



London North Central
Catholic Family of Parishes



"Being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus"

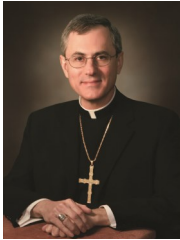
PARISH BULLETIN

Serving the communities of
St. Josephine Bakhita African & Caribbean
Catholic Community, St. Michael's Parish, and
St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica



Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, C.S.B.
Bishop of London

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Daniel Bombardier
ext 222 • dbombardier@dol.ca

Associate Pastor

Fr. Felix Odobi, C.S.Sp.
ext 225 • fodobi@dol.ca

Permanent Deacons

Dcn. Gaston Mabaya
ext 237 • gmbabaya@dol.ca

Dcn. Rudy Pflanzner
ext 236 • rpflanzner@dol.ca

Pastoral Minister

Cathryn Hall
ext 226 • chall@dol.ca

Family & Youth Minister

Leigh Duckworth
ext 229 • lduckworth@dol.ca

Business Manager

Lori Clark
ext 240 • lclark@dol.ca

Communications Coordinator

Vianca Kmet
ext 201 • vkmet@dol.ca

Financial Secretaries

RoseMary Cleary
ext 242 • rcleary@dol.ca

Jolanda Squire
ext 241 • jsquire@dol.ca

Rejoice and Shine the Light of Christ

"On this Third Sunday of the Advent season, the theme is traditionally one of joy. The first word of the entrance antiphon is "Rejoice!" This is a tradition coming down from the old pre-Vatican II Latin Mass when the first word of the Introit or entrance antiphon was Gaudete (rejoice, be glad). And so this Sunday has come to be known as "Gaudete Sunday".

And why should we be rejoicing? Because we are soon to remember that the Son of God, Jesus the Christ, came to live among us as a human being and be one of us. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the coming of God into our lives through Jesus, we need also to remind ourselves that we have been called to be the means to bring Jesus into other people's lives.

At Christmas time, our cities and towns are bathed in light. But so many have no idea that this light symbolises our Lord Jesus, the Light of the World, born among us at this time. And we may ask ourselves: Into the lives of how many people this Christmas will we bring the Light of Jesus? How many will experience Jesus being reborn within them through our witnessing?

There are so many people out there who live in darkness. There are so many who are poor in so many ways, even though they may be financially well-off. So many who lack real freedom, the freedom to choose truth and love in all they do and say. So many who are deafened by the consumerist din around them. So many, in the midst of all the superficial jollity, who feel lonely, unwanted, rejected, marginalised. So many broken hearts amid all the party-going. There are people who simply hate Christmas because it only increases their inner pain and deep sadness.

So many out there are waiting. Waiting for us to shine the light of Christ on them and to help them turn their lives into experiences of joy, of wholeness and integrity. The joy of Jesus, the joy of Christmas can only be ours to the extent that we work with Jesus to bring that joy into the lives of others too."

Excerpt from *Living Space, Commentaries on the Daily Readings, 3rd Sunday of Advent, 2023*
<https://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/ab031/>

REJOICE
AND BE
GLAD

We are soon to remember
that the Son of God,
Jesus the Christ, came to
live among us as a human
being and be one of us.



FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

The True Meaning of Christmas | Lukas Storyteller

Christmas is coming and our friends Peter, Agnes, Paul and Anna expect to receive many gifts. but when they caught in one of their antics. Lukas and Noah will help them understand the true story of Christmas and how the birth of the Son of God should change our hearts.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and type in London North Central....



St. Josephine Bakhita Advent Mass
December 17–This Sunday!

St. Josephine Bakhita African & Caribbean Community will be celebrating Advent Mass this Sunday, **December 17, 2023** at 2:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Parish. Please come and celebrate with us!



St. Michael's SSVP Angel Tree 2023

Sincere thanks to all who generously supported this year's Angel Tree event, held on December 9th. 69 families received a \$50 FreshCo gift card, and 177 children, up to the age of 16, received a \$40 Walmart gift card, totalling \$9,370. Your generous donations are so very much appreciated to lift the spirits of our children in need during this Christmas season.

