



London North Central
Catholic Family of Parishes



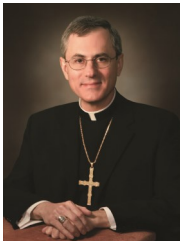
"Being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus"

PARISH BULLETIN

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



4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas/Feast of the Holy Family/Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God • December 2023



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

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Bishop Fabbro's 2023 Christmas Message

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

At Christmas, we will listen once again to the Gospel accounts of the birth of our Saviour, the story of God's great love for us. We who have seen his light and experienced the joy he brings us are called to make him known to the ends of the earth.

In our Families of Parishes, we will continue our efforts to be a missionary Church that forms disciples of Jesus, to go out and proclaim the good news of his coming. Reflecting on the past year, we have much to be thankful for. Many of our parishes are reporting an increase in Mass attendance over the past year. This is a sign of hope for us. I am very grateful to see the Cathedral full at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, with many young people, college and university students, from all parts of the world.



We need these people – young and old – to be part of our communities and must ensure they are warmly welcomed. We need to be living signs of Christ's presence in the world, active in works for justice, peace and the ecology. I ask you all to get involved, by volunteering for a ministry in your parish or for Catholic groups like the Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus or the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Last year at Pentecost, we launched the Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood, which lasts until Pentecost 2024. Take some time to pray for Vocations. Pray alone, with your families, with your parish. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide men to a life of faith and service as priests of our diocese.

In his address to the donors of the Nativity Scene that was placed this December in St.

Peter's Square in Rome, Pope Francis noted that the creche pays tribute to the first Nativity Scene set up by St. Francis of Assisi in Greccio, 800 years ago, in 1223. After his journey to the Holy Land, St. Francis wanted to reproduce the Nativity of Jesus. To mark this anniversary, the pope approved a Plenary Indulgence* that can be obtained at any of the Franciscan churches in our diocese until February 2, 2024.

The creche is particularly meaningful this year, the pope said, as we witness the tragic war in the Land where Jesus was born: "While we

contemplate Jesus, God made man, small, poor, and defenseless, we cannot help but think of the tragedy that the inhabitants of the Holy Land are experiencing, showing to these brothers and sisters of ours, especially to children and parents, our closeness and our spiritual support. These are the ones who pay the real price of war."

This Christmas, we will be praying with Pope Francis for peace and an end to the violence that plagues our world today, in areas such as the Holy Land and the Ukraine.

May the blessings of the season be plentiful for you and your loved ones. May Christ, born to us of the ever-virgin Mary, shine his light on you and bring all of us an abundance of peace and joy in the coming year.

Yours Sincerely in Christ,

+ Ronald Fabbro, CSB

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, CSB
Bishop of London

The Diocese of London: *being a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus*
*www.dol.ca/plen



Statement from the CCCB on the Declaration *Fiducia Supplicans*

"With respect to the Declaration *"Fiducia Supplicans"* issued by the Holy See's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, the CCCB offered the following statement from Bishop William McGrattan, president of the CCCB.

'On 18 December 2023 the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith released the Declaration *Fiducia Supplicans*, which responds to questions that had been raised regarding the possibility of offering blessings to persons living in irregular unions, including same-sex relationships. While explicitly affirming the Church's traditional understanding of marriage, *Fiducia Supplicans* allows pastors to bless people who freely request a blessing, seeking divine help to live in fidelity to God's will. The Declaration makes clear that such blessings must be directed to the persons themselves rather than their situation and that they must be spontaneously requested and are not ritual or liturgical actions.

The guiding principle in the Declaration is the fact that the very request for a blessing represents an openness to God's mercy and can be an occasion for greater trust in God."

To read the full document, please click [here](#).

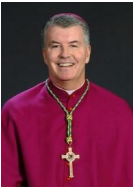


Journey Through Advent 2023

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 Fourth Sunday, Bishop Hansen provides a reflection on Mary's "yes" and God's presence. Click [here](#) to view (www.cccb.ca/).

Christmas Message 2023 from the CCCB December 20, 2023



The Most Rev. William McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

"Dear friends,

The Christmas season is an invitation to experience the renewed joy and hope that comes to us in the realization of God's promises. In the words of Pope Francis: "It returns us to the horizon of hope, a horizon that does not disappoint because it is founded on the Word of God". This hope is what we desire in our hearts despite the darkness that can permeate our world. In our current times the reality of war and terrorism, violence and hate crimes, economic and social injustices continue to disfigure our shared dignity as human beings and the world in which we live.

