

**EXETER
ST. JOSEPH
GRAND BEND**



**ZURICH
GODERICH
MT. CARMEL**

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—CLOSED

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
8:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

OFFICE INFORMATION

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GODERICH, ONTARIO
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TEL. 1-877-450-6414
LAKEHURONCATHOLIC@DOL.CA
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OFFICE LOCATED MT. CARMEL

WEEKEND MASSES

GODERICH

SATURDAY 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M.

GRAND BEND

SUNDAY 8:30 A.M.

ZURICH

SATURDAY 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 8:30 A.M.

EXETER

SUNDAY 8:30 A.M.

MOUNT CARMEL

SATURDAY 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M.

St. JOSEPH

SUNDAY 11:00 A.M.

PRAYER LINE REQUESTS

st.p.prayerline@gmail.com

Being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021 — 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear friends in Christ,

Just two weeks ago, I invited everyone to reflect upon the gifts God has given you and consider answering God's call by becoming a lay leader who will assist us in forming disciples of Jesus. I added that we would even provide training for all our lay leaders. I had hoped that many would have immediately dropped everything they were doing and called me to respond to this invitation to become a lay leader in our Family of Parishesjust like Andrew and Peter, James and John did when Jesus called them to follow him. Peter and Andrew dropped their nets and James and John left their father in the boat.

The readings today call us to something radically different. In the first reading, Jonah is called by God to go to Nineveh. God says, "Announce to them the message that I will tell you." But God doesn't tell Jonah what the message is. Jonah had to trust God and take Him at His word, not knowing what would it be like in Nineveh or how long would it take the people to turn back to God? Yet, this wasn't what Jonah needed to know to fulfill God's plan. Jonah simply needed to act. He just needed to say yes and move forward with trust.

In the gospel, the call of the Apostles takes on the same tone. Jesus beckons them to simply follow him. This call doesn't come after a long convincing speech on how following him will practically take place. There are no lists of steps they need to complete before they can officially be his Apostles. There is just a radical call to drop everything and, in that moment, decide whether they will follow Jesus or not. Even though the road is unknown to them, they are called by God, and in that moment, they have a decision to trust the one who is calling them, or to hesitate and feel the need to be in control and know exactly which way this "yes" will take them.

PASTORAL TEAM

PASTOR: REV. ANTOINE (TONY) LAFORET-X-222
ASSOCIATE PASTORS: REV. MATTHEW GEORGE-X-224 AND REV. VINCE GULIKERS-X-223
PASTORAL WORKER: LISA MASELLI-X-225
DEACONS: JOHN LAMMERS-X-235, BRIAN McDONALD, FRED TRUCHON

PARISH STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER: JIM VAN LANEN-X-240
OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS: TINA BOUTILIER-X-221 AND JANE LANSBERGEN-X-200
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATORS: KAREN KESTER-X-242 AND LORI LAPORTE-X-241

And so, they boldly follow the call of God and trust that He would take care of the rest. This is the same call that Jesus is asking of us today. In our everyday lives, will we trust God in what He sends us, or will we try to control everything? "Come, follow me," Jesus says to you and me. It is up to us to let go of our inclination to maintain control of every little bit of how our lives will unfold. God is trustworthy and true, and when He calls us, He will provide all the means necessary for our happiness and holiness.

Therefore, let's be bold like the examples in the readings this weekend. Jesus is calling to us right now, today! Let's answer that call by whatever form it comes. It could be to put down the phone during meals and be present to family. It might be to stop making excuses and help serve at the soup kitchen. Maybe it's to finally confess that really difficult sin that we've been struggling with. Maybe it's reaching out to a person who looks lonely. Or maybe it's responding to be a leader in your parish and help others grow in their faith. Whatever it is, big or small, let us have the courage to let go of our own plans and simply act by responding to Jesus' call, "Come, follow me" with deep trust in our loving God.

