



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

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

First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2024



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. Tom MacLeod
ext 235 • tmacleod@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 Secretary

RoseMary Cleary
ext 242 • rcleary@dol.ca

Lent — A Time of Reflection and Renewal

"Lent has always been one of the key periods of the Church year and it would be a great pity if we were to forget its real meaning. In fact, that is what we ask for in the Opening Prayer just before we sit down to listen to the readings: *"Father, through our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death and resurrection and teach us to reflect it in our lives."* Really, the whole purpose of Lent is beautifully summarised in that prayer - to understand the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus and to live that out in our own lives.

The period of Lent is six weeks to help us do precisely that. The Church provides Lent almost like an annual retreat, a time for deepening the understanding of our Christian faith, a time for reflection and renewal, a time to make a fresh start.

In the early centuries of the Church, Lent was seen as a time of beginning. It was - and again now is - a time for forming new converts, preparing them for their formal entry into the Church community by baptism and confirmation during the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at the Easter Vigil. For those of us who are already baptised, it can equally be a new beginning.

The forty days of Lent correspond to Jesus' own forty days spent in the desert. For him, it was a period of preparation for his coming mission, to build the kingdom. Lent for us serves as a time of reflection and a time of re-evaluating the quality and direction of our lives. A time for reconsidering our priorities both as Christians and human beings. A time to re-affirm our conviction of the equal dignity of every single human person. Let it be a second spring in our lives. Let it mean something in our discipleship with Christ."

Excerpt from Commentary on the Sunday Readings, 1st Sunday of Lent, 2019; Living Space: www.livingspace.sacredspace.ie



Repent,
and believe
in the
good news.

Mark 1:15

☎ 519.433.6689 or 519.432.3475

✉ stmichlon@dol.ca or
basilica@dol.ca

🌐 www.lncc.dol.ca

Image Source: <https://padreperegrino.org/2017/03/quadragesima-sermon/>



Catholic Women's League

St. Peter's CWL Lenten Lunches. St. Peter's CWL will host Lenten Lunch *after the noon Mass on Wednesdays throughout the Lent season.* Soup and sandwiches will be served in the Fellowship Centre at St. Paul's Cathedral, entrance off the Clarence Street door. All are welcome. Cost is free-will offering.

St. Michael's Lenten Cross Initiative begins on the weekend of **February 17th/18th** and concludes on March 22nd (Friday). All parishioners are encouraged to participate by taking a prayer request card and/or leaving one in the baskets provided at both entrances to the church. This is a wonderful opportunity to support one another in prayer and to build a sense of community as we journey through this season of Lent.

World Day of Prayer at Two Locations–March 1st

St. Michael's Parish. St. Michael's CWL is hosting this year's World Day of Prayer, which will be celebrated here on Friday, March 1st at **2:00 p.m.** Written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Palestine, the theme is *I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love*, found in Ephesians 4:1-3. The celebration will be followed by a reception in the parish hall and all members of our parishes are encouraged to attend this special service along with members of our local Christian churches. For any questions, please contact Maggie McGee at maggie71150@hotmail.com.

Downtown Hub–St. Paul's Cathedral. St. Peter's CWL and St. Paul's are co-hosting World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1st at **1:00 pm** in the St. David's Chapel at St. Paul's Cathedral. Light refreshments following the service. All are welcome to attend! Please contact Marian Strom at mstrom55@gmail.com if you have any questions.



St. Peter's Cathedral SSVP Update

Once again, the generosity and prayers the parishioners of St. Peter's has made it possible for your St. Vincent de Paul Society to assist the poor who live in our midst. During January 2024, this group made 51 calls, helping 74 people with \$3400 in grocery cards. In addition, vouchers for furniture and clothing that can be redeemed at the Society's store on York Street were given out. Invariably, this help was greatly appreciated; we wish you could see the gratitude with which your support is received.

We are always in need of more volunteers to carry out this important ministry in serving our neighbours. For more information on volunteering please call 519-434-5235.



St. Josephine Bakhita Community Mass

The monthly Mass of St. Josephine Bakhita Community will take place next week, **February 25th at 2:30 PM** (St. Michael's Parish). A social gathering will follow after Mass. Please come, bring along your family and friends and enjoy some snacks and refreshments.