Flowers for Christmas–Final Call!



We are collecting monetary donations to offset the cost of flowers for our Christmas celebrations. Donations may be made in the name of family or friends, deceased or living, for whom you may wish to pray. These names will be placed in the bulletin and remembered in prayer throughout the Season of Christmas.

To make a contribution, please seal donations in an envelope, along with your *name, address and phone number* as well as the *name of the person you are honouring* and drop it in the Sunday collection or mail in to the office.

Donations can also be made by e-transfer to either parish at stmichlon@dol.ca or basilica@dol.ca, memo line–**Flowers for Christmas**. Please indicate the same information as above in an email to the office. Thank you for your generosity.



2024 Offertory Envelopes–Final Call!

This weekend is your last chance to get your offertory envelopes in the Narthex of your parish. If you will not be able to make it, please contact the parish office to arrange an alternate pickup: Jolanda, jsquire@dol.ca for St. Michael's or RoseMary, rclearly@dol.ca for St. Peter's. or call 519-433-6689 / 519-432-3475.

Note: There is no envelope number assigned to parishioners who utilize Preauthorized Giving (PAG) or other donation methods. To learn about the Ways to Donate, please visit our website at www.lncc.dol.ca/donate. Thank you!

Income Tax Receipts

Income tax receipts can be issued legally for contributions received in the current year. If you wish credit for Offertory/Special Collection contributions made in 2023, they must be received at the parish office by December 31, 2023. Official tax receipts will be mailed by the end of February, 2024.



Update from Bishop Fabbro on our Truth and Reconciliation Committee

Letter to the Faithful from Bishop Fabbro
 (Released on December 12, 2023)

Please see a letter to the faithful from Bishop Fabbro about our Truth and Reconciliation work at this [link](http://www.dol.ca) (www.dol.ca, Diocesan News) or PDF version [here](#).

Congratulations!

The London North Central Catholic Family of Parishes congratulates the 19 young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on December 10th. May you continue to allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in your faith journey!



To parents/guardians: if your child is in Grade 8 and you wish to register them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring of 2024, please head over to our parish website at www.lncc.dol.ca/confirmation. Sacramental preparations will begin in March 2024.

For more details or inquiries, please contact our Family & Youth Minister, Leigh Duckworth at lduckworth@dol.ca.

Fun Activities for Kids this "Gaudete Sunday"

On the third Sunday of Advent, also known as "Gaudete Sunday", let us read John 1:6-8, 19-28 and reflect on the questions available in our activity sheets that can be found online or at this [link](#).

We also invite you to join in making crafts that we call, "Random Act of Christmas Joy" where you choose someone to give a stocking full of Random Acts of Christmas Joy to such as a family member, friend or neighbour. And if you are online, share your creations on Facebook and Instagram by using the hashtag, #LNCCjoysunday, and don't forget to tag us, @lncc_dol!

If you wish to have a paper copy of the craft instructions, please call the parish office or contact Leigh Duckworth at lduckworth@dol.ca.

<p>Jesus</p> <p>JESUS brings us JOY when we listen to His words</p>	<p>Others</p> <p>As you get ready for Christmas, think of ways to help OTHERS</p>	<p>You</p> <p>Take some time to think about how YOU will to get your heart ready for Jesus</p>
--	--	---



Holy Matters Christmas Edition
Now Available!

The Christmas Edition of Holy Matters, our Family of Parishes' official publication, is now available! Grab your paper copy in the narthex or at the entrances of the church. To access it online: www.lncc.dol.ca/holymatters.

