

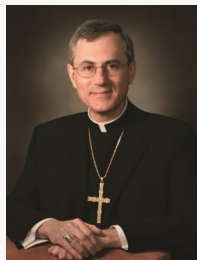


# PARISH BULLETIN

"Being a mission-oriented church that forms disciples of Jesus."



4th Sunday of Advent | Christmas | Feast of the Holy Family | Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God December 22, 2024



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## The Celebration of Advent and Christmas

### Fourth Sunday of Advent:

December 21st-22nd

St. Michael's: Saturday: 5:00pm | Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm  
St. Peter's: Saturday: 5:00pm (livestreamed) | Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am

### The Nativity of the Lord: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

December 24th-25th

St. Michael's: Tuesday: 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 12:00am midnight  
Wednesday: 10:00am, 12:00pm  
St. Peter's: Tuesday: 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm (livestreamed)  
Wednesday: 9:00am, 11:00am

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

December 28th-29th

St. Michael's: Saturday: 5:00pm | Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm  
St. Peter's: Saturday 5:00pm | Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am (livestreamed)  
St. Josephine Bakhita African & Caribbean Community: Sunday: 2:30pm

### Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God:

December 31st-January 1st, 2025

St. Michael's: Tuesday: 5:00pm | Wednesday: 10:00am  
St. Peter's: Tuesday: 5:00pm (livestreamed) | Wednesday: 11:00am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation at Both Parishes:

December 28th

Saturday: 9:00am to 10:00am

Copies of the Advent & Christmas Mass schedule are available in the Narthex, or [click here](#).

## WELCOME!

### St. Michael's Parish

🏠 511 Cheapside Street  
☎ (519) 433-6689  
✉ [stmichlon@dol.ca](mailto:stmichlon@dol.ca)

### St. Josephine Bakhita African & Caribbean Community

Located at St. Michael's Parish

### St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

🏠 196 Dufferin Avenue  
☎ (519) 432-3475  
✉ [basilica@dol.ca](mailto:basilica@dol.ca)



## PARKING

### St. Michael's Parish ♿

Weekend and weekday parking is available on the street and behind the parish. Weekday parking behind the parish is restricted to along the fence, as parking against the school is teacher and parent parking only.

### St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica ♿

Weekend parking is available on the street and in the parking lots next to the Cathedral. Parking north of the former school is restricted to Sunday mornings. Weekday parking is available on the street and in the small, ungated lot next to the Cathedral.



### Mail Delivery to our Parish Office

Canada Post workers are back to work after a four-week strike that stopped mail delivery. Because it could take time before operations are back to normal, please contact our office at 519-433-6689 if you have 2024 offertory envelopes or donations that you would normally mail to the parish and we will coordinate pick-up for you.

### The Celebration of Advent and Christmas - Mass Schedule

To view a digital copy of the dates and times for December - January 2025 Masses at St. Michael's Parish and St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica, [please click here](#).

### St. Peter's St. Vincent de Paul: Christmas Angel Program

THANK YOU! On Saturday December 14th, 20 volunteers hit the streets of downtown London to deliver grocery and store gift cards, worth over \$16,000 to our neighbours living in poverty, helping over 240 people. Their gratitude was overwhelming and we received comments such as, "lifted our spirits, now I can invite someone for a meal, I can buy a present for a dear friend."

For many, our Christmas Angel Program is the only Christmas they have and it was made possible through your generous donations and prayers. Thank you for keeping Christ in Christmas! God Bless.



### Fall Confirmation 2024

*"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

Last weekend, 31 young people in our Family of Parishes celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Michael's Parish. We extend our prayerful heartfelt congratulations to these students as they continue their faith journey.

A special thank you goes to our Confirmation team, led by Leigh Duckworth, for their prayerful and dedicated work in preparing our candidates over the past few months. We are also grateful to the volunteers and music ministers who helped make this Spirit-filled celebration truly memorable.

*Father Daniel*

Father Daniel



### St. Michael's St. Vincent de Paul: Angel Tree

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Angel Tree. Through your very generous donations, we were able to provide assistance to 100 families and 230 children in the St. Michael's Parish community. Each family received a \$50 FreshCo card and each child under the age of 17 received a \$40 Walmart card which totaled \$14,200. Your generosity lifted the spirits of our families in need during this Christmas season. We greatly appreciate your contributions that have made such a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

### Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

On December 24th, Pope Francis will inaugurate the Jubilee Year with the opening of the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Peter in the Vatican. On the following weekend, throughout the world, every Cathedral will celebrate a mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year. Across our Diocese every parish will also launch the Jubilee Year that weekend in unison with Bishop Fabbro who will celebrate the opening of the Jubilee on **Sunday, December 29th** at the 11:00am Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral.

