

**PRAY PLEASE FOR:**

**Holy Souls In Purgatory**

*Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).*

**WEEK AT A GLANCE (Mar 11- 17)**

<b>Mon</b>	1:30 pm	Bible Study
	4:00 pm	SSVP Executive/Membership Meeting
	8:00 pm	AA
<b>Tues</b>	1:30 pm	Celebrate the Word
	7:30 pm	Baptism Preparation Meeting
	8:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting
<b>Wed</b>	9:30 am	Rosary
	10:30 am	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion
	5:00 pm	Friendship Dinner
	6:30 pm	Folk Choir Practice
<b>Thurs</b>	11:30 am	Jollymakers - Bingo
<b>Fri</b>	9:30 am	Divine Mercy Chaplet
	10:30 am	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
	11:45 am	Benediction
	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
	7:00 pm	Ultreya
<b>Sat</b>	8:00 am	Confessions before Mass
	9:30 am	Confessions until 10:00 am
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Saint Patrick's Day</b>	
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	3:00 pm	Family Catechism

*In the event of a funeral Mass on Wednesday or Friday, Mass will be cancelled and the Mass Intentions will be offered at the funeral.*

*Knights of Columbus Can Collection*

**Altar Server (March 12 & 14)** Addison Wills

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY – MAR 2/3**

Regular Envelope	\$ 6628.50
Initial Envelope	\$ 20.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 5.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 295.00
Loose	\$ 347.00
Capital/Building Fund	<u>\$1239.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 8534.50</u>



**SCENTS AT ST. MARY'S**

We ask that all parishioners and visitors beware that heavy perfumes and scents can cause allergic reactions and sensitivities for those around them. Please be mindful of this when you come to St. Mary's.

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE (March 16/17)**

**Saturday (5 pm)**

Commentator: Moma Fardella  
 1st, 2nd Lector: Ed DeDecker, Carla Matos  
 Gift Bearer: Veronica Holly  
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Dave Bertling, Linda Bertling, Heather Campbell, Valerie Claessens  
 Greeter: Dave & Ellen Devlin  
 Rosary: Adele Armstrong

**Sunday (9 am)**

Commentator: Mae Feeney  
 1st, 2nd Lector: Anne Stancek, Andrew Stancek  
 Gift Bearers: Dustin Donais Family / Mike & Angila Donais

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Carol Van Moerkerke, Eric Van Moerkerke, Wim Vink, Barb Compeau  
 Greeter: Joanne Maertens  
 Rosary: John Oliveira

**Sunday (11 am)**

Commentator: Ed Roczen  
 1st, 2nd Lector: Heather Pelland, Stephan Pelland  
 Gift Bearers: John & Diane Monsere  
 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Ana Jayne, Ted Novakowski, Darlene Papaioannou, Norma Roczen  
 Greeter: Jack Parker

**MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS (Mar 11- 17)**

<b>Tues</b>	7:00 pm	Jeanne DeBruyn
<b>Wed</b>	10:00 am	Helen Borbely Nick Doneff
<b>Thurs</b>	3:30 pm	Mass- Maple Manor Agnes & Henry Vandegriendt
	7:00 pm	Richard Popp
<b>Fri</b>	10:00 am	Denis Turcotte John Van Damme
<b>Sat</b>	9:00 am	Monsignor O'Neil
	5:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Mary's
<b>Sun</b>	9 & 11 am	Parishioners of St. Mary's



We welcome into our faith community through the waters of baptism: **Dakota Addelyn La Forge**. May Dakota and her family always be guided by the Lord.



Let your roots go down into Christ, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.  
Colossians 2:7

**1ST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**From our "Celebrate the Word"**

Back in October of 1994 about 45 folks from our parish went on a trip to Rome and the Vatican to Greece and to the Holy Land. This pilgrimage excited the spiritual life of all who went but also many who were not able to go. There arose in our parish the desire for some kind of Bible Study, and especially in the heart of our then Pastoral Minister, Vicky Luki. And so, in 1996 she started a group of people who came together for an hour and a half each Tuesday to discuss the following Sunday's readings, and what they are saying to us in our lives today.

