

ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE PASTORAL APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES:

Last week Bishop Fabbro announced that our Family of Parishes, which includes Sacred Heart, Langton, St. Michael's, Walsh, St. Mary's, Tillsonburg will be activated in July 2020. The Priests who will be serving in this Family of Parishes starting in July 2020 will include Rev. Ben Huyge (Pastor), and Rev. Thomas Kuriacko C.S.T (Associate Pastor).

I will continue to serve as your Administrator (Pastor) until the end of June and then I will continue to serve the family as Associate Pastor.

All other staff members will continue to serve the Parish until June. Starting in July 2020 they will serve the new Family of Parishes.

The Diocese of London is in its third phase of implementation of Family of Parishes model. We have been working with and learning from our eight activated Families of Parishes and from other dioceses that have similar models of parish organization. The goal is to ensure that the transition of the next six months is as smooth as possible.

The Parishes of the diocese of London are moving to the Families of Parishes model in order to create the stability needed that will allow our parishes to continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and to form intentional disciples. This is our goal; this is the mission of the Church.

Nothing will change until July 2020, but you will hear about the changes that we will have to make in order to work together as a Family of Parishes. The transition team, which will be implemented by the newly named pastor, will be looking for your input on some of these changes in due course.

Like all families that grow and change, there will be bumps, bruises, and blessings on the way, but this change will open us up to new and marvelous ways of witnessing to Jesus in our world, our diocese, and our neighbourhood.

Together with our Family, eight more Families will be activated in July 2020.

Let us pray to the Holy Spirit and to Sacred Heart of Jesus and our patron saints for the success of this endeavour.

Fr. Thomas

Veritas Lecture

The Veritas series returns at King's University College, London, on Thursday, Jan. 23 at 7 pm with "That They May Be One." In the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and amidst polarizations, both within Christian traditions and between us, how is Jesus' prayer in John 17, "that they may be one..." being lived today?

The current climate of polarization drives wedges within and between Christian communities. Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Primate of the Anglican Church, will explore the signs of hope for unity. **Co-sponsored by the Ecumenical Commission of the Diocese of London.**

Parking and admission are free, goodwill donations are welcome. Facilities are wheelchair accessible. For more information please visit www.kings.uwo.ca/campus-ministry/veritas-series.

Save the Date

Day of Confessions

Every year during the season of Lent, the Diocese of London hosts the Day of Confession as a way to highlight the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our next annual diocesan Day of Confessions is being planned for Wednesday, April 1.

Reminder!

Moments of Encounter Weekend Retreat

January 18th 2020.

Location: St. Mary's Tillsonburg - 51 venison Street

Time: 9:00 am - 1:30 pm (Lunch is provided)

** You must be pre-registered**

JANUARY 12, 2020

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SACRED HEART PARISH

Sacred Heart Church
24 Albert St.
Langton, ON



St. Michael's Church
978 St. John's Road
Walsh, ON



Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 8:30 am (St. Michael's)
Sunday - 10:30 am

Daily Mass
Tues. - 5:00 pm
Wed. to Fri. 9:30 am

Reconciliation
20 min. prior to weekday mass
Sat. 4-4:45 pm
Sun. 8-8:20 am or by appt.(St. Michael's)

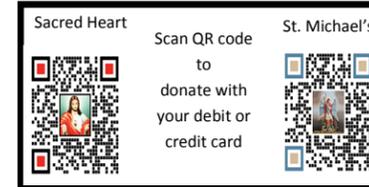
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Fr. Thomas e-mail: tckuriack@dol.ca



Sacred Heart Scan QR code to donate with your debit or credit card St. Michael's

Parish Clergy

Rev. Thomas Kuriacko, Pastor

Jack Grim, Deacon

Brian Hanley, Deacon

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 9 am - 4 pm

Baptisms - Contact Rev. Thomas - 6 months notice **Marriages** - Contact Rev. Thomas - one year notice required

Schools - Sacred Heart Langton - St. Michael's, Walsh - Our Lady of Fatima Courtland

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Today the church celebrates the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. With this feast, our church season of Christmas comes to a close because the baby Jesus has become a young man. Jesus' Baptism occurred about a quarter of a century after his birth and marked a new stage in his life as He leaves Nazareth and begins his public ministry. This Sunday is a chance to reflect not so much on Jesus' Baptism but on our own.

Baptism is often misunderstood because many people see it only as a moment when original sin is forgiven and nothing more than that. As important as what the sacrament of Baptism takes away is what it gives, because the sacrament of Baptism does more than erase original sin. It gives us a new identity as a disciple of Jesus Christ as we are immersed, bathed, washed, wrapped in Jesus Christ. It gives us a mission to continue the work of Jesus Christ. It gives us the equipment, access to the sacraments that enables us to complete that mission.

Our mission is to do what Jesus did. There are many opportunities to do that in our world today: to give witness to the sacredness of human life, the sanctity and priority of family life, to assume responsibility for the community in which we live, to be guided by the fact that the deepest truth about us is not in what we have but what we are. All this can be lost when we neglect the promises of our Baptism, the sacrament that gives us the key to holiness, the sacrament that unites us to the Church, the sacrament that makes us a part of Christ's work.

When we come into church and bless ourselves with baptismal water, we should be reminded of our identity, our Church and mission. That self-blessing with holy water should remind us that each of us has been touched and called by Christ personally in Baptism. That call can be ignored, neglected, forgotten, but is still there. That spiritual mark of Christ upon us in Baptism can either be a sign of what can happen in our life or what might have happened in our life.