Christmas at LNCCFP

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve/Christmas Day)

St. Michael's: Sunday, December 24 4:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m., 12:00 a.m.
 Monday, December 25 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
St. Peter's: Sunday, December 24 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.*
 Monday, December 25 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass—Thursday, December 28 & Friday, December 29

St. Michael's: 8:00 a.m. **St. Peter's:** 12:00 p.m.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Saturday, December 30 / Sunday, December 31

St. Michael's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
St. Peter's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.*; Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, December 31 / Monday, January 1

St. Michael's: Sunday: 5:00 p.m.; Monday: 10:00 a.m.
St. Peter's: Sunday: 5:00 p.m.*; Monday: 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass—Tuesday January 2-Friday, January 5

St. Michael's: 8:00 a.m. **St. Peter's:** 12:00 p.m.

The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 6 / Sunday, January 7

St. Michael's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.
St. Peter's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.*; Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

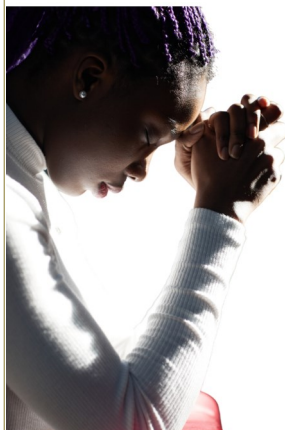
Monday, January 8 12:00 p.m.

St. Peter's Cathedral

**Mass is livestreamed.*

Find the full schedule of Advent & Christmas at this [link](#).

ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS



**Wednesday
DECEMBER 20, 2023**

St. Michael's Parish

8:30 am - 10:30 am;
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

St. Peter's Cathedral

9:30 am - 11:30 am;
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

*Several priests will join Fr. Daniel
and Fr. Felix at both churches.*

Please note that there will be no Confessions on December 23, 2023 at both parishes.

Journey Through Advent 2023

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents the video series, Journey through Advent with the Most Rev. Bishop Jon Hansen, CSsR, Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith.

The series reflects on the Scriptures for the Sundays of Advent 2023.

This Third Sunday, Bishop Hansen provides a reflection on joy and witness.

Click [here](#) to view (www.cccb.ca/).



Christmas on a Monday

Since the turn of the century, Christmas has fallen on a Monday 4 times—2000, 2006, 2017, and this year 2023. We move very quickly from celebrating the 4th Sunday of Advent on the weekend of the 23rd/24th, to the first of our 12 Masses of Christmas Eve/Christmas Day in our Family of Parishes later in the day on the 24th.

Sunday is the original and primary feast day for the Christian people, and the heart of the liturgical year. Christmas, the celebration of the incarnation of the Son of God and of his birth as our Saviour, is a distinct feast. Both the celebration of Sunday, this year the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas must be celebrated separately. In our Family of Parishes we will celebrate our regular weekend Mass schedule for the 4th Sunday of Advent, Dec. 23/24.:

St. Michael's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.,
 Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

St. Peter's: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.,
 Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Elsewhere in our bulletin you will see the entire Christmas schedule beginning with our Christmas Eve Masses on the 24th.

Outside of Sundays and Christmas being considered a Holy Day of Obligation, in Canada we also mark Jan. 1, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, as a day of obligation in honour of Mary. As in the case of Christmas, Jan. 1 falls on a Monday so the weekend of Dec. 30/31 we will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family with our regular Mass schedule, then later in the day on the 31st the first Mass of the Solemnity of Mary.

See you at the Feast(s)!

Parish Office Closure Dates

Please note that on Friday, Dec 22nd and 29th, the office will close at noon. Additionally, we'll be closed all day on Tuesday, Dec 26th and Monday, January 1st. We appreciate your understanding and wish you a wonderful holiday season!



SUNDAY COLLECTION: December 10, 2023

	St. Michael's	St. Peter's
Regular Offertory (Envelopes)	\$ 10,131.00	\$ 6,409.00
Regular Offertory (Loose)	\$ 2,507.00	\$ 1,265.70
Weekly Pre-Authorized Giving	\$ 3,173.00	\$ 2,473.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,811.00	\$ 10,147.70

Thank you for your support and generosity!
 To make a donation or update your donation method, please call the office or visit www.lncc.dol.ca/donate.

REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS



Tuesday, December 19

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Robert Moir
Bianca De Piero
Tom Leckie

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Joe Allevato
Nathan Lee

Intentions of Bishop Fabbro and All Diocesan Staff

Wednesday, December 20

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

George Kuruville
Veronica Chambers
Frank Percic

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Father Stephen Bodnar
William and Helen Sert
William Sert, Jr.

Thursday, December 21

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Grant & Margaret Sgariglia
Lawrence Hamilton
Sue Seguin

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Adela Matias
Stanley & Rita Clement and their Daughters

Friday, December 22

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Ernie Castrilli
Donna Dagnone

Intentions of Danuta & John Kanakos

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Gildo and Giovanna Di Cola
Frank Cassar
Curtis Ficociell

We remember in prayer all those who are sick. We also pray for those who have died including Greg Gangnier, uncle of Sarah Serratore; William Lush, grandfather of Alex Jardine; John Joseph Ducharme, son of (late) Mary Ducharme; Christl Weber, wife of Franz Weber; Rosa Castrilli; Todd Graham; George Brunton; and comfort those who mourn.

We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:

Ministers to the Bereaved in the Diocese of London; Rev. Augustine Ogundele; Deacon Daniel Lemire; Rev. Bernard Pinsonneault, C.S.B.; Christa Mailloux, Coordinator of Children's Ministry; Deacon Joseph Manzara; Rev. Michael Ryan

Offer a Mass for a loved one, or in thanksgiving. Contact the parish office or visit www.lncc.dol.ca/mass-prayer-requests.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 24, 2023 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading - 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
Responsorial - Ps 89.1-2, 3-4, 26+28 (R.1a)
R. Forever I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord.
Second Reading - Romans 16.25-27
Gospel - Luke 1.26-38

MASS & CONFESSION TIMES



Weekdays

St. Michael's: Tuesday–Friday 8 am
St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica: Tuesday–Friday 12 pm

Weekends

St. Michael's: Saturday 5 pm; Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm
St. Peter's Cathedral: Saturday 5 pm*; Sunday 9 am, 11 am
*Live-streamed Mass

St. Josephine Bakhita Community:
4th Sunday of the month, 2:30 pm (at St. Michael's)



Sacrament of Reconciliation at both Parishes

Saturdays 9:00 am to 10:00 am
Or contact one of our priests for an appointment.



Are you new in the community? Register at www.lncc.dol.ca/join-our-family or get a parish registration form from our volunteers.

Profile info change? Connect with us!



Join a Ministry. Be a Volunteer!

Visit www.lncc.dol.ca > Click the tab, "Ministries & Social Groups"



ST. PETER'S QR CODE

PARISH Support
WAYS TO MAKE A DONATION
www.lncc.dol.ca/donate



ST. MICHAEL'S QR CODE

- Offertory Envelopes / Cheque
- Credit Card via Pllenty
- Interac E-Transfer
- Scan the QR Code & follow the prompts
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Plan
- Canada Helps canadahelps.org

Your donations support the activities which enrich and nourish the spiritual life of the parish. The donations you give go to the collections of the specific parish that you select. Charitable tax receipts are issued in the new year following.

CONTACT US

St. Michael's Parish

Location: 511 Cheapside Street, London, Ontario N5Y 3X5
Contact: Tel./Fax 519-433-6689 | stmichlon@dol.ca

St. Josephine Bakhita

African & Caribbean Catholic Community

c/o St. Michael's Parish | Contact Amedeo Awai
stjosephinebakhita2020@gmail.com

St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

Location: 196 Dufferin Avenue, London, Ontario N6A 1K8
Contact: Tel. 519-432-3475 | basilica@dol.ca

Offices and Mailing Address of Parishes:

511 Cheapside Street,
London, Ontario N5Y 3X5

Office Hours

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am–3:30 pm

We're online! www.lncc.dol.ca



Subscribe to our
E-mailing list [HERE!](#)