Now the original group did not have the prepared material that we use today, so a lot of the in depth preparation was done by Vicky before each get together. At that time this gathering was known as the "Sunday Readings Bible Study". Then as now, they shared their faith life with each other. How God was working in the everyday up and down experiences of family life, work life and social life. Indeed, in everything that makes a person "who they are". It's all part of the discussion. Putting oneself in the readings, helps to make them come alive, and new insights are gained. That's the beauty of the holy Scripture, isn't it? One always sees and experiences something different and when you think you've got something figured out, "WHAM", someone shares an insight you've never thought of before.

And so, Vicky led this group until she retired in 2005. At that time Betty Greer became Pastoral Minister and she facilitated the get together's. It was Betty who connected with the "Congregation of the Resurrection" in Waterloo, Ontario. She had them forward their weekly "Celebrating the Word" material that we still use today.

In the fall of 2007, as I was going into my third year of formation to the Permanent Diaconate, Betty asked me to consider leading this group. I have to tell you folks, am I ever glad I said Yes!

Having this opportunity to get together with like minded folks to discuss the upcoming Sunday readings is one of my favorite ministries. Using the prepared handouts as a guide, between 8 to 16 people come together to share, to listen, to discover, to pray, to be there for each other, to laugh together, to share a tear.... Indeed, to be Jesus for one another. One of the wonderful things about this group is that between the beginning of September to this end of May, you just come as you can. There is no regiment to the get together's, although folks say they miss it if they can't be there.

Ok! For now, that's more than enough from me. If you have any questions or need more information, please let me know! By calling 519-879-6843. New faces are "Always Welcome"!  
Deacon Jack

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Tillsonburg, Ontario  
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**Parish Clergy and Staff**  
 Rev. John Pirt, Pastor  
 Andre De Decker, Deacon  
 Jack Grim, Deacon  
 Brian Hanley, Deacon  
 Colleen Hanley, Pastoral Minister  
 Teena Mendonca, Business Manager  
 Melissa Sioen, Secretary

**Office Hours:** Mon, Wed, Fri (9 am - 12 pm, 1 pm - 4 pm)

**Weekend Mass Schedule**  
 Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm  
 Sunday Masses: 9:00 am, 11:00 am

**Daily Mass**  
 Tuesday, Thursday: 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 am  
 Saturday: 9:00 am

**Reconciliation**  
 Saturday: 8:00 am -8:45 am & 9:30 am - 10:00 am or by appointment

**Children's "Sunday School"**  
 Oct to May, @ 9 am Mass

**Catholic Schools**  
 St. Joseph School: (519) 660-2783  
 Msgr. O'Neil School: (519) 660-2772  
 St. Mary's High School: (519) 675-4435

**Baptism Preparation**  
 Contact Father John, ext. 22

**Weddings**  
 By appointment, and 6 months notice

### **RCIA UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who adopted a catechumen/candidate. You should be receiving a letter in the mail some time this week!

This weekend at the 9 am Mass, our candidates for full communion into the Catholic Church will be celebrating the **Call to Lenten Renewal**. This Rite acknowledges the seriousness with which the baptized but uncatechized adults begin the Lenten season. With the entire community of the faithful, they are invited to use this whole season in preparation for the renewal of their baptismal promises at Easter. This marks the beginning of a period of final, more intense spiritual preparation for those seeking reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. This rite is celebrated with the parish community into which they seek membership.

Also this weekend our catechumens will travel to St. Peter's Cathedral in London for the **Rite of Election** at 3 pm. This Rite is celebrated at the Cathedral with the Bishop. This closes the lengthy formation of the catechumens' hearts and minds. It marks the beginning of a more intense preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation. Catechumens are expected to have undergone a conversion of mind and in action and developed a sufficient acquaintance with Christian teaching as well as a spirit of faith and charity. With deliberate will and an enlightened faith they must have the intention to receive the sacraments of the Church.

