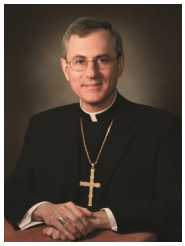
London North Central
Catholic Family of Parishes

PARISH BULLETIN

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

Second Sunday of Lent — March 5, 2023



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

PARISH STAFF

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

Associate Pastors
Fr. Christopher Pietraszko
ext 225 • cpietraszko@dol.ca
Fr. Sekar Raj
ext 224 • sraj@dol.ca

Permanent Deacons
Dcn. Gaston Mabaya
ext 237 • gmabaya@dol.ca
Dcn. Rudy Pflanzner
ext 236 • rpflanzner@dol.ca

Pastoral Ministers
Cathryn Hall
ext 226 • chall@dol.ca
Debbie Walsh
ext 227 • dwalsh@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

Reception/Secretary
Mary Cole
ext 200 • stmichlon@dol.ca

Financial Secretaries
RoseMary Cleary
ext 242 • rcleary@dol.ca
Jolanda Squire
ext 241 • jsquire@dol.ca

☎ 519.433.6689 or 519.432.3475

Creating Hope

"Today's readings show us men who courageously left their lives behind, answering the Voice from the heavens that called them to a new life, a new way of being, a new nation, a new world order. They left everything they knew and dedicated their lives to the mission God gave them, to build a community based on the principles of love and dignity.

Am I as willing as Abram, Paul, Timothy, Peter, James and John to reorient my life in such service? Am I ready to leave behind comforts, habits and even worldviews to abide by that voice? Am I ready to really love my neighbours—all of them—the way Jesus taught?

Jesus's example is not always easy. He served with compassion, healing, feeding and including wherever he went. He also confronted injustice, disrupting an exploitative temple market, challenging the system of prejudiced punishment and, ultimately, freeing the whole of humanity from death.

For me, following Jesus requires not only that I serve those around me, sharing whatever I can to help my sisters and brothers in their immediate needs, but also that I work to address the global systems that create or perpetuate poverty and exclusion. This means questioning my participation in systems that use exploitative labour, that deny land rights and that put money, rather than people, at the center of concern. It means refusing to endorse abusive systems with forms of charity that reinforce power imbalances. It means building alternatives that support the dignity of individuals, families and communities, by ensuring they are in control of their own development and that we change the laws and policies that have denied their rights and dignity.

To be like Jesus and the prophets in these readings, we have to be ready to leave behind what we have known to build a new nation, a new world order, founded on the love and compassion to which we are called. This can seem daunting, but we are Christians! Our hope is our confidence in the path laid out, in Jesus's example and his teachings, and in the Holy Spirit's help as we follow that path.

Lent is a time to return to this hope. To simplify, reduce or do away with all the things that distract from this hope. As we prepare for Easter, we are sent to live the Gospel by our lives…. We are sent to ***Create Hope.***

To ***Create Hope*** is to share the love and truth we have received.

To ***Create Hope*** is to orient our lives to the service of humanity in compassion and justice.

To ***Create Hope*** is to witness to the work of the Holy Spirit in communities that are actively building that new world order where all can live in dignity.

To ***Create Hope*** is to foster alternative social, economic and political models that promote dignity, compassion and inclusion.

To ***Create Hope*** is to invite others into this vision, this community, this action of building this kingdom, "on Earth as it is in heaven."

Join us! In the coming weeks, these reflections will share the work of our partners. Learn with us and act with us so that together we can Create Hope for our families, our communities and our world."

Kathleen Cross, Project Lead for Strategic Planning, Development and Peace—Caritas Canada
https://www.devp.org/en/blog/march-5-2023-2nd-sunday-of-lent/

2023 Lenten Food Drive

The Lenten Food Drive begins this weekend (**March 4/5**) and continues next weekend **March 11/12.** All proceeds go to support St. Paul's Social Services Fellowship Centre and Foodbank.

Food items most needed:
Tuna, Mayonnaise, Cereal, Mac and Cheese (KD)
Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta Canned Meat, Peanut Butter
Tea Bags and Coffee, Onions, and Potatoes
Cash and grocery store gift cards are gratefully accepted.

Food Donations can be dropped off in the narthex at both parishes. Gift card and financial donations can be placed in the collection baskets marked Food Drive.

Thank you for your support for our brothers and sisters in need in our community.

St. Michael's CWL Special Guest Speaker

There will be a brief General Meeting for members, Monday, **March 6, 2023**, at 7:00 p.m. in St. John Paul II Room, followed by our Special Guest Speaker in the Parish Hall at 7:30. We look forward to Diocesan Archivist Deb Majer's presentation The *Women, A Bishop and a Princess: The History of the CWL in the Diocese of London.* All interested parishioners are welcome to attend.