In the Solemnity of the Birth of Jesus we celebrate the Incarnate Word, the nearness of God which has transformed human history and restores to humanity this profound gift of hope and joy. It is when we choose to draw near to others that we can experience this gift of Christ's presence in our brothers and sisters. It happens on a daily basis in ordinary and also profound ways. It is found in those who give their lives to pursue freedom and justice for the oppressed, those who advocate in promoting human life from conception to natural death, those who care for and visit the sick, those who serve at foodbanks and all who are close to those who suffer the loss of a love one, separation from family, and who are imprisoned with the addictions that afflict their life.

In this Christmas season we will hear the proclamation of the Word of God in celebration of the Eucharist. May our lives be founded on this Word which confirms us in the hope and the joy of the Gospel message which is echoed in the song of the angels each Christmas... "Rejoice a Saviour has been born for us"!

May the humble witness of our faith and service be the joyous gift we give to others to restore in them the hope which is promised in this Christmas Season. God's blessings in the New Year."

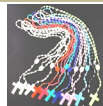


Parish Office Closure Dates



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. Regular office hours resume on Tuesday, January 2nd. We appreciate your understanding and wish you a wonderful holiday season!

Blessed Rosaries



Embrace the power of prayer especially during this Christmas season. Rosaries that have been blessed, graciously provided by [Save A Family Plan](#), are available in the narthex for parishioners at no cost. Please take one.

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.

Treasure Trove of Kids' Bulletins

Christmas blessings are upon our LNCC kids for we have...not one but three issues of the Kids' Bulletin! A paper copy can be found in the narthex or visit lncc.dol.ca/kidsbulletin.

Happy Christmas!



Hallowed Highlights

- Dec 25 Nativity of the Lord
- Dec 26 Feast of St. Stephen
- Dec 27 Feast of St. John the Evangelist
- Dec 28 Feast of the Holy Innocents
- Dec 31 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
- Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
- Jan 2 Memorial of St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen



CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS - *Thank you!*

*Thank you to all who made donations for the purchase of our Christmas Flowers. Your generosity is very much appreciated.
We pray for all of these intentions throughout the Christmas Season.*

We remember and pray for those who have died:

Remo Agnoletto; Janet Patricia Anderson; Rick Baker; Jacob Barandowski; Anthony Belter, Boleslawa Belter, Dr. John Ayerst & Wanda Lewis; Deceased Members of the Bokor & Stewart Families; Alfred Bombardier; Luis Borges; Deceased Members of the Caceres, Esquivel, Rogelj & Kmet Families; Deceased Members of the Campeau & Peyton Families; Edmund & Leza Chiu; Gordon & Dorothy Cochrane, Adam Strom & Stephen Cochrane; Deceased Members of the Coleman & Hogan Families; Valerie Veronica Cox & Steven Donald Cox; Deceased Members of the de Pass and Nivet Families; Ingrid DeDecker; Gildo & Giovanna DiCola; Deceased Members of the Drury & Plastino Families; Anne Ennett; Peter & Elaine Feeney; Deceased Members of the Forbes, Briglia & Ficociello Families; Renato Gasparotto; Keith Gibbons & Chase Gibbons; Carmen Gicante; Clarence & Emily Gnatkowski, Reginald & Connie Bouchard; Adolphus Guelmo, Isabel Guelmo, John Guelmo, Ruthven Lashley, Anderson Lashley, & Barbara Lashley; Howard & Zula Hall; Deceased Members of Hennebury and Jardine Families; Robert G. (Bob) Holmes & Darrel J. Holmes; Branko & Marija Hunjet; Anna Kovacic; Tom Leckie; Pauline Martinelli, Deceased Members of the Privitelli, Martinelli & Mutton Families, Farrugia and Psaila Families; Ernie & Elizabeth Matchett, Johnny Boado; Phyllis M. Matthews & Deceased Family Members; Joe Murphy; Joan & Joe O'Leary; Melchor Briceno Pirela; Clem & Theresa Regier, Lee & Rose Regier; Raymond Joseph Renaud; Marjorie & Jack Riggs; Claire Russel; Gertrud C. Scheid; Barbara Schooley; Fred, Jean & Nancy Shepherd, Nancy & Andy Bisson, Ester, Leo & Mark Ramjug; Gerald Smyth; Howard Solomon; Rafael & Leonora Sopoco, Teresita Sopoco, Remy Hobbins; Deceased Members of the Tacak & Poluchowicz Families; Alice, Hani, Monique & Harry Van Marwyk; Deceased Members of the Wojcik & Baker Families; Winifred Wojtak; Zacaria & Zulmira; Souls in Purgatory



We remember and pray for the intentions of those living:

Glen Armstrong; Melissa & Dennis Ashley; Living Members of the Campeau & Peyton Families; Living Members of the Coleman & Hogan Families; Glenna Harris; Josh Hodgins; Linda, Cathy, Quinn & Jamie; Connie Marques

LNCC FP Mass Schedule Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, December 31/
Monday, January 1

St. Michael's Parish
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.;
Monday: 10:00 a.m.