In Baptism Jesus gave us an identity, a mission, and a destiny. Each time we come to Mass and each time we pray can be a time to embrace that identity, live that mission and take a step closer to that destiny.

"GOD BLESS YOU ALL!! HAVE A BLESSED WEEKEND!!"

Fr. Thomas

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE – SACRED HEART, LANGTON			
DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTION	BY
Tues Jan 14/20	5:00 pm	• For a family member struggling with health	• Suzanne
Wed Jan 15/20	9:30 am	• Mariette Sinnesael	• Yvonne Baswick
Thurs Jan 16/20	4:00pm	• Cressant Care	
Fri Jan 17/20	9:30 am	• Stella Loncke	• Wilfreda Loncke

DATES TO REMEMBER		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tues Jan 14/20	7:30 pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Wed Jan 15/20	7:00 pm	First Reconciliation

LITURGY ASSIGNMENTS FOR SACRED HEART, LANGTON	
JANUARY 18/19	
<u>Saturday (5 pm)</u>	
Lector:	Laura Boyd
Eucharistic Minister:	Wanda Demaiter
<u>Sunday (10:30 am)</u>	
Lector:	Liz Deli
Eucharistic Ministers:	Cindy Brooke, Ann Marie Claes

 We welcome into our faith community through the waters of baptism:

Luke Hahn A Jang Honaker & Benjamin Hahn Sol Jang Honaker. May they and their family always be guided by the Lord.

 Let us pray for **Sharon Brown** who have been called for their eternal reward and their bereaved family members that the Lord may comfort & console them.

2020 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES BOXED SETS
The 2020 boxed sets of Offertory Envelopes are available for pickup at the back of the church before and after all weekend Masses.

Activities within our Diocese

“UNPLANNED” FILM FREE SCREENING AND DISCUSSION
King’s Campus Ministry will offer a free screening of the film, “Unplanned,” which speaks to one of the most polarizing topics of our day. “Unplanned” brings us an eye-opening look inside the abortion industry from a woman who was once its most passionate advocate. The film presents the story of Abby Johnson, whose best-selling book of the same title gives voice to a woman who has been on both sides of the abortion conversation. All are welcome to attend on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7 pm in the Kenny Theatre, King’s University College, London.

RETROUVAILLE
Retrouvaille ("retro-vi" with a long i) has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels of distress including disillusionment and deep misery. The program is designed to provide the tools to help get marriages back on track. The next London-area Retrouvaille weekend is being planned for **Jan. 17 - 19**. The weekend retreat will be held at the Michaelite House in Melrose, Ontario (just North of London) To register, please visit www.helpourmarriage.com or call Greg and Anita Turner at 519-243-0687. In Windsor/Essex, the next weekend will be Windsor/Essex Retrouvaille will be the weekend of **Feb. 14 – 16** at Holy Family Retreat House. To register for the Windsor-area weekend, please call 1-800-705-6356 or email at 1015@retrouvaille.org

WEEKLY OFFERTORY – DEC 21/22, 2019	
St. Michael's	
Regular Sunday Envelope	\$ 305.00
Initial Envelope	\$ 85.00
New Year's Day	\$ 220.00
Loose	\$ 32.00
Building Fund	\$ 25.00
Sub-Total	\$ 667.00
Sacred Heart	
Regular Envelope	\$ 1,240.00
Initial Envelope	\$ 192.00
New Year's Envelope	\$ 886.00
Christmas	\$ 50.00
Loose	\$ 91.00
Building Fund	\$ 185.00
Sub-Total	\$ 2,644.00
Total	\$ 3,311.00



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – Some Musings
“This is my Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well pleased.”

Earth, fire, wind and water. In ancient Greek philosophy these were the four elements contained in all matter and through the years these elements have become part of our symbol iconography. In Biblical literature, passing through water means a change in the status of something or someone. Noah and his family survived the waters of the great flood to become a new creation. When the Israelites passed safely through the Red Sea they became the people of God; when the wanderers passed through the waters of the Jordan, they became a nation and eventually a kingdom. And when Jesus is baptized by John in the water of the River Jordan, He takes on His mission as Messiah and Saviour. Coming out from the water changes people and things.

Our baptism with the pouring of water is meant to change us. If we were baptized as a child our parents and godparents made promises to help us grow in faith and love of God and others. They were meant to live up to that commitment. And at our confirmation we reaffirm those promises for ourselves. We reaffirm that we will live well and abide by His laws and decrees, to be a model for others in our community. And as priest, prophet and king we become co-heirs to His kingdom, His beloved daughters and sons.

Each time we make the sign of the cross we should remember our baptismal promises and make that sign with reverence and devotion. Because we make that sign so often, we can become slipshod in the way we make it. But it's the sign of our faith in God and in His Church. The other day I had a call from a young woman from a company with whom I deal on occasion. She seemed very professional but we got talking and she told, after a moment's hesitation, about the recent death of her father. I told her about the death of my husband of many years and how my faith in God had helped me through that difficult time. There was a bit of silence at the other end of the line as she decided whether or not to say something. She seemed to gather her courage and finally told me that she too, was a person of faith and that faith had helped her as well. She was twenty-one years old she told me and I could hear the tears threatening. We talked for over twenty minutes and I knew she was living out her baptismal promises, reaching for a listening ear.

Being baptized changes us. We need to ensure that we live up to that change in status as priest, prophet and king. It's not a simple rite we just go through and then let it sit. It's a precious gift from our Father and we're meant to live it out in our daily lives.

Wishing you a week of many blessings and many small miracles.

- Betty Bruch

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