"The coming Jubilee will thus be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth (cf. 2 Pet 3:13), where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises.

Let us even now be drawn to this hope! Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it. May the way we live our lives say to them in so many words: "Hope in the Lord! Hold firm, take heart and hope in the Lord!" (Ps 27:14). May the power of hope fill our days, as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and forever."

*Excerpt from Spes Non Confundit (Hope does not disappoint)  
- Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025,  
Pope Francis.*

A new hymn, Pilgrims of Hope, was written for the Jubilee. Our Music Ministries at both parishes have been busy learning this new hymn and will be using it throughout the Jubilee year. A leaflet with the Hymn and Jubilee Prayer is now in the pews at both parishes.



### Parish Office Holiday Hours

Please note the parish office hours over the holidays:

- Monday, December 23rd: 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Tuesday, December 24th: 9:00am - 12:00pm
- Wednesday, December 25th: Office Closed
- Thursday, December 26th: Office Closed
- Friday, December 27th: 9:00am - 12:00 pm
- Monday, December 30th: 9:00am - 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 31st: Office Closed
- Wednesday, January 1st: Office Closed
- Thursday, January 2nd: 9:00am - 3:00 pm
- Friday, January 3rd: 9:00am - 3:00 pm



### Advent Day of Reconciliation - Thank You

On December 18th, we held our Advent Day of Reconciliation. A huge thank you to Frs. Pio Beorchia, John Comiskey, Gary Ducharme, Jason Kuntz, Al Momney, Frank O'Connor, Bob Remark and Murray Sample who assisted Frs. Daniel, Felix, and James in celebrating the sacrament at both parishes. With the assistance of our visiting priests we were able to offer over 30 hours of Confessions to celebrate this beautiful sacrament of healing and embrace of God's unfathomable love for all.

### Journey Through Advent Video Series

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has produced an online weekly video series for this year's Advent season, designed to help us prepare for the memorial of the birth of Our Lord celebrated at Christmas. The videos will guide viewers through the Advent season by offering reflections, enriched by spiritual and pastoral insights, on the Gospel readings proclaimed during each of the four Sundays of Advent. This year's reflections will be led by the Cardinal Frank Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto and Bishop René Guay, Bishop of Chicoutimi. [Click here](#) to view the reflections for the Sundays of Advent.



## 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:***

Vincente and Rosa Albano; Janet Anderson; Joshua B.; Rick Baker; Jacob Barandowski; Erman Cavaliere; Lucia Cavaliere; William Clark; Steven Cox and Deceased Family Members; Valerie Cox and Deceased Family Members; Pasqualina and Matteo De Vincenzo; John and Barbara Devlin; Gildo and Giovanna DiCola; Mabel Dodds; Malik Dzinic; Peter and Elaine Feeney; Deceased Members of the Griffin, Smith and Creron Families; Howard and Zula Hall; Lawrence Hamilton; Cindy Hargrave; Mary Lou Hart; Eileen Hogan; Soham Lane; Joanna Laphorne; Tom Leckie; Gerhard and Margaret Lindenblatt; Deceased Members of the Lindenblatt Family; Pauline Martinelli; Deceased Members of the Martinelli, Mutton, Privitelli, and Psaila Families; Jo-Ann McClinchey; Mother and Father; Clem and Theresa Regier; Lee and Rose Regier; Marjorie and Jack Riggs; Kelli Rundle; Rafael and Leonora Sopoco; Josephine Strong and Carol Potter; David Van Trig; Winifred Wojtak.

### ***We remember and pray for the intentions of those living:***

Glen Armstrong; Melissa and Dennis Ashley; The Bouchard Family; John and Maureen Cassidy; Patrick Dunne; Erica, Monica and Krista and Their Families; Raphael and Jacqueline Ezike; Stephanie Gasparotto; The Gnatkowski Family; The Jardine and Hennebury Families; Members of the Lindenblatt Family; Marene; Michael Plastino; Members of the Renders Family; Reyna Rodriguez Galarza; Members of the Van Boxtel Family.

### **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 28th - 29th**

Each year, in the afterglow of Christmas, we are given the opportunity to reflect on the holy family and also our own human family and family life. Pope Leo XIII, promoted the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.

#### **Prayer to the Holy Family**

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
in you we contemplate the splendour of true love,  
to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,  
grant that our families too may be places of  
communion and prayer,  
authentic schools of the Gospel and  
small domestic Churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,  
may families never again experience violence,  
rejection and division:  
may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready  
comfort and healing.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,  
make us once more mindful of the sacredness and  
inviolability of the family,  
and its beauty in God's plan.*

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.  
Amen.*

*Adapted from Pope Francis: Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod, 2015*

### **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, December 31st - January 1st Mary, Model for Our Discipleship**

"Today's reading is a continuation from the Gospel proclaimed at the Christmas Mass at midnight. In the context of today's Solemnity, this reading also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby Jesus as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith."

*Excerpt from The Sunday Connection-Background on the Gospel Reading, Loyola Press, January 1, 2023 ([source](#))*

In Canada, this Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation, much like every Sunday and Christmas. Masses in our Family of Parishes is as follows :

St. Michael's: December 31st: 5:00pm; January 1st: 10:00am  
St. Peter's: December 31st: 5:00pm; January 1st: 11:00am



## REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS



### Thursday, January 2, 2025

St. Michael's at 7:00 PM

Dan Attewell  
Franklin de Gouveia  
Nicolasa Dionson

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12:00 Noon

Intentions of Father William Ryan  
Intentions of Gregoria, Alfredo, Lourdes, JP, & Family  
JoAnn Briglia

### Friday, January 3, 2025

St. Michael's at 9:30 AM

Gord Fotheringham  
Intentions of a Friend for Healing  
Albieni Boudreau

St. Peter's Cathedral at 12:00 Noon

Joe Murphy  
Intentions of Janet & Lawrence Jardine  
Intentions of Dave Gruber

**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:**

Dcn. Joseph Manzara; Rev. Michael Ryan; Parish Secretaries in the Diocese of London; Rev. Seejo John; Mrs. Julie de Gouw, Pastoral Minister; Rev. Joseph Onome Oghenejabor; Dcn. Tim Raaymakers; Rev. James Roche; Institute of Secular Missionaries; Dcn. Rudy Pflanzner; Rev. Canon Mitchell Kaminski; Rev. Frank Leslie.

**Offer a Mass** for a loved one, or in thanksgiving. Contact the parish office or visit [www.lncc.dol.ca/mass-prayer-requests](http://www.lncc.dol.ca/mass-prayer-requests).

### READINGS FOR DECEMBER 29, 2024

#### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading - Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14  
Responsorial - Ps. 128.1-2, 3, 4-5 (R.1)  
*R. Blessed are those who live in your house, O Lord.*  
Second Reading - Colossians 3.12-21  
Gospel - Luke 2.41-52

### READINGS FOR JANUARY 1, 2025

#### THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY 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

### READINGS FOR JANUARY 5, 2025

#### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading - Isaiah 60.1-6  
Responsorial - Ps. 72.1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
(R. See 11b+Ps 98.3c)  
*R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*  
Second Reading - Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6  
Gospel - Matthew 2.1-12

## PARISH EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

### Saturday, December 28

10:00 AM - Yarning With Love (St. Josemaria)

### Sunday December 29

11:00 AM - Opening of the Jubilee Year Mass (St. Peter's)

2:30 PM - St. Josephine Bakhita Mass (St. Michael's)

### Monday, December 30

-

### Tuesday, December 31

-

### Wednesday, January 1, 2025

-

### Thursday, January 2, 2025

1:00 PM - Young at Heart Cards (St. Josemaria)

2:30 PM - St. Peter's CWL Executive Meeting (St. Anthony)

### Friday, January 3, 2025

-

## PARISH Support

### SUNDAY COLLECTION: December 15, 2024

	St. Michael's	St. Peter's
Regular Offertory (Envelopes)	\$6,980.00	\$3,804.00
Regular Offertory (Loose)	\$2,806.82	\$1,789.85
Weekly Pre-Authorized Giving	\$2,899.54	\$3,255.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,686.36</b>	<b>\$8,848.85</b>

*Thank you for your support and generosity!*

### Make Giving Easy!

To make a donation or update your donation method, please call the office or visit [www.lncc.dol.ca/donate](http://www.lncc.dol.ca/donate).

Pre-Authorized Giving is the *easiest* method of donating to your parish. You choose your monthly donation amount and it will automatically be withdrawn from your bank account.

To set up your pre-authorized donation, contact the parish office at 519-433-6689.

### Donating has never been easier!



ST. PETER'S QR

Simply open your phone's camera, hover over the QR code of the parish you would like to donate to and click the link that appears!



ST. MICHAEL'S QR