Please pray for our candidates, our catechumen and their sponsors, and may we all enter into more a intense spiritual preparation as we pray for a conversion of both mind and action in our own Lenten journey!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

Sunday School is a program for children who are age 3 (or toilet trained) until they enter grade 2 to help them learn the rituals of mass and hear the Gospel story in child friendly language, through craft and song. Father John, at the beginning of Mass, calls the children forward and they process to the Parish Centre with their leader and return to you during the offertory song. This year Sunday School will be available at the Sunday 9 AM Mass. For more information please contact Colleen Hanley ([chanley@dol.ca](mailto:chanley@dol.ca)) or call the office.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Vacation Bible School** is coming back this summer for one amazing week! Circle your calendars – St. Mary's will be hosting a "Cool Kingdom Party" July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>!

### **ST JOSEPH SCHOOL FEAST DAY**

Everyone is welcome to attend the St. Joseph School Feast Day Mass on Thursday March 21 at 9 am at St. Joseph School. It is so wonderful to see the little children celebrate their school's patron saint!

### **FIRST COMMUNION NEWS**

Our First Communion families have been busy at home completing their "Called to His Supper" workbooks. Next they will be participating in Learning Centres on Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> (3-8 pm), Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> (8 am-noon) or Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> (1-5 pm). Learning Centres help parents to share faith with their children in a non-intimidating, educational and enjoyable way. Children learn best when they are fully involved in the process. At each centre, children and their families share church teaching, Scripture, prayers, conversation and a fun activity!

### **HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY**

Our monthly High School Nights are the second Sunday of the month from 7-9 pm and our next night is this Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>. These nights are open to all high school students and will include games, faith formation, prayer and of course food! Why come? Be a part of a community of your peers who share values and views that will help you navigate the prevalent culture that is at school and in the media. We will be hosting High School Nights at the Parish Centre in Room 9. Please share this with all the high school aged youth in your life and we hope to see you next Sunday!

### **STEUBENVILLE TORONTO 2019 – CAN YOU HELP?**

On July 12-14, 2019 our parish will be sending a bus of youth going into high school or already in high school to this amazing Conference! If you have a child in grade eight they are eligible to come to Steubenville this year! Mark your calendars ... we all BELONG! The cost is \$200 which includes the conference, lodging, bussing and food. If you would like to offer some financial assistance to cover the cost for a young person to go to Steubenville – please contact Colleen Hanley - we are in need of your help with some young people who wish to go! Flyers are available at the back of the church for more information about this amazing conference!

### **FAMILY CATECHISM**

We are a group that offers family faith formation in a welcoming setting - teaching your children the fundamentals of the Catholic Faith with other like minded parents is fun and effective! We offer classes for JK - Gr. 9, as well as an adult video and discussion. Our next meeting is on Sunday, March 17 at 2:55 pm in the Father Langan Parish Centre. For more information please visit [www.famfi.ca](http://www.famfi.ca) or talk to John & Karin Lansink at 519-550-0304.

### **OXFORD RIGHT TO LIFE 44TH ANNUAL DINNER**

Thursday, April 4th, 2019, Covenant Christian Reformed Church, 410 Lansdowne Avenue, Woodstock, 6:00 pm Social, 6:30 pm Beef Dinner: \$20 adults, \$10 students. 8:00 pm Speaker: Jakki Jeffs, Executive Director, Alliance for Life Ontario, Topic: Pro-life witness, a timeless voice! Everyone is welcome to hear our speaker even if not attending the dinner. To reserve dinner tickets, call Bonnie 519-913-3533 by March 28th.

### **THE LEGACY OF ST. PATRICK - PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND**

As you enjoy a 10 day tour to the Emerald Isle, from September 24-October 3, 2019, you will experience the history, culture and faith of Ireland that came through the missionary efforts of St. Patrick in the 5th century. This pilgrimage includes visits to many historical churches as well as a visit to Knock, where in 1879, Mary appeared to 15 townspeople. In addition to your Irish Guide, as part of this pilgrimage, Fr. David Johnston and Fr. John Pirt will be offering daily Mass. Cost is \$2639 per person (Based on twin) - airfare extra. For further information, contact Cheryl Johnston, 855 St. Clair St., Chatham, ON N7L 0E9 Phone: 519-354-6040 or 1 877 735 5633 ext 6225 Email: [cjohnston@selloffvacations.com](mailto:cjohnston@selloffvacations.com).