Closed for Family Day–February 19th

Our Family's parish offices will be closed on Monday, February 19, and reopen the following day. If you need to reach any staff member, please leave a message via voicemail 519-433-6689 / 519-432-3475 or email us at basilica@dol.ca / stmichlon@dol.ca. Thank you for your continued support.



LAUDATO SI':
On Care for Our Common Home
TAKING ACTION IN THE DIOCESE OF LONDON

Take Action for the Care of Our Common Home

In 2015, Pope Francis released the encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*. He called on us to hear the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth and respond to their needs.

In the 2023 apostolic exhortation, *Laudate Deum*, Pope Francis wrote of his concerns raised in *Laudato Si'* and shared: "Yet, with the passage of time, I have realized that our responses have not been adequate." (LD 2)

Over the next year, we are inviting each person, each household, each community to consider what small steps can be taken in response to the cry of the poor and the cry of earth. Get part 1 the action plan, the Lent 2024 plan, at dol.ca/laudato-si.



Pilgrimage to Poland

Fr. John Jasica, pastor of the Chatham Catholic Family of Parishes, will be leading a pilgrimage to

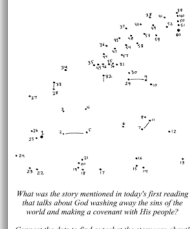
Poland "*In the Footsteps of St. John Paul II*" from **October 17 to 30, 2024**. This trip is being organized by Mary Catherine Bishop of Travel Merchant Tours. There will be an information meeting on Saturday February 24, 2024 at 10 a.m. at St. Justin's Church, 855 Jalna Blvd in London. Go to www.revji.ca for more information or contact Mary Catherine Bishop at 519-617-1279 or mcbishop@nexioncanada.com.

Pope Francis Fund– Application Process is Open



The Pope Francis Fund application process is now open for grants that will be distributed in 2024. Last year, ten organizations received a total of \$48,000 in funding. The process, criteria and past recipients are at www.dol.ca/pff. Parishioners are asked to share this with any groups who could benefit from this funding and use it to help the poor in our communities. The application process closes on **February 28**.

The Kids' Bulletin



"Jesus died on the cross, letting His blood wash away our sins. Now all we have to do is **be sorry and turn to God** and **accept the forgiveness** that He is waiting to give us in **Confession**."



The Kids' Bulletin is available in the narthex or at ncc.dol.ca/kidsbulletin.

Pray. Fast.



Give.

Our Journey in Lent

Our Lenten journey has begun. We once again take on the traditional practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Stations of the Cross—Fridays during Lent

St. Michael's: 7:00 pm St. Peter's Cathedral: 12:45 pm

Daily Mass during the Season of Lent

St. Michael's: Monday & Tuesday 7:00 pm,
Wednesday-Friday, 8:00 am

St. Peter's Cathedral: Tuesday -Friday: 12:00 pm

LNCCFP Lenten Food Drive

March 2/3, March 9/10

Lenten Day of Confessions: Wednesday March 20

St. Michael's: 8:30 am–12:30 pm, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm

St. Peter's Cathedral: 9:30 am–11:30 am, 1:00 pm–5:00 pm



Journey Through Lent, 2024—CCCB Series

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has launched its Lenten video series, *Journey through Lent*. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, 14 February 2024, and for each Sunday in Lent, up to and including Palm Sunday, a video will be available on the CCCB website featuring pastoral reflections based on the Readings for the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration. Geared to individuals, families, and communities, this series is meant to offer spiritual inspiration and guidance on how to prepare well for the Easter season.

This year's presenters are the Most Reverend Stephen A. Hero, Bishop of Prince Albert, and the Most Reverend Mark Hagemoen, Bishop of Saskatoon.

For Ash Wednesday, Bishop Hero provided a reflection on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. For the 1st Sunday of Lent, Bishop Hero reflects on God's promise to Noah and Jesus' invitation to enter into a new covenant.

Click [here](#) to view both reflections.

Bishop Fabbro's Message for Lent

Most Rev. R.P. Fabbro has released a message for Lent to the Faithful of the Diocese of London. It is available on the diocesan website at this [link](https://dol.ca/news/bishop-fabbros-message-for-lent) (dol.ca/news/bishop-fabbros-message-for-lent).

If you require a paper copy, please contact the parish office.

Missio The Newsletter of the Diocese of London

A new issue of *Missio* is now available at this [link](#).



