Carmen Simone*
Sp. Int. Irene Deneau by Denise Bratt & Family
Sp. Int. Carole Jones by Denise Bratt & Family

Thursday, March 11, 2021 9am Harrow

† *Donna Brimner by AHCFOF*
† *Maria Carreira by Marie & Jose Carreira*
Sp. Int. for the Abreu Family by Sizaltina Abreu

Friday, March 12, 2021 9am Amherstburg

Sp. Int. for the Vandermuren Family by Drina
Sp. Int. for all who have suffered abuse and for their abusers by Marilyn Goggin



Please join us every Wednesday from
1pm to 3pm and 7pm—9pm

For Adoration

St John the Baptist Church - 225 Brock Street
Amherstburg

Divine Mercy Hour at St John the Baptist Church
Every Friday afternoon at 3pm in the church proper
Come and pray for mercy on the whole world.



Parish Giving

February 28, 2021

St. John the Baptist Parish

Regular Sunday Offertory	\$6,535.30
Building Fund	\$3,665.00
eTransfer for February	\$2,210.00
Pre-Authorized Payments: (PAP)	
Regular Sunday Offertory	\$2,204.50
Capital Account	\$ 998.83
Fund Raiser Gift Card Profit YTD	\$ 278.00
On Going Profit to Date	\$313,810.74

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Regular Sunday Offertory	\$1,622.00
eTransfer for February	\$ 45.00
Pre-Authorized Payments: (PAP)	
Regular Sunday Offertory	\$691.25
Capital Account	\$ 53.62

..... Thank you for your generosity



Which Set of Readings This Week?

As we come to the third through fifth weeks of Lent, there are two options for the readings we can select. Every year that a parish has catechumens preparing for initiation at the Easter Vigil, the recommend choices are the readings from Year A. These readings correspond to the scrutinies that the catechumens participate in for each of those weeks. When catechumens are not present, as is the case this year, then we are encouraged to follow the usual readings for that year, which for 2021 will be following the Year B cycle. So rather than hear the story of the woman at the well, we will be hearing the story of Jesus throwing out the money changers in the Temple. This is linked to the first reading of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God.

As God revealed to Moses and as Jesus illustrated to the people of his day, God, and His ways, need to be respected. It is for our benefit to do so. God gave us the Commandments out of love, not out of punishment. The Commandments help us to live better lives and assist us to fulfil what it means to be fully human. Likewise, Jesus was challenging the people to keep holy the place of worship. The greedy money changers were exploiting the people who were trying to fulfill the sacrificial practices of the day. Rather than the Temple being a place to worship God and for people to engage in a relationship of communion with God, it was being turned into a corrupt place of business. Just as our bodies need nightly sleep, our souls need regular rest too. Going to a place of worship allows the soul to rejuvenate. The money changers were not making the Temple area a place of peace nor a place of encountering God. As we continue our journey of Lent, perhaps we need to evaluate how we are following the Commandments. Do we see them merely as suggestions or as the path to union with God? Do we take the time each week to find a place to encounter God (the ideal would be at church, but with COVID maybe that is not possible, so we need to have an alternative “prayer space”)? Our souls need to rejuvenate, are we giving them that opportunity?

50th Anniversary

This weekend we are celebrating the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Bill and Bonnie Reeves. We congratulate them on this special milestone. And we thank them for the witness that their years of marriage have shown to all those they know. In honour of this occasion, Bill and Bonnie’s children have donated a new cope (a liturgical vestment worn by the priest at various non-Eucharistic celebrations) to the church in their name. Thanks to the children and our best wishes to the “bride and groom of 50 years”.

Reminder of Us Getting Back to “normal”

Now that we were given permission to re-open for Mass, we are also going to start returning back to some of our spiritual devotions. So starting this week we will once again have times for Adoration. We have decided to change our Adoration times to Wednesday only (i.e. we are moving the Thursday evening time). Thus we will open the church for **Adoration Wednesday from 1:00 – 3:00pm and 7:00 – 9:00pm**. We will be following the same protocols as before the lockdown – people must sign in when they arrive, keep socially distant, limited number of participants, etc. We are also going to begin praying again the **Divine Mercy Hour at 3:00pm on Fridays**. We will still continue praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet on our Facebook page each Friday at 3:00pm.