St. Peter's Cathedral
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.;
Monday: 11:00 a.m.



Development and Peace Webinar

The Development and Peace committee of St Michael's Parish invites you to read an excellent summary of the webinar held on December 16 2023, called *Gaza A Call for Peace*. This featured Cardinal Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, and Anton Asfar of Caritas Jerusalem, along with Carl Hetu of Development and Peace Caritas Canada. The Cardinal and Caritas Jerusalem are leading Catholic voices from The Holy Land giving their perspective on the conflict. Several members of the Social Justice Committee took in the webinar which was heard by over 300 people in Canada. The link for the webinar summary can be found [here](#).

To get involved, contact our parish representative Michael Loebach michaelfloebach@gmail.com / 519 671 6670 or deanery representative Gord Smith gosmit@execulink.com / 519 672 2497 or visit <https://devp.org/en/>.

St. Peter's Knights of Columbus

Karaoke Night on January 27, 2024 at St. Michael's Parish Hall
Stay tuned for more details!

Sing away the January blues
at the St. Peter's Knights of Columbus
**KARAOKE
NIGHT**
Save the date : January 27th 7pm to 12am

SUNDAY COLLECTION: December 17 , 2023

	St. Michael's	St. Peter's
Regular Offertory (Envelopes)	\$ 10,231.00	\$ 4,884.00
Regular Offertory (Loose)	\$ 1,760.00	\$ 1,365.46
Weekly Pre-Authorized Giving	\$ 3,173.00	\$ 2,473.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,164.00	\$ 8,722.46

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

Thursday, December 28

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Steve Morgan; Albert Jasinski; Deceased Members of the Jasinski and Clifford Families

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Brother Meinrad Getz, O.S.B.; Zenda Kotynek; Intentions of Camille Riggs

Friday, December 29

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Tom Leckie; Babu N Mathew; Paul Grandy

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Don Farquhar; Mary Bedard; Intentions of Brandon and Alexis Bedard

Tuesday, January 2

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Ilene Moir; Anna Kovacic; Bruno Moras

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Jack Palmer; Intentions of Marie Teres Kemmerling; Intentions of Massimo Ciotti

Wednesday, January 3

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Ilene Moir; Isabel Mendoza De Bello & Andre Bello; Jim & Margaret Ryan

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Ruth Cowan; Walter Ostafijczuk; Anna Baletto

Thursday, January 4

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Anthony David Schethman; Our Mom Sophia; In Thanksgiving for Blessings

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Constantino Sebastiano; Howard Solomon; Maureen Jansen

Friday, January 5

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM

Micky Murphy; Celicia Mitchell; Gail Bruder

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon

Tony Augustine; Anthony and Mary Pinto; Joe Murphy

We remember in prayer all those who are sick. We also pray for those who have died; and comfort those who mourn.

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

Rev. Steven Huber, C.S.B.; Rev. Seejo John; Julie de Gouw, Pastoral Minister; Rev. Joseph Onome Oghenejabor; Dcn Tim Raaymakers; Rev. James Roche; Dcn Rudy Pflanzner; Rev. Canon Mitchell Kaminski; Rev. Frank Leslie; Dcn Gaston Mabaya; Dcn Gary Flewelling

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 31, 2023

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

First Reading - Genesis 15.1-6; 17.3b-5, 15-16; 21.1-7++

Responsorial - Ps 105.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (R. 7a+8a)

R. *The Lord is our God, mindful of his covenant forever.*

Second Reading - Hebrews 11.8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel - Luke 2.22-40

JANUARY 1, 2024: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

First Reading - Numbers 6.22-27

Responsorial - Ps 67.1-2, 4-5, 6-7 (R. 1a)

R. *May God be gracious to us and bless us.*

Second Reading - Galatians 4.4-7

Gospel - Luke 2.16-21

JANUARY 7, 2024: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading - Isaiah 60.1-6

Responsorial - Ps 72.1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

R. *Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

Second Reading - Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Gospel - Matthew 2.1-12

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

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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



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