### **CWL NEWS**

The Catholic's Women's League in the Diocese of London are asking all CWL councils to collect **ONLY SOCKS** for men, women & children. We hope to collect 2019 pairs of socks. These socks will be returned to the regions to be distributed in their respective areas as needed. "We are women helping those in need." **Please drop off socks in container in the new addition before April 13th.**

### **DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

This year's diocesan Day of Confessions is being planned for Wednesday, April 10. This special opportunity helps us to set aside our old ways, to be renewed in heart and soul, and to be reconciled with our merciful and loving God. As Pope Francis reminds us, confession is where we encounter Jesus. Confession times in our parish are: **9:00 am to 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm until finished.** Our diocesan website ([www.dol.ca](http://www.dol.ca)) offers some excellent resources and information about Lent and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### **CURSILLO NEWS**

There will be an Ultreya on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> in the Fr. Langan Parish Centre Library starting at 7:30 pm. Anyone interested in making a Cursillo weekend is welcome to attend.

### **WHERE IS CHRIST IN YOUR LIFE NOW?**

Take time to reflect and redirect your path. A Cursillo weekend can give you that time, and the spiritual food you need for reflection. Everyone is welcome – those who have fallen away or lapsed from the Church and those who regularly attend and want to renew their faith commitment: scheduled for March 21st-24th : Men's weekend; March 28th- 31st: Women's weekend For more information, call Andre & Bonnie De Decker 688-3248.

### **CASUAL NOON HOUR ASSISTANT WANTED**

Monsignor O'Neil Catholic Elementary School, Tillsonburg is currently accepting applications for an occasional Noon Hour Assistant. Approximately one hour per day during lunch hour. If interested please contact Beth Allison 519-660-2772 or by email : [ballison@ldcsb.ca](mailto:ballison@ldcsb.ca) .

### **LENTEN JOURNEY INFORMATION**

#### **LENT MATERIALS**

Please see the table at the back of the Church for Lenten materials for young and old! If you would like to offset the cost of purchasing materials please use the free will offering box found on the table.

#### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Weekly Stations of the Cross begin this Friday evening at 7 pm with the Catholic Women's League leading us in prayer.

#### **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Friday mornings during Lent, after the 10 am morning Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar for adoration. Benediction will conclude the period of adoration at 11:45 am. Come and spend an hour with Jesus.



#### **Share the journey with poor coastal communities in Tacloban, the Philippines**

In 2013, poor coastal communities in the Philippines saw their homes ravaged by Super Typhoon Haiyan. Thanks to your donations, Development and Peace and its local partners formed a consortium for the purchase of a piece of land that affected communities were empowered to transform into the Pope Francis Village.

Watch the documentary *After the Storm* to follow the inspiring journey of these communities: [devp.org/en/pilippines-documentary](http://devp.org/en/pilippines-documentary).

For more information, please contact Rita Bailey by email: [ruby101@sympatico.ca](mailto:ruby101@sympatico.ca) or Elena Luna at 1-647-561-1648 or email: [eluna@devp.org](mailto:eluna@devp.org).

#### **ST. MARY'S PRAYER CHAIN**

Interested in praying for others? It's time to do our annual update of the St. Mary's Prayer Chain. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please phone Andre & Bonnie De Decker 519-913-3533.

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

March 11, at 1:30 pm. Beginning with "Jesus blesses the children" Matthew 19.13-15. The bible is inspired by God, giving us the assurance that it faithfully expresses the truth God wants to reveal to us.

#### **2018 CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS**

The 2018 Charitable Donation Receipts are available in the new addition. Thank you for your co-operation in picking up your 2018 donation receipts.