



London North Central Catholic Family of Parishes

Highlights & Happenings

St. Peter's CWL Christmas Bazaar

This year's Christmas Bazaar "All Under One Roof" was a resounding success, bringing together parishioners, families, and local community members for a day filled with fun, fellowship, and fundraising. Held at St. Paul's Cathedral, the event is a testament to the spirit of collaboration between St. Peter's Catholic Women's League and St. Paul's Anglican Church Women groups.

Volunteers, led by the bazaar planning committees of both churches, worked tirelessly for weeks preparing for the event. Many local businesses also participated by donating items for raffles and silent auctions, further enhancing the sense of collaboration that defined the day.

The CWL Bazaar raised over \$7,000, which will go directly toward supporting St. Peter's CWL local initiatives.



The Marriage Preparation Program

On October 26th and 27th, twenty-two engaged couples participated in our family of parishes Marriage Preparation Program. The weekend program provided the couples with the opportunity to discover the meaning of the Sacrament of Marriage. The couples were offered a unique experience that focused on fostering good communication in marriage and the importance of God in their relationship.

Discussion between the future couples were facilitated by the Marriage Preparation team to help the couples build a foundation for a strong, healthy, holy, and Christ-centered marriage. Our volunteers, each with their own experiences and perspectives, shared their personal insights over the enriching weekend.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our family of parishes launched the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive the weekends of October 5th-6th and October 12th-13th to support St. Paul's Social Services Food Bank and Fellowship Centre.

The canned goods and non-perishable food, grocery cards and money donated to St. Paul's by our parishioners provided support to the many individuals and families facing food insecurity.

The compassion and contribution of our parishes during the Thanksgiving Food Drive has become an important and meaningful way for our family of parishes to make a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

St. Michael's CWL Christmas Market

The magic of Christmas returned to St. Michael's Parish on November 2nd with the CWL Christmas Market. The CWL ladies provided a unique opportunity for all those attending to bid on silent auction items, purchase quality handmade crafts and homemade goodies and preserves.

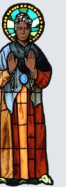
With just over \$13,000 in proceeds, the ladies are able to provide donations to support Hospitality North, the St. Vincent de Paul Housing Project and the St. Michael's St. Vincent de Paul Society.



St. Josephine Bakhita Community

The St. Josephine Bakhita African-Caribbean Community continues to grow in faith. As Chaplain for St. Josephine Bakhita, Fr. Felix serves this growing community providing a joyful, welcoming and supportive environment. It is through their community that they can pass down the importance of faith, language, and Catholic social teachings to their children. The community welcomes all to their spirited celebration.

After each Mass, the celebration of fellowship and fun continues with a social in the St. Michael's Hall.



Amabile In Remembrance Concert

On November 10th, the Amabile Boys' and Men's Choirs presented In Remembrance - Even When He is Silent: A Concert of Canadian Courage, Heroism & Resilience.

Through word and song, the choirs presented the true story of 3 RCAF heroes who crash-landed in Greenland during WWII, were stranded for 14 days in -40 degree weather, and survived to fly more missions.

For over 20 years St. Peter's has presented the annual *In Remembrance* concert, an opportunity for us to reflect upon the freedom we enjoy in our country and honour those who have and those who continue to protect our freedom through service in the Canadian Armed Forces.



St. Peter's CWL Rummage Sale

The east lawn of the Cathedral was a great location to host St. Peter's CWL fall clothing rummage sale. The tents went up early and the rain held off to make this retail shopping experience a memorable one for all.

Over 200 pieces of new clothing from boutiques and shops across the city were available for sale to eager shoppers. The CWL provided exceptional customer service in a unique and friendly atmosphere.

The funds from this sale will be used to purchase materials to make blankets for our cities homeless this winter.



Bible Study

**Jesus:
The Way,
The Truth,
& The Life**



48 parishioners enjoyed the 10-week study of the fullness of Jesus' life - who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, what he accomplished for our salvation, and what all of this means for us as Catholics today as recounted in the Gospels.

This encounter with Christ inspired and empowered participants to learn in an ever-deeper and more intimate way. Study sessions were available by Zoom and in-person with a wrap-up potluck on December 11th!

Giving the Gift of Christmas

**St. Michael's
Angel Tree**

100 Families
230 Children



**St. Peter's
Angel Program**

160 Families
240 Individuals

Hope for the World Concert at St. Peter's

"Hope for the World" These relevant words served as the title for the inspirational concert given December 1st by the St. Peter's Cathedral Singers, Children's choir and soloists, accompanied by Ron Fox and conducted by Gloria Gassi. The musical offerings were woven together to contemplate the life of Christ, as represented by the Liturgical seasons from Advent to Easter.

As Jesus is the Prince of Peace, it was our hope that this sacred music was both a reflection and an invocation for peace in our troubled world. The closing selection, *Pilgrims of Hope* (official hymn of the 2025 Jubilee year) included the full audience singing, "Source of life that has no ending on life's path I trust in you."



A Prelude to Christmas Concert at St. Michael's

With the snowy week leading up to the concert, this was a fitting conclusion to prepare our hearts and minds for our annual celebration of the birth of Christ.

Led by our Music Ministry, the evening of December 8th began with *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, followed by countless Christmas renditions, a festive performance by the SMUGlees Ukulele Group, and concluded with *Rejoice, Rejoice*. The gifts and talents shared through music brought a warm holiday spirit to all who attended.



St. Michael's Parish Snapshot

AVG. WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE

4 MASSES AT ST. MICHAEL'S

1,817

6% INCREASE FROM 2023!

BAPTISMS

96

FIRST COMMUNIONS

148

CONFIRMATIONS

72

St. Peter's Cathedral Snapshot

AVG. WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE

3 MASSES AT ST. PETER'S

1,335

10% INCREASE FROM 2023!

BAPTISMS

97

FIRST COMMUNIONS

56

CONFIRMATIONS

19

26

WEDDINGS



31

FUNERALS



3,159

REGISTERED FAMILIES

4

WEDDINGS



31

FUNERALS



3,180

REGISTERED FAMILIES