Development and Peace – Caritas Canada: a movement of solidarity

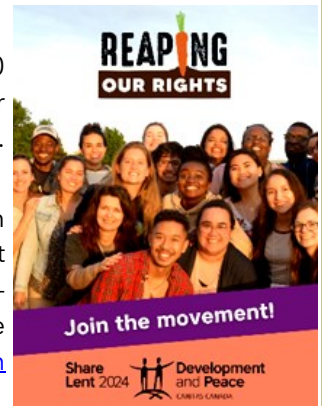
Established in 1967, Development and Peace—Caritas Canada is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada.

We address the root causes of poverty, oppression, and inequality by working with partners in the Global South and by mobilizing Canadians in the common struggle for justice and dignity. We champion women and social movements as key agents of lasting change.

Our transformative work is possible thanks to the generosity and support of our members and Canadians who stand by us.

Join the movement of over 12,000 members and help us bring our campaigns to life in your community. Visit devp.org/membership.

For more information, contact parish representative Michael Loebach at michaelfloebach@gmail.com 519-671-6670 or Deanery representative Gord Smith gosmit@execulink.com 519-672-2497.



Lent Resources from the Diocese Pastoral Services

To Read:

[5 Books to Read This Lent](#)—Book List, *Detroit Catholic*

[Best Lent Ever](#)—Daily Emails, *Dynamic Catholic*

To Watch or Do:

[Lenten Activities for Kids](#)—Loyola Press

[Lent Videos for Adults and Families](#)—Formed

[Lent on the Hallow App](#)—30 days free

To Listen To:

[Lent With Your Littles](#)—Podcast, *Detroit Catholic*

[Living Lent](#)—Podcast, *Detroit Catholic*

[Songs to Pray With this Lent](#)—Spotify Playlist, *Detroit Catholic*

[Lent Songs for Kids](#) - YouTube Playlist, *Catholic Kids Media*

[Bible in a Year or Catechism in a Year](#)—Podcast, *Ascension Press*

REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, February 19

St. Michael's at 7:00 PM (evening)
Gerry Casaubon; Thelma Pizarro;
Rafaella Felix Sabangan

Tuesday, February 20

St. Michael's at 7:00 PM (evening)
Elisabetta Vecchio; Frank Blackwell;
Gino Muzzin

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Eileen Hogan; Intentions of Matthew Duffy;
In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday, February 21

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Vincent La Cavera; Carmen Gicante;
Intentions of the Kovacic Family

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12:00 Noon
George Brunton; Barbara Ballard;
Patrick Hennessy

Thursday, February 22

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Doreen Gribbon; Howard Solomon;
Felicia Galdamez

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Roger Lefebvre; Deceased Grandparents;
Intentions of Michelle and Jeff Poirie

Friday, February 23

St. Michael's at 8:00 AM
Vlasta Jilek; Louise Murphy
Intentions of Margy & Gerry Kupferschmidt & Family

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12 Noon
Anna Teefy; David Valeriote
Intentions of Peter Steiner

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:

Deacon Jose Viveiras; Rev. Ross Bartley; Rev. Mark Poulin;
Rev. Cecil Nunez; Deacon Anthony Rebkowec; Margaret Olszewski, Pastoral Minister; Rev. Ronaldo (Ronnie) Tagnines

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



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!

READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading - Genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, 15-18
Responsorial - Ps 116.10+15, 16-17, 18-19 (R.9)
R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.
Second Reading - Romans 8.31b-35, 37++
Gospel - Mark 9.2-10

MASS & CONFESSION TIMES



Weekdays During Lent

St. Michael's: Monday & Tuesday 7 pm
Wednesday–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.

PARISH Support

SUNDAY COLLECTION: February 11, 2024

	St. Michael's	St. Peter's
Regular Offertory (Envelopes)	\$ 5,311.75	\$ 4,546.87
Regular Offertory (Loose)	\$ 2,133.80	\$ 1,724.58
Weekly Pre-Authorized Giving	\$ 3,825.66	\$ 3,018.75
TOTAL	\$ 11,271.21	\$ 9,290.20

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.

CONTACT US

Offices and Mailing Address of Parishes:

511 Cheapside Street,
London, Ontario N5Y 3X5

Office Hours

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am–3:30 pm

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

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



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