



We Are Family

Capuchin Friars

Capuchin Website: www.capuchins.ca
Fr. John Juhl, OFM Cap. Phone: 226-626-2220
Fr. Manoj (George) Pathiyil, OFM Cap.
Deacon Marcel DeClerk



Capuchins of Central Canada

SOUTH KENT CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES

St. Mary's Church

95 Marlborough St. N.
Blenheim, ON N0P 1A0
Phone: 519-676-2025
Fax; 519-676-7358
Email: stmary@dol.ca

Office - 95 Marlborough St. N.
Hours: Mon - Fri: 9am-4:30pm
Bookkeeper - Deb Carey
dcarey@dol.ca

St. Michael's Church

26 George St., PO Box 478
Ridgetown, ON N0P 2C0
Phone: 519-674-3343
Fax; 519-674-1020
Email: stmichridge@dol.ca

Office - 26 George St., Ridgetown
Hours: Tue - Fri: 9am-4:30pm
Secretary - Lisa Heil
lheil@dol.ca

St. Paul's Church

5 Alice St., PO Box 40
Thamesville, ON N0P 2K0
Phone: 519-692-3874
Fax; 519-674-1020
Email: stpaulthames@dol.ca

Office - 26 George St. Ridgetown
Hours: Tue & Thur: 10am-3pm
Secretary - Carolyn CoDyre
ccodyre@dol.ca

MASS TIMES FOR
ST. MARY'S,
BLENHEIM

MASS TIMES FOR
ST. MICHAEL'S,
RIDGETOWN

MASS TIMES FOR
ST. PAUL'S,
THAMESVILLE

ALL MASSES CANCELLED

MARCH 22ND, 2020

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Please Pray for Healing: Ray Breault (R), Sandra Sonneveld, sister of Randy Sterling (B), Carolyn Malic (T), Max Connolly, brother of Linda Burk (B), Nicholas (B), Germaine Pynenbrouck (R), Connie Murray (B), Andrea Pike (R), Michelle MacLean (B), Marcel deWit (R), Irene Stepniak (R), Art Tremblay (B), Lena Mazan (R), Roger DeCock (B), Antoinette Lauzon (B), Sylvain Bilodeau (B), Ruth Demaiter (T), Denise DeWitte (B), Frank Slemensky (B), Diana and Dennis Klodt (B), Tony Driessen (B), John Irving (B), Bessie Kominek (R), Dr. Janet (Vlasschaert) McElhaney (B), Lorraine McIntosh, Gerry Willemsen (B), Jim Clark (R), Bill Van Loon (B), Lorraine Trinacty (B), Harry Wijsman (R), Leatha Burke (R) and all others in our parish who need prayers.

Please Pray for the Deceased: Please pray for those who have died, and for all the deceased members of our families.

Diocesan Ministers Prayer Calendar: Rev. Murray Sample; Deacon Brad Lewis; Mr. Sylvain Patry, Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Minister to Refugees in the Diocese of London; Nursing Home Volunteers in the Diocese of London; Rev. Arockiadoss Velanganni, OFM Cap; Rev. John Sharp

****The Deadline for the bulletin is Wednesday at 10am for St. Mary's & St. Michael's and Tuesday at 11am for St. Paul's****

Please phone the parish office concerning the Sacrament of Baptism, Anointing of the Sick and Communion visits.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Half hour before all Weekend Masses or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Please phone the parish office at least six months before your planned wedding date.

Dear parishioners,

Peace and goodness. These are difficult time that we are living in. Each day has a new challenge, but we are people of hope. We know that when we work together and reach out to each other things are better. I and the friars are keeping you in prayers. Let us support each other in prayer. If there are any of you that would like to talk, have questions or need assistance in going to grocery stores, please feel free to contact me. I know that for some of you there will be economic struggles. The church will also struggle in these difficult times so if it is possible please continue supporting the family of parishes with your contributions. You can drop them off in the office or mail them in to the address on the envelope. Please be assured that your contribution will go to your home parish. Thank you for your generosity. Let us continue being vigilant so that we can come together in the near future to celebrate our faith and trust in a loving God. Any updates will be emailed out. Please be sure to share this electronic bulletin with other parishioners. If parishioners are not on the email list they can contact the parish offices through email to be added.