Reminder: Prayer Series with Father Matt

This past week we had our first session of our series on “prayer”. Overall it seemed to go okay (I am still adapting to virtual teaching). For those who missed session one, contact Kim and you can watch a recorded version. In the remaining three weeks we will look at “what is relational prayer”, “what is Lectio Divina”, and “what is praying with one’s senses and the Art of Prayer Journaling”. Each session, I will share some “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: 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: Mandatory Masks

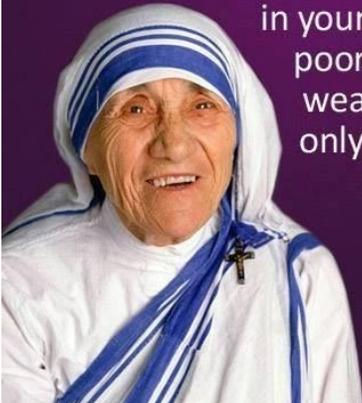
We would like to remind you that masks (not face shields) are required by provincial law in all public buildings, which includes churches. The exemption remains in place for those who have a medical condition and for children under the age of two. Those who refuse to wear masks without a proper exemption 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.

As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... **'Repent and believe'** Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor—He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.



— Bl. Teresa of Calcutta



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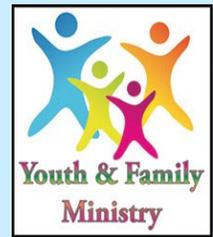
Sunday Chuckle

God was talking to one of his angels and said, "Do you know what I have just done? I've just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on Earth. Isn't that great?" The angel said, "Yes, but what will you do now?" God said, "I think I'll call it a day."





First Eucharist: The families of the children who are registered for our spring First Eucharist celebrations have been emailed the dates and instructions on how to sign up for a particular celebration. If you have not received an email and you received a package of materials before March 1st, please contact Lisa in the parish office.



Confirmation: The last date to register for this Spring's confirmation program is March 15th, 2021. Please contact Lisa for details and to register. Please continue to pray for our young people, their families, and catechists.

Family & Youth Ministry Committee: I am looking to put together a committee of parishioners who are interested in helping assess the needs of our Families and Young people and can help formulate a plan to move forward. Meetings would be held monthly, and I am asking for a year commitment. If you think you might be interested please contact Lisa in the parish office for further details.

Family Easter Escape Room: If you would be interested in participating in a family Easter Escape Room experience (done from the comfort and safety of your own home) please send Lisa an email for information. Imagine using codes and puzzles to solve 4 mysteries tied to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ!!

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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

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FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

March 7, 2021

WATCH

EVERYDAY HEROES

Heroism isn't restricted to decorated soldiers or persecuted saints. It's something achievable for all of us even in our ordinary lives. In this documentary, see how the Knights of Columbus have embodied this everyday heroism!



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



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!

Columbus Community Hall
190 Richmond Street
Amherstburg, ON

FRIDAY FISH FRY

TAKE OUT ONLY

4:30PM—6:30PM

1 PC OF Fish.....\$9.00

2pcs of Fish.....\$12.00

3pc Chicken Dinner.....\$9.00

Kids Meal.....\$6.00 *Chicken or Fish*

Includes: dinner roll, baked potato or fries, cole slaw



Everyone is Invited!!

Support our Knights of Columbus



Pastoral Minister

Come and learn more about prayer!

The first session of the Prayer Series with Fr Matt went very well. It continues on Thursday at 7pm through zoom. It is not too late to sign up! Simply email me or call the office to get the zoom invitation.

“Thirsting for God?”

Do you know someone non-baptized or baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition, who is thirsting for what it means to become Catholic? Do you know someone already Catholic but has not yet received Confirmation and Communion? They may be thirsting too!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a place to ask questions and seek understanding. Please contact me for more information: kbor-nais@dol.ca



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

It is such a joy to be back at Mass with everyone. I am very grateful to our wonderful Ministers of hospitality. Please remember that in order for us to be able to celebrate Mass in person, volunteers are essential! If you are interested in helping out, please contact me.

