



Our Parish Family

Our Lady Help of Christians

432 Victoria Street
Watford, Ontario N0M 2S0
519-876-3240



St. Christopher's

68 Union Street,
Forest Ontario N0N 1J0
519-786-5243



A welcoming Catholic faith community who gathers to celebrate the Word of God as a Eucharistic People.

Pastoral Team

Pastoral Administrator:

Father Mark B. Maloney
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Forest Office:

Sarah Minten
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Watford Office:

Martha Moons
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Financial:

Connie Burns
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Deacons:

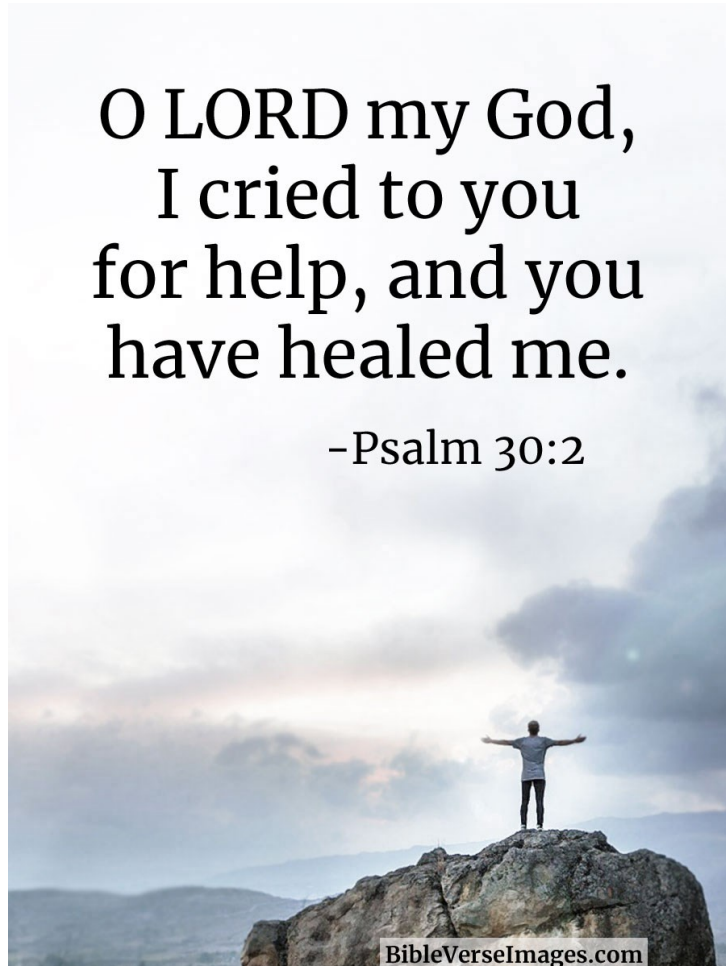
Tony Hogervorst
519-670-0891
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John Lammers

519-490-3832
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O LORD my God,
I cried to you
for help, and you
have healed me.

-Psalm 30:2



Revised Office Hours and Church Closures

**Effective until April 30th the churches and offices are closed.
We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.**

As I try to provide you with words that may help to ease the strain of this unprecedented global event, I have to be honest and say, I really do not know what to say. But I will try.

If you recall the horrific event of September 11, 2001, then you may also remember the security changes made, and their impact it had upon air travel, and still does to this day. The downing of the towers unified the people of the United States, as well as some countries. Nineteen years later and it seems that we have slipped into complacency, thereby causing divisions both within our country and with other countries.

The fallout and changes we are likely going to make in light of the current COVID-19 crisis will not fully be known for months. So I would like to share with you what little we know, and what we, as a diocese, are responding. The following is a portion of Bishop Fabbro's letter to us all.

"After consulting with public health officials, we decided that it is our responsibility as citizens to work together with others in our communities to take measures to minimize the spread of COVID-19, and to care for those who are sick and most vulnerable as a result of this virus. Even now, health officials cannot predict when the outbreak will end. We cannot take a chance and must do all we can to protect people. This includes the cancellation of Masses and the celebration of other Sacraments. We are making these sacrifices out of charity and for the sake of the common good. This Lenten season, we are united in prayer for those who are suffering from COVID-19 and for those who are caring for them."