Our Pastoral Team has begun planning for the sacrament of First Reconciliation. Parents who wish to register their children for First Reconciliation can find a registration form on our website or may receive it from their child's school. Simply fill out the registration form and email it to Lisa Maselli at lmaseilli@dol.ca or myself, Fr. Tony at tlaforet@dol.ca. We will contact parents when we receive these registration forms and inform you when our online classes for parents will begin. These online classes will be lead by members of our Pastoral Team and supported by parish lay leaders who will be ready to assist and walk with you, the parents.

We are still praying for parishioners who will volunteer their time and answer God's call to become a lay leader. These leaders will assist parents and support their efforts in raising their children in the Catholic faith as they promised at their child's baptism. We will provide training for all our lay leaders. Please contact me, tlaforet@dol.ca or Lisa Maselli, lmaseilli@dol.ca if you are willing to respond to this request.

We are in need of a new recording secretary for our Parish Pastoral Council. Please consider this invitation to help us lead our Family of Parishes. With six parishes working together, it will take a team effort to build the church; this Family of Parishes, to be a beacon of hope and to serve the community; especially the poor among us.

Our Tech Team is now meeting once a week to review ongoing improvements to our website. Please check out our website for a new look this weekend and for the latest information in our Family of Parishes.

If you have not heard, there is a new film series available based of the life of Jesus called The Chosen. Here's the link <https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen>.

Please note that the sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered by appointment only during this lockdown.

Finally, please consider phoning our parishioners who are either elderly and/or are isolated during this lockdown. They may be in need of groceries or just a friendly reminder that they are not forgotten. This type of outreach, along with praying for others, is just another great way to respond and live our baptismal call!

Fr. Tony
Pastor of the Lake Huron Catholic Family of Parishes

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF
January 25 — 31, 2021**

MONDAY: January 25

(We pray for Deacon Richard Heath)
Marjorie Medinger — Kevin & Janet McKinnon
Tony Regier — Kathryn Regier
Int. of Ann Skinner — St. Boniface C.W.L.

TUESDAY: January 26

(We pray for Rev. Michael Dwyer)
Albena Bedard — Estate
Ann Hagan — Peg Hagan
Michael Essery — Mom & Dad

WEDNESDAY: January 27

(We pray for Nives Davies: Pastoral Minister)
Edward Mommersteeg — I.H.M. C.W.L.
Int. of Martha Overholt — St. Boniface C.W.L.
Annie Bertens — Francis & Doreen Hartman

THURSDAY: January 28

(We pray for Rev. Sebastin Pakiyanathan, C.R.)
Int. of Leonard Abraham — John Paul & Barb Rau
Jonathon O'Connor — Family
Tim Glavin — Mary Pavkeje

FRIDAY: January 29

(We pray for Kathryn Heemsher: Pastoral Minister)
Ed Mittelholtz — Cecilia & Family
Int. of Alicia & William Lobb & Fam. — Gerry & Debbie Pennings
Jeanne Laframboise — Steve & Pat Meidinger

SATURDAY: January 30

(We pray for Rev. Franklin Mizzi, C.S.B.)
Patricia Tyndall — St. Peter's C.W.L.

SAT.: Jan. 30 — 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUN.: Jan. 31 — 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Our Family of Parishes

Mass Intentions & Mass Cards

A reminder that Mass Intentions are chosen at random unless a specified date is requested.

If you are wanting a Mass Card or wish to request that a Mass be celebrated, please email the office with your request. Masses are \$10.00.

Ontario in A State of Emergency



On January 14, we started a State of Emergency in the province due to the COVID-19 pandemic. **During this time the parish offices and churches remain closed.** The staff are working from home to keep our volunteers and parishioners safe as we are all encouraged to remain at home. All of our celebrations continue to be live-streamed.

Please see the link below for the most recent announcement from Bishop Fabbro:

<http://www.forums.dionet.ca/parishbriefings/Shared%20Documents/2021-01-January/2021%2001%2013%20COVID-19%20Update-16.pdf>

We pray for an end to the pandemic and remember all frontline and essential workers who help us live day to day. Only together can we take care of each other and get through this difficult time.

Share Lent: Development & Peace

The 2021 Share Lent Campaign upcoming workshop will be held virtually on Wed., Feb. 10. 7-8 p.m. Please click on the link below for more details.