Have a blessed week!

Kim

Prayer Series





DIOCESE OF LONDON

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

1070 WATERLOO STREET
LONDON, ONTARIO N6A 3Y2
CANADA
519-433-0658
FAX: 519-266-4353

1 March 2021

To: The Faithful of the Diocese of London

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We have begun our Lenten journey. It is a time, Pope Francis says, 'both to journey toward God and toward our brothers and sisters'.

In his recent encyclical letter, *Fratelli tutti* (FT), the pope proposes for us a way of life marked by the flavour of the Gospel. It is a call to love others as brothers and sisters; a call to love with a new vision of fraternity, solidarity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words (FT 3). It is in this spirit, that I invite you to enter Lent and to support this year's Share Lent Campaign: **Share Love, Share Lent**.

The vision of our Diocese is to be a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus. During the Lenten season, the Church highlights the call to conversion and discipleship for all its members as we prepare to encounter the Risen Christ on Easter morning. Lent is a special time for prayer, fasting and giving alms. We take on these traditional practices to make room in our hearts, minds and lives for God and to open ourselves to Christ-like habits – praying for and reaching out to those in need by sharing with them our time and treasure.

The Gospel calls us to love God and neighbor and to demonstrate our love in service. In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-17), we see that this love is to extend to all people. This parable, the pope emphasizes, shows us that "love does not care if a brother or sister in need comes from one place or another. For love shatters the chains that keep us isolated and separate; in their place, it builds bridges. Love enables us to create one great family, where all of us can feel at home" (FT 62).

I am writing to express my support for the annual Share Lent Campaign, organized by the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, and to ask you to be generous in supporting this year's campaign.

Attached to this letter, I am providing an Update on the *Joint Review of CCODP's International Partners*. I encourage you to visit the CCODP website at www.devp.org. To learn more about the 2021 *Share Love, Share Lent* Campaign and the many excellent resources available, click on the Resources/Share Lent link. Information about the Share Year-Round monthly giving plan and its benefits is available at www.devp.org/shareyearround.

May the Lord strengthen us in our Lenten journey. May it be for us a time to grow closer to Jesus as missionary disciples.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Ronald Fabbro, C.S.B.
Bishop of London

Diocese of London: *Being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus*



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Update – Joint Review of CCODP's International Partners

In 2017, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) commenced a joint review of the international partner organizations that were receiving project funding from CCODP. The review, which was done by representatives of the CCCB and CCODP, was initiated to investigate a number of concerns raised by dioceses and the Catholic faithful that positions taken by the partners were in conflict with Catholic teaching. During this investigation, CCODP assured the Bishops that Share Lent contributions would not be used for any partners under review.

In a joint press release on 25 February 2021, the CCCB and CCODP announced that they had concluded the review. The final report was approved by both organizations.

As a result of the review, several critical steps will be undertaken to implement changes regarding the international partnership program. Among these changes are:

- revision of the CCODP Partnership Policy;
- development of new criteria for partner selection and review;
- creation of a new International Partnership Committee, which will include representatives of the CCCB, to review, approve and monitor all partnerships.

The CCCB is pleased with the review. The Bishops believe that a renewed system for managing international partnerships will be more transparent and ensure CCODP's Catholic identity, vision, mission and expectations.

In his recent letter, the CCCB President, Archbishop Richard Gagnon, expressed the support of the CCCB for the 2021 Share Lent campaign. Going forward, the implementation of the review's recommendations will strengthen the CCCB and CCODP as we work collaboratively to alleviate poverty, suffering and injustices in the world.

Further information regarding the joint review can be found at the following: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/canadian-conference-of-catholic-bishops-and-the-canadian-catholic-organization-for-development-and-peace-caritas-canada-conclude-joint-review-of-ccodps-international-partner-organiz/>.

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, C.S.B.
Bishop of London
1 March 2021

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Sunday March 21st

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