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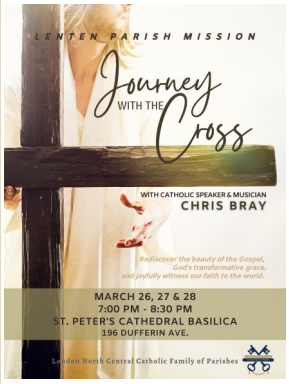
Lenten Lunches at St. Peter's Gym

St. Peter's CWL is hosting Lenten lunches on Wednesdays after the noon Mass. The lunches take place every Wednesday until March 29th. Please enter off of the south parking lot entrance into the gym of the Parish Centre. Cost is freewill donation.



Journey with the Cross
Lenten Parish Mission

The London North Central Catholic Family of Parishes will be having a Lenten Mission this year with Catholic speaker and musician Chris Bray. Join us as we rediscover the beauty of the Gospel, God's transformative grace, and joyfully witness our faith to the world.

Sunday, March 26-Tuesday, March 28
St. Peter's Cathedral at 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

SSVP–St. Michael's

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul collection for the needy within our parish boundary is the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thank you for your support. Make cheques payable to St. Michael's Parish and write SSVP on the memo line, or select SSVP from the drop-down list on Pllenty, https://www.lncc.dol.ca/donate-to-st-michaels

THANK YOU to Deacon Len Hughes

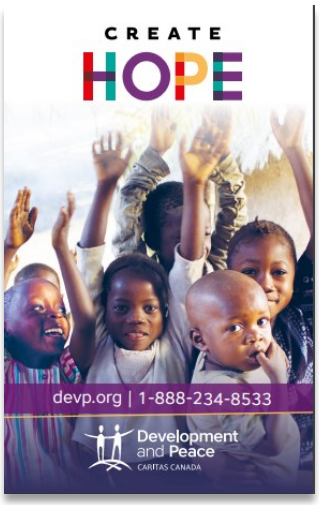
Last weekend we marked the retirement of Deacon Len Hughes, from almost 16 years of Diaconal ministry at St. Peter's Cathedral and the London North Central Catholic Family of Parishes. Over his time with our parish he has been involved with many committees and ministries including Marriage Preparation, Outreach Committee, St. Vincent de Paul, Missions Committee, and Refugee Committee.

As well, in the wider community Deacon Len has worked with St. Paul's Social Service Fellowship Center and Foodbank and interfaith initiatives in the city. Liturgically and sacramentally he has presided at many weddings and baptisms, as well his ministry of preaching and proclaiming the Gospel at our weekend liturgies.

Thank you, Deacon Len, for your dedicated and committed service in building up our community.

Journey Through Lent

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops have released a new video series for Lent 2023. On this Second Sunday of Lent, Most Reverend Brian Dunn, Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth, provides a reflection on the Transfiguration, deeper realities, and human needs. The video can be found here.



Share Lent 2023 Create Hope Stand for the Land

The annual campaign for Share Lent began on Ash Wednesday. Along with the Solidarity calendar provided in the bulletin on the weekend February 17/18, the *Create Hope Mini Magazines* can provide further reflection on the work of Development and Peace and what we can do to support our brothers and sisters in the global south. The Mini Magazine can be accessed here.

Copies of the Mini Magazines can be found at the entrances of both parishes, along with the *Create Hope* Prayer card.

Hello from Richmond Woods!

Friends at Richmond Woods are inviting you to their upcoming event. The details are below.

WHAT: Open House & "Hot Cocoa Bar"
WHEN: Friday, **March 31st**, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: Richmond Woods, 200 North Centre Rd., Ldn N5X 0B1

Call Roxanne at 519-850-6337 to RSVP. Thank you very much!

Rediscovering the Liturgy

Following the entrance procession and greeting, the order of Mass moves to the Penitential Act. The Penitential Act invites us to a moment of silence where we call to mind out relationship with God, ways we have strayed from God's love and ways we have broken our relationship with each other. Gathering those experiences we place them in the loving mercy of God.

"The Penitential Act takes several forms from the traditional *Confiteor*, "I confess" to a litany spoken by the priest or deacon or sung by the cantor with responses by the entire assembly (as well as the Sprinkling Rite). The rite always includes the words *Kyrie, eleison, Christe eleison* - Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy. These words turn our gaze from our own weakness to the gentleness, the kindness, the forgiving love of Christ.

In the *Confiteor,* we take responsibility for our own actions. The repeated insistence on our "fault" with the ritual gesture of striking the breast once, is an ancient sign of penitence. We take responsibility for ourselves, our actions, and our failure to act. Then we cry out to God in those ancient words, *Kyrie, eleison*-Lord have mercy. For the sinner who repents, there is mercy. This truth is at the heart of our faith, and it is where the Mass, our feast of faith, begins with God's mercy."

(adapted from Corinna Laughlin, Building Block for Parish Bulletins, Feast of Faith, I Confess)

The Penitential Act is not a time for confessing our sin. Rather it is a moment of acknowledging God's ever abiding mercy and reconciling love and expresses our desire to deepen our relationship with God and neighbour.