I encourage all our faithful to be vigilant about personal cleanliness and keeping appropriate distances from others. At the beginning of this crisis, I was hoping that in the future we would look back over these days and consider them perhaps an over-reaction.

However, learning about the death of my friend's aunt last week caused by COVID-19, brings it a little closer to home. Please join me in continually praying every day for the families who suffer the loss of their loved ones; and the front line medical workers get everything they need to care for our sick.

Together, we can weather this storm that has enveloped the world, by trying to be the people God created so we too could help others. I would encourage everyone to check-in on a neighbour that you know is alone. We are organizing a plan to do what we can for our people. Until we can finalize a plan, please don't hesitate to contact Fr. Mark-519-476-9069 or either of the Deacons; Tony- 519-670-0891 and John- 519-490-3832.

May God continue to provide us with the strength and courage will need for the next several months, this is something we have never experienced before and hopefully never again.

--- Your Cluster Pastoral Team

YOUTH CORNER!

REACH Camp 2020 Registration is now open!! There is a limit of 50 kids this year and the cost \$50/kid for the week.

For a registration form please email Kayla at olhcconnection@gmail.com or Sarah at sminten@dol.ca.

March Youth Night will be held on Thursday, March 19th in the OLHC basement.

Grades 5 and up welcome from both parishes - **CANCELLED**



STARVE - A - THON is happening again this year. It will start on Holy Thursday, April 9th at 6 pm in the OLHC basement. It will end on Good Friday, April 10th at 5 pm, with a potluck supper. We are looking for adult volunteers to spend the night. If you are interested in helping out and have a police check,

please contact Kayla at olhcconnection@gmail.com - **CANCELLED**

SAVE THE DATE - April 25th at Thuss' greenhouse planting flowers for the mother's of our parish!

More info to come!





Forest SVDP

The SVDP Forest Council is in need of a replacement as their Chairperson. The current chairperson has to step back because of professional and personal commitments. Any person interested please email John Fontaine jfontaine@execulink.com

St Christopher's Team Trivia Night on Friday April 03 at 7 pm at church hall

Come alone or with friends - Everyone's Welcome! Great Prizes! + 50/50 draw!

\$10 per person at the door or tickets will be available after weekend Masses on March 21/22 and March 28/29

Played in teams of 6. Refreshments provided.



CANCELLED

Cluster Parish Dinner

The Annual Parish Dinner will be held on **Sunday, March 29th** at Centennial Hall, Watford.

The doors open at 6:00 pm, and dinner at 6:30 pm.

Our entertainment this year will be the vocal talents of Nancy Bodsworth and her sister Ginny Hogervorst. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults and \$6.00 for kids 6-12 years old, under 6 is free.

Tickets will be available at both Parish offices or from Ted Minten.



CANCELLED

Forest Lenten Lunches

St. Christopher's will be hosting the Lenten lunches this year!

They will be held every Wednesday until April 1st.

Lunch starts at 12:00 noon and wraps up around 1:00 pm.

Come out and enjoy lunch with friends and neighbours as we journey through Lent!



CANCELLED

Watford Lenten Lunches

The Watford United Church will be hosting the Lenten lunches.

They will be held every Tuesday until March 31st.

Lunch starts at 12:00 noon and wraps up around 1:00 pm.

OLHC will be speaking on March 24th with the CWL making the lunch. Come out and enjoy lunch with friends and neighbours as we journey through Lent!

CANCELLED

COKEBURY'S VBS
KNIGHTS OF NORTH CASTLE

Registration Now Open!!

Registration Forms in the Narthex!

Date July 20 - 24, 2020

Place Kimball Hall

Address 6276 Townsend Line, Forest

Time 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Ages JK (Completed) to Grade 7

There Was A Waitlist Last Year, So Don't Wait!



WE ARE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!

Our Lady Help of Christians and St. Christopher's invites you to a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Doors open at 5:30 pm - Supper at 6:00 pm

Warwick Fire Hall - 7074 Egremont Rd

POSTPONED

If you are a volunteer with a ministry or committee, please pick up an invitation in the Narthex. RSVP required by March 31, 2020.

Spouses Welcome!

He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Psalm 91:4