<https://lhcfp.dol.ca/news/share-lent-development-and-peace-workshop>

Employment Opportunity

A part-time caretaker is needed for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (approx. 6-8 hours per week). Duties include cleaning, minor repairs and maintenance. If interested, please call the parish offices or email Jim Van Lanen, jvanlanen@dol.ca

Diocese of London

For the most current information we urge to visit the diocesan website: <https://www.dol.ca/>

Are you experiencing a sense of Change?

Can you envision **what a fully active Family of Parishes would look like, feel like and sound like?** Please email your response to our Pastor: tlaforet@dol.ca

Please visit our website at: <https://www.lhcfp.dol.ca/>

Please Reach out to Others



Please remember to reach out to family, friends or neighbors who may be vulnerable, even if face-to-face contact isn't possible. Please call, Facebook Messenger, Facetime (those who are with apple products) or Skype, with those who may need assistance.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: during this time of isolation, our Churches are challenged to get together, to witness publicly in the world and to renew our relationship with Christ, the true vine. This year's Gospel theme, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit." (*John* 15:5-9) promises a sure response to our troubled times. Please consider joining with your sister Churches in a virtual Bible Study sharing session this coming week from Tuesday to Friday at 12:30 p.m. To register, please email mgeorge@dol.ca ; the Week's resources can be found at <https://bit.ly/3iul53s>

Helping our Brothers and Sisters!

A member of our parish family is in need of permanent housing; a single mom with three young children. She has exhausted all efforts to find accommodation through the usual agencies and is in desperate need of our help. If anyone knows of an apartment or small house which might suit this family's needs, please call the Parish Office or email Fr. Tony at tlaforet@dol.ca.

Remember Matthew 25 : 40. "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

4 Ways to Donate to Our Family of Parishes

E-Transfers: simply send funds from your account to your parish site: St. Peter's, Goderich stpetersgh@dol.ca

St. Boniface - stboniface@dol.ca

St. Peter's, St. Joseph's - stpeter@dol.ca

IHM - [ihmgrandbend@dol.ca](mailto:ihtmgrandbend@dol.ca)

Precious Blood - preciousblood@dol.ca

OLMC - ourladymc@dol.ca

PAD : sign-up and donate from your account.

Please contact Lori or Karen for more information: 1-877-450-6414.

Envelopes: during the pandemic you may mail or drop them off at the parish office.

Pllenty: Donate with your credit card via our Pllenty link at the parish website under **DONATE**.

<https://lhcfp.dol.ca/donate>

Updated News Bill C-7

Please click on the link provided and please consider taking action.

<https://www.dol.ca/news/update-on-bill-c-7-medical-assistance-in-dying-maid>

Special Collections

World Mission Sunday – Collected Feb. 6/7, 2021.

No printed materials will be distributed. Please see the link below.



<http://www.forums.dionet.ca/parishbriefings/Shared%20Documents/2021-01-January/World%20Mission%20Sunday%20Announcement.pdf>

Retrouvaille Weekends – Upcoming Dates for Windsor and London

The Windsor Retrouvaille Community is holding a virtual Retrouvaille weekend starting Thursday, February 11 until Sunday, February 14. Space is limited and the deadline for Registration is January 31. Interested couples should go to the Windsor Retrouvaille [website](#) to register. London/ St Thomas Retrouvaille is hoping to have an in-person weekend in London, that will adhere to the appropriate government mandated COVID-19 protocols, on Friday, April 9 until Sunday, April 11. If we are in lockdown, we will offer a virtual weekend. Couples must register at www.retrouvaillelondon.com as space is limited and confidentiality is assured.

Laudato Si' Resources

The special Anniversary Year for Laudato Si' runs until May 24, 2021. The Pastoral Services office has compiled links to several additional resources to help promote Pope Francis' encyclical: -From the Archdiocese of Ottawa: Care for God's Creation - A Guide for Parishes in [French](#) and [English](#) -A Laudato Si' [study guide](#) and a [backgrounder](#) on the Green New Deal by the Jesuit Forum for Social Faith -A statement from the Assembly Catholic Bishops of Quebec (in [English](#))