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Discover all the best Catholic content in one place–a great resource especially during this Season of Lent. Inspiring movies, enlightening programs, talks, and a great selection of popular e-books! Register today at FORMED.org/signup. More info here or email basilica@dol.ca.

Outreach. Do you know a parishioner who has not been able to attend Mass? We would like to reach out to them in their time of need. Please contact Debbie Walsh, Pastoral Minister, at dwalsh@dol.ca or by phone at 519-433-6689 x 227.

Spiritual Pondering

Jesus' Transfiguration... Matthew 17.1-9

Many times, I have sat with a heart filled by grace among our community and whispered, "Lord, it is good for us to be here". It is here that we can be transformed by our full, active and conscious participation in the liturgy. One day at a time - one prayer at a time when we surrender our hearts and our will to God who is present with us.

What grace do you ask for so you can surrender your heart in the Lenten desert and experience your own transformation?

Knock and the door will open, seek and you shall find - ask and it will be given unto you.

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Share your thoughts, if you are so inclined. Email Debbie dwalsh@dol.ca or basilica@dol.ca. Ponderings of our parishioners can also be found on our parish webpage.

Volunteers Needed!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming to the LNCC, and we need volunteers!

Vacation Bible School will be taking place at St. Michael's Parish on **July 17-21, 2023.** We are looking for volunteers to help make this fun week the best it can be for the children who will attend! We are looking for both adult and youth volunteers. Some areas that we need help with are:

- Games Station
- Music Station
- Faith Station
- Craft Station
- Group leaders
- Decorating Team

If any of these areas interest you, please complete the registration form that can be found in the Narthex at each parish or on our website. All volunteers will need to be screened.

Registration to attend VBS will open in April. More updates for participants will also be available on our webpage at www.lncc.dol.ca/vacationbibleschool so stay tuned!

Resources for LNCC Kids are available in the narthex at St. Michael's and St. Peter's Cathedral. An electronic copy of the Kids' Bulletin can be found here. If you have not grabbed a copy of the *Journey Together to the Cross Lent & Holy Week 2023,* feel free to access it here or in the narthex.

For inquiries, please contact our Family & Youth Minister, Leigh at 519-433-6689 or email lduckworth@dol.ca.

REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 6
St. Michael's at 7:00 PM
Intentions of Veronica Major requested by Stephanie Gasparotto; Intentions of Marian Zientara requested by Stephanie Gasparotto; Intentions of the Gasparotto Family requested by Stephanie Gasparotto

Tuesday, March 7
St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Ernesto Castrilli requested by Luciana & John Caranci; Deceased members of the Caranci Family requested by Luciana & John Caranci; Intentions of Jeena George requested by George Mathew

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Ruth Cowan;
Deceased Members of the Harvey Gleason Family;
Deceased Members of the Flynn & Daly Families

Wednesday, March 8
St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Phyllis Cole requested by Mary Cole; Deceased & Living Friends & Family of Solis/Reyes Families requested by Veronica Solis; Barbara Devlin requested by Donna & Mark Thompson

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Olga Dias;
Martha Moons;
Deceased & Living Members of St. Peter's CWL

Thursday, March 9
St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Chanh Nguyen requested by Mai Nguyen; Intentions of Mai & Nam Nguyen requested by Mai Nguyen; Intentions of Hong & Leo Nguyen requested by Mai Nguyen

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Joe Murphy;
Theresa FitzPatrick;
Intentions of Henry P. Naudi

Friday, March 10
St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Franciso Furtado requested by Michelle Nordstrom; Renato Gasparotto and Owen Davey requested by Stephanie Gasparotto

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Ricardo Azores; Gildo Di Cola;
Intentions of the Thomson Family

We remember in prayer all those who are sick. We also pray for those who have died including Josef Gundert; and Steve Rumas; and comfort those who mourn.

We pray for those serving in pastoral ministry throughout our diocese:
Deacon Dominic Vu; Rev. Phil Guimaraes; Rev. Christopher Gillespie; Rev. Frederick Howard-Smith; Deacon Andre Dedecker; Mrs. Betty Hompoth, Pastoral Minister; Deacon Victor Salazar

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 MARCH 12, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading - Exodus 17.3-7
Responsorial - Ps 95.1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9
R. O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts!
Second Reading - Romans 5.1-2, 5-8
Gospel - John 4.5-42 or John 4.5-15, 19-26, 39a, 40-42

MASS & CONFESSION TIMES

Weekdays during Lent
St. Michael's: Monday 7 pm; Tuesday-Friday 8 am
St. Peter's Cathedral: 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)

Stations of the Cross
St. Peter's Cathedral: Fridays 12:45 p.m.
St. Michael's: Fridays 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at both Parishes
Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
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"

PARISH INVOLVEMENT

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 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

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

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