You can visit our website at <https://southkentcatholicfamilyofparishes.ca/> for updates. Mass on Sunday's at 11am will also be available by clicking on the 'Watch Sunday Mass' link and don't forget to follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/skrfamily>

In Christ
Your Pastor

Fr John OFM Cap

Parish offices are closed to the public but the secretaries are still working and checking emails and phone messages. They will return your calls and emails during regular office hours. Thank you for your patience.

ST. MICHAEL'S/ST. PAUL'S EASTER FLOWERS

Easter Flowers are cancelled for this year. If you have already paid for flowers and wish to have your money returned please contact the office. Thank you

Mass Intentions

Mass intentions will be honored at the Friary as requested as much as possible. Masses can still be requested through telephone or email to the parish offices.

BULLETIN AND CALENDAR BY EMAIL

Just a note for any parishioners who are not aware that you can receive the bulletin & calendar through email! To sign up please email stmichridge@dol.ca with "bulletin by email" as the subject.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The following directives, which include the temporary suspension of all public Masses in our diocese and restrictions on the celebration of the other sacraments, will be hard on all of us. The Eucharist and the sacraments are the very heart of our Catholic faith. After consulting with public health officials, however, 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.

We are making these sacrifices out of charity and for the sake of the common good.

I encourage all our faithful to be to be vigilant about personal cleanliness and keeping appropriate distances from others.

Our priests, deacons, lay pastoral ministers, and our faithful are reaching out to those in need at this difficult time, especially those who are elderly, vulnerable and isolated. I am very grateful to all of you.

This Lenten season, we are united in prayer for those who are suffering from COVID-19 and for those who are caring for them.

May God have mercy on us! May Mary, Help of Christians, intercede for us!

1. The Celebration of Mass

- a. All Masses and services, including missions and devotions, will be suspended at least until April 30. All churches are to be closed.
- b. Priests are encouraged to celebrate Mass privately each day for the intentions of their parishioners, for the medical personnel assisting the sick, and for an end to the outbreak. In this time of fasting from the Eucharist, parishioners should be encouraged to pray for other parishioners and all those affected by the virus.
- c. Funeral Masses and luncheons are not permitted. The Rite of Committal may be celebrated at the cemetery with immediate family members present. Funeral Masses may be celebrated at a later date.
- d. It is recommended that any weddings already scheduled be delayed. If they proceed, they are to be limited to immediate family members only, up to the number of people allowed at a gathering as determined by the local health officials.
- e. Baptisms are to be postponed until further notice.
- f. The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated privately by me, with Bishop Dabrowski and some members of the Episcopal Council. The oils for the celebrations of the sacraments will be made available at the deanery level following that Mass, at a date to be determined.

2. Confessions

- a. All Confessions are cancelled, except in the case of danger of death.
- b. The Day of Confessions is cancelled.

3. Care of the Sick and the Dying

- a. Priests are to be mindful of the sick, especially those in danger of death.
- b. Priests, deacons, and pastoral workers are to follow visiting restrictions set by the individual hospitals and healthcare facilities.
- c. The Eucharist will not be taken to parishioners who are homebound. Instead, parish teams are encouraged to ask volunteers to keep in contact with these people through telephone calls or other electronic means. Such calls could be a simple chat or praying a decade of the Rosary with the person.

4. Parish Offices and Activities

- a. Parish offices should be closed to the public. Where possible, staff can work from home, while some staff will report to work and deal with parishioners' needs by phone or electronic means. This applies also to our Diocesan Centre, the Marriage Tribunal, and the Refugee Office.
- b. Appointments in parish offices should be limited to essential matters. Where possible, meetings should be held by electronic means.
- c. All regular meetings and social activities in parishes are cancelled. This includes cessation of all meetings for sacramental preparation. Parents are to be encouraged to continue such preparation in the home. Celebrations of First Confession, First Communion, and Confirmation will proceed only when the danger of the virus is passed. No child should be denied the sacraments due to the cessation of these preparation meetings.
- d. Meetings for 12-Step programs may be exempt from this, depending on the direction of local health officials.
- e. It is highly recommended, with this lull in activities, that parish staff could reach out by telephone or electronic means to connect with all parishioners to offer prayers and support.

5. Resources

- a. An Outreach page is being continually updated on the diocesan website and has a link on the homepage. The page contains resources for the faithful including online Masses, articles, links to Catholic publishers and activities for children, youth and families. Please promote this Outreach page as widely as possible: <https://dol.ca/outreach>.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Ronald P. Fabbro, C.S.B